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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MELVILLE/WHITMAN CONFERENCE

An interdisciplinary conference to commemorate the centennial of the deaths of Melville and Whitman will be held at Siena College on October 4-5, 1991. The conference, entitled "The Era of Melville and Whitman," will be broadly based, and scholars in fields such as literature, history, art, music, film, and American Studies are encouraged to submit paper topics or to propose panels for consideration. Topics might include Whitman's and Melville's specific works, the era itself, social change, the Civil War, related authors, cinematic adaptations, etc. Deadline for submissions is March 31, 1991; replies and inquiries should be addressed to Professor Thomas O. Kelly, II, Department of History, Siena College, Loudonville, NY 12211.

WITH WALT WHITMAN IN CAMDEN

In our spring, 1990 issue, Judith Bassat offered an update on the manuscripts of the unpublished parts of Horace Traubel's *With Walt Whitman in Camden*; she noted that, while the transcribing of Traubel's notes was nearly complete, no publisher had yet committed to the project. That situation has now been rectified; Southern Illinois University Press will be publishing volume seven of Horace Traubel's *With Walt Whitman in Camden*, to be edited by Robert MacIsaac and Jeanne Chapman. The Press also expects to publish the remaining volumes, thus bringing into print—a century after he recorded them—all of Traubel's daily conversations with Whitman during the poet's final years. The first three volumes of *With Walt Whitman in Camden* were published during Traubel's lifetime, and volumes four through six were published by Southern Illinois University Press in 1953, 1964, and 1982; material for at least three more volumes remains unpublished.

WHITMAN MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

A musical performance called "Walt Whitman and His Enduring Heritage" took place on June 9, 1990, at the Brandeis-Bardin Institute in Brandeis, California. The program consisted of original compositions by Dr. Robert Strassburg, Professor Emeritus of Music at California State University, Los Angeles. Strassburg's compositions make use of Sabbath tropal melodies to set various Whitman poems to music. His settings of "Beginning My Studies," "Apparitions," "Long Long Hence," and "Reconciliation" were premiered at this performance. All of Strassburg's Whitman compositions are available through Walt Whitman Music Editions, 3394 B Punta Alta, Laguna Hills, CA 92653.

1991 AMERICAN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION MEETING

The second annual conference of the American Literature Association will be held at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington D.C. on May 24-26, 1991 (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of Memorial Day weekend). Two Whitman sessions are planned. Preregistration conference fees will be \$30 (\$10 for independent scholars, retired individuals, and students). The hotel is offering a conference rate of \$60 a night (single or double). To register or obtain housing information, write to Professor Alfred Bendixen, English Department, California State University L.A., Los Angeles, CA 90046.

The American Literature Association is a coalition of the societies devoted to the study of American authors. It is committed to exploring the richness and diversity of American writings and welcomes all forms of humanistic scholarship. It publishes a newsletter which provides information on its annual conference, its other activities, and the societies of which it is composed. To subscribe to the newsletter, send a check for \$5 (made out to the American Literature Association) to Professor Bendixen at the above address.

BEINECKE VISITING FELLOWSHIPS

The Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library offers short-term fellowships for visiting scholars pursuing post-doctoral or equivalent research in its collections, which include extensive Whitman holdings. The fellowships, which support travel to and from New Haven and pay a living allowance of \$1,500 per month, are designed to provide access to the library for scholars who reside outside the greater New Haven area. Fellowships, normally for one month, must be taken up between September 1991 and May 1992. There is no special application form; applicants are asked to submit a résumé and a brief research proposal (not more than three pages) to the Director, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Box 1603A Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520-1603. The proposal should emphasize the relationship of the Beinecke collections to the project and state preferred dates of residence. The applicant must also arrange to have two confidential letters of recommendation sent to the Director. Applications must be received by January 15, 1991; awards will be announced in March 1991.