

## FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN FOLKLORE SOCIETY

The fifty-eighth annual meeting of the American Folklore Society was held at the Palmer House, Chicago, on December 27 and 28, 1946. The President, Joseph M. Carrière, presided.

The following program was presented:—

December 27, 10:00 A.M.—12:30 P.M.

Austin E. Fife, "Folklore and the Interpretation of Utah's Cultural Heritage"; Richard M. Dorson, "Dialect Stories of the Upper Peninsula: A New Form of American Folklore"; William Hugh Jansen, "'Oregon' Smith—Folk and Factual"; Grace Partridge Smith, "'Egypt'—a Folklore Frontier"; Samuel P. Bayard, "Fifers and Fife Music of Western Pennsylvania."

December 27, 2:00—5:30 P.M.

Franklin J. Meine, "American Folk Literature"; J. Mason Brewer, "American Negro Folklore—A Folklore of Loyalty"; A. I. Hallowell, "Myth, Culture and Personality"; Joseph M. Carrière, "Folklore Activities in France, 1939-1946" (Presidential Address).

December 28, 2:00—5:30 P.M.

Leah R. C. Yoffie, "The Carol of the Twelve Numbers and Other Cumulative Number Songs"; Alexander H. Krappe, "The Origin of the Story Type of the Spectres' Mass (La Messe des Ombres)"; Jacob A. Evanson, "The Pittsburgh Public Schools' Experiment with Vernacular Song: A Documentary Review of Ten Years of Activity"; Svatava Jakobson, "New Czech Publications in Folklore."

At the Business Meeting which was held December 28 at 5:30 P.M. the following officers were elected: *President*, Joseph M. Carrière; *First Vice-President*, Erminie W. Voegelin; *Second Vice-President*, A. H. Gayton; *Secretary-Treasurer*, MacEdward Leach; *Editor*, Wayland D. Hand; *Associate Editors*, Marius Barbeau, Samuel P. Bayard, Ralph L. Beals, Thelma James, Melville J. Herskovits, Katherine Luomala. The Review Editor is to be selected by the Editor and confirmed by the Executive Committee. *Executive Committee*, Current Officers and J. W. Ashton and A. I. Hallowell; *Council Members* (for three years), R. E. B. Allen, E. Baughman, B. H. Bronson, M. M. Bryant, A. L. Campa, G. N. Casavis, A. W. Derleth, R. M. Dorson, D. Emrich, A. M. Espinosa, J. A. Evanson, A. E. Fife, R. Flannery, E. Gunther, M. R. Haas, A. P. Hudson, S. Jakobson, W. H. Jansen, C. Kluckhohn, H. Kurath, L. Lucourcière, H. Lee, C. G. Loomis, F. J. Meine, A. Morris, W. D. Preston, V. F. Ray, A. W. Read, A. Rey, S. Tax, R. Underhill, W. D. Wallis, H. N. Wardle, R. A. Waterman, B. Weitzner, M. C. Wheelwright, L. A. White, C. Withers, G. B. Wilbur, L. R. C. Yoffie, C. Zirkle; *Council Members* (for two years), R. K. Alspach, S. P. Bayard, M. B. Emeneau, H. Halpert, R. Jente, L. C. Jones, G. Korson, A. H. Krappe, D. Lee, T. F. McIlwraith, H. S. Mekeel, M. A. Mook, J. J. Newton, J. J. Niles, M. E. Opler, S. Poladian, L. Pound, G. Roheim, C. Sandburg, L. Satterthwaite, D. Scott, C. Seeger, G. Simpson, M. Smith, J. H. Spinden, A. Stimson, J. H. Steward, J. B. Tannenbaum, H. W. Thompson, S. Thompson, M. Titiev, N. I. White; *Council Members* (for one year), W. Bascom, R. S. Boggs, P. H. Buck, E. Burchenal, S. Cardenas, J. M. Cooper, D. S. Davidson, L. J. Davidson, J. F. Dobie, F. H. Douglas,

W. N. Fenton, E. Gardner, J. A. Geary, E. W. Gifford, J. M. Goggin, E. S. Goldfrank, L. M. Hanks, D. G. Haring, R. B. Hassrick, E. A. Hoebel, A. B. Hollenback, E. A. Hooton, S. B. Hustvedt, M. Jacobs, T. James, E. C. Kirkland, G. Lanctot, J. A. Mason, V. Mendoza, M. W. Smith, F. G. Speck.

At the Council meeting December 28, 9:30-12:30, the following reports were approved:—

Secretary's Report

The Secretary reports the membership of the Society as follows:—

	1946	1945	1944
Honorary Members	6	6	6
Life Members	8	8	8
Old Members	648	577	499
New Members	154	135	78
Total Active Members	810	690	591

During the year 64 members were removed from the rolls because of non-payment of dues, resignation, or death; 36 were dropped in 1945; 19 in 1944.

The President appointed the following committees in 1946:—

*Committee on Research:* A. H. Gayton, Chairman, J. Mason Brewer, Calvin Claudel, Aurelio M. Espinosa, Jr., W. H. Fenton, Regina Flannery, Mary R. Haas, Herbert Halpert, Wayland D. Hand, Robert H. Lowie, Morris E. Opler, Verne F. Ray.

*Nominating Committee:* Melville J. Herskovits, Chairman, J. W. Ashton, Marian W. Smith.

*Committee on Education:* A. P. Hudson, Chairman, J. M. Cooper, D. S. Davidson.

*Program Committee,* Erminie W. Voegelin, Chairman, S. P. Bayard, Levette Davidson, Thelma James, Weston La Barre, Gladys Reichard.

*Committee on Local Arrangements:* Sol Tax represented the AFS in working out local arrangements with representatives of the AAA.

The Society was represented by its Secretary at the Conference of Secretaries of the American Council of Learned Societies, January, 1946, and by its delegates at the general meeting, January 25-26, 1946, and at the Special Meeting, September 20-21, 1946.

The President of the Society represented the Society at the Sesquicentennial Convocation of the University of North Carolina.

The Secretary reports that he has succeeded in getting an account of back stock belonging to the Society in Germany, together with an inventory of the stock. He is now negotiating with British authorities for permission to import a part of this material.

During the year the New Mexico Folklore Society affiliated with the American Folklore Society. Fifteen members of the local society are members of the AFS.

During the year the Secretary continued the drive for new members with good results; he wishes to thank all members who sent in names of prospective members and to ask for further suggestions.

The Secretary wishes to thank Dr. Voegelin and Dr. Carrière for constant counsel and aid during the year.

MACEDWARD LEACH, *Secretary*

## Treasurer's Report

<i>Receipts</i>	1946	1945
Dues.....	\$2839.91	\$2803.26
Gifts, Interest, etc.....	1747.51	213.00
Sales.....	859.57	1075.64
Bills Receivable.....	535.00	
Total Receipts	\$5981.99	\$4091.90
<i>Expenditures</i>		
Journal.....	\$3338.39	\$2017.03
Memoirs (40 and part payment 41).....	1405.07	483.76
Treasurer's Bond.....	25.00	25.00
ACLS Dues.....	25.00	25.00
Refunds.....	13.84	11.50
Insurance.....	4.37	
Reprints.....	193.23	56.14
Committee on Research.....	50.00	
A. H. Gayton ed. work on ACLS MS*.....	50.00	
Meeting Expenses.....	35.00	50.00
Editor's Expenses.....	100.00	100.00
Review Editor's Expenses.....		9.85
General Administration.....	232.62	172.00
Supplies, Mailing, etc.....	169.22	137.57
Bank Collection Fee.....	1.20	.70
Total Expenditures	\$5642.94	\$3088.55
Balance	339.05	1003.35
Balance 1/1/46	\$2738.58	
Total Cash Assets 1/1/47	\$3077.63	
Permanent Fund (invested in 3 and 4% B. and L. Bonds)	\$5000.00	
10 Shares of Mortbond Corp.	50.00 (est.)	
Total Net Worth	\$8127.63	

MACEDWARD LEACH, *Treasurer*

\* Paid by ACLS, included in "Gifts."

## Editor's Report

*Journal*: Volume 59 (Numbers 231-234 inclusive) was published in 1946; 8 pages of plates, 12 pages of music cuts, and 1 full page map are included. Volume 59 totalled 559 pages, as against 336 pages in Volume 58 (1945) and 244 pages in Volume 54 (1941). In 1941 the quarterly printing of the *Journal* amounted to 500 copies each; the printing order for the October-December, 1946, number was for 1000 copies, plus separates for authors.

The first number of Volume 60 (January-March, 1947) is in the hands of the printer.

In January J. W. Ashton returned to the United States and resumed his duties as Review Editor for 1946.

*Memoirs*: Memoir 40, Alfred Métraux's *Myths of the Toba and Pilagá Indians of the Gran Chaco*, was distributed in March, 1946, to members of 1945, as the Memoir

for that year. This volume was financed jointly by the AFS and the author, to whom the Society is indebted for generous aid.

Memoir 41, Gladys A. Reichard's *Myths and Tales of the Coeur d'Alene Indians*, is in press and delivery is promised for Spring, 1947. This Memoir will be published jointly by the AFS and the Archives Publishing Company of Pennsylvania, with financial help from the author. It will be distributed free as the 1946 Memoir to all members in good standing for that year.

The MS of our proposed Memoir 42, Archer Taylor's *English Riddles In Oral Tradition*, was withdrawn by the author this fall. R. F. Barton's *Mythology of the Ifugao* has been substituted for the Taylor study, and will go to press as Memoir 42 early next Spring (1947). Another Philippine MS, the late Dean S. Fansler's *Philippine Mythology*, is being considered as a possible Memoir, to be published jointly by the AFS and the Philippine Government. Anne M. Cooke's *Analysis of Basin Mythology* is still in process of revision as a future Memoir. The manuscript of Ruth Ann Musick and J.W. Ashton, *Missouri Folklore*, which was accepted as a prospective Memoir this summer, is nearing completion. One other nearly completed study on American White children's songs has been submitted this year for consideration.

Grateful acknowledgment is made to Marius Barbeau for arranging a subsidy covering the cost of plates for his article on "Bear Mother" in No. 231; to the family of the late James Taft Hatfield for defraying the cost of the music cuts in Mr. Hatfield's article, "Some Nineteenth Century Shanties" (No. 232); to Esther Lowell Hibbard for paying for the cuts and tabular material in her article, "The Ulysses Motif in Japanese Literature" (No. 233); to E. S. Kirkland for helping defray publication costs of his "Check List of Tennessee Folksongs" (No. 234); to the American Council of Learned Societies for subsidizing the report, "Conference on the Character and State of Studies in Folklore, 1941" (No. 234).

Throughout the term of my editorship I have received a great deal of help from a great many people. To all of them I should like to express my sincere thanks, and to the incoming editor my best wishes for the interesting work which lies ahead of him.

ERMINIE W. VOEGELIN, *Editor*

### *Reports of Standing Committees*

#### Report of the Committee on Research in Folklore

Continuing its work from 1945, the Committee on Research in Folklore concentrated on an assessment of the accomplishments to date and future needs in the various fields of folklore in North America. This year, with the addition of several sincerely interested specialists to the Committee, a more thoroughgoing survey was possible than in 1945. The individual reports of 1945 and those of 1946, together with a special essay on South America, combine to form a broad and trenchant appraisal of current folklore research.

The complete report is in the hands of the Secretary and comprises about 160 manuscript pages of comprehensive information. In addition, numerous items of "Work in Progress" were gathered and appear as a special section in the present number of the *Journal of American Folklore*.

The full report contains the following subsections:—

1. An introduction concerned with findings from a questionnaire sent by the Chairman to 150 members of the American Folklore Society; the subject is folklore research in general, its materials, methods, theories, and aims.
2. Regional American Folklore, by Herbert Halpert (1946).
3. German-American Folklore, by Wayland D. Hand (1946).

4. French-American Folklore, by Calvin Claudel (1946).
5. Spanish-American Folklore, by Aurelio M. Espinosa, Jr. (1946).
6. Afro-American Folklore (1945), addendum (1946), by J. Mason Brewer.
7. Woodland Indian Folklore: Iroquian, by William N. Fenton (1945), and Algonquian, by Regina Flannery (1946).
8. Southeastern Indian Folklore, by Mary R. Haas (1946).
9. Some Problems in Plains Indian Folklore, by Robert H. Lowie (1946).
10. Manuscript Materials on Southwest Indian Folklore, by M. E. Opler (1945).
11. Far Western Indian Folklore, by Verne F. Ray (1946), and A. H. Gayton (1945).
12. Status of Folklore Research in South America, by Alfred Métraux (Special).

Dr. Métraux's report is one of two on Middle and South America which the Chairman requested as preliminary steps toward turning the Research Committee's attention in that direction in 1947. Unfortunately, Dr. Boggs was unable to respond at this time to our need for the report on Middle America.

The production of the total report resulted from tedious labor and true devotion to the furtherance of folklore study on the part of all the contributors. It is the hope of the Committee that so much labor will not be lost—that the report will be published for the benefit of the growing numbers of people who are interested in serious research in folklore.

The Chairman gratefully acknowledges the help so many gave by responding to the Committee's questionnaire. Deepest thanks are expressed to the Committee Members who expended much time and energy for the production of a successful report, and to Dr. Métraux who added a most valuable section. The American Folklore Society has always been an organization of diverse interests which has existed only through the co-operative spirit of its members. Never has that spirit been more truly manifest than in the report which I have the honor of presenting to the Society.

A. H. GAYTON, *Chairman*

*Recommendations of the Committee:—*

The Committee on Research in Folklore recommends the following points as essential to the improvement of the present status of research in folklore. While the recommendations have varying importance for the different branches of folklore represented by the Committee, they were approved in each instance by so high a majority as to constitute virtual unanimity.

1. In any field of folklore research, new work should be planned to co-ordinate with materials already accumulated.
2. Lists of unpublished folklore materials, such as M.A. and Ph. D. theses, collectanea in private archives (including those left by deceased persons) and in public archives, should be compiled for the various branches of research in folklore.
3. A publication medium for such materials as the above lists, bibliographies, raw data, and phonetic texts is needed, and the possibility of a cheaper-than-print process, such as high grade mimeographing or photolithography, should be investigated.
4. It is desirable that training in folklore at college level be expanded wherever possible, and that the problems peculiar to oral literature be stressed.
5. Annotated bibliographies for special areas or topics are valuable aids to research.

Respectfully submitted,  
Committee on Research in Folklore

(J. Mason Brewer, Calvin Claudel, Aurelio M. Espinosa, Jr., W. N. Fenton, Regina Flannery, Mary R. Haas, Herbert Halpert, Wayland D. Hand, Robert H. Lowie, Morris E. Opler, Verne F. Ray, and A. H. Gayton, *Chairman*).

After a vote of thanks to the Committee on Research in Folklore and its Chairman for their very valuable report, the Council approved the recommendations of the Committee and instructed the Secretary to make every effort to implement them and especially to solicit funds for the early publication of the Committee's report.

### *Reports of Special Committees*

The Chairman of the Dictionary Committee reported that the Committee feels that it is not practical for the Society to engage in this project at this time, and so recommended that it be abandoned. The report of the Committee was accepted and the Committee discharged.

The Chairman of the Handbook Committee submitted an outline of the proposed *Handbook of Folklore*. The plan was approved by the Council and the Committee instructed to proceed with the preparation of the book. The Treasurer was authorized to solicit funds for the publication of this work. (Copies of the Outline of the Handbook may be obtained from the Secretary by interested members.)

### Report of the Committee on the Utilization of Folklore

Of the large committee originally appointed, only two members and the chairman have responded to the charge of the President and the correspondence of the Chairman. Notwithstanding, in discussions and correspondence, the outlines of the problem have been evolved and are here presented.

It may be safely assumed that the word "utilization" can be interpreted quite literally to mean "the uses to which folklore materials are put." First involved is a definition of what constitutes true and pseudo-folk stuff; since this is most difficult to arrive at, and with the thought in mind that there is no gain in rethreshing straw, the Committee will canvass already formulated definitions and select or develop such a definition. Second, the source of the user's materials is important. (Did the items come to him through a straight oral tradition or through a literary recasting which may even have replaced or displaced the more antique oral tradition?) Third, is the user of the folk materials conscious of his sources? Fourth, to what extent, and in what ways, has he altered his materials, and to what extent has the medium in which he operates altered the folk materials?

These four points must be applied in all the areas in which folk materials may be or have been used.

Next the areas must be delineated. Clearly, the arts, many of the sciences which may be loosely indicated as having humanistic relationships, such as psychology, psychiatry, anthropology, ethnology, sociology, linguistics, and aesthetics. Some of these areas are undergoing interesting new developments in contemporary time, such as an increasing use of folk materials in intercultural education and understanding.

It becomes clear that each of these areas and their subdivisions pose possible separate, often parallel, problems. In the field of the arts, music represents a rich use of folklore. Mr. Charles Seeger of the Pan-American Union, a member of the committee, has suggested that we find people trained in music and in folklore to assist in the preparation of bibliographies. Graduate fellowships should be made available in appropriate places to stimulate interest and to assist in the work.

It is clear that doubly trained specialists would have to be secured in all of the areas. The eventual aim of the committee would be the preparation of bibliographies and monographs on the uses of folklore in the many fields of human experience. This is a tremendous task, envisioned thus, and will consume many years, but it should result in placing folk materials in their proper frame of reference to artistic and scientific materials.

THELMA G. JAMES, *Chairman*

### Transactions

The Council voted to adopt the Constitution as printed in the *Journal*, July-September, 1946, with the following changes and emendations: Article 3, Section 1 (c). Change \$25 to \$10; Article 8, Section 2. Change *two delegates* to *representatives*.

The representatives of the Society to the American Council of Learned Societies reported on the meetings of the ACLS. It was voted to approve the proposed reorganization of ACLS in principle and to give the Executive Committee full power to act in the matter of ratification of a new ACLS Constitution.

It was voted that the President appoint a committee to consider the policy of the Society with respect to honorary memberships and to make nominations.

Dues for Institution Members were changed from \$4.00 a year to \$6.50.

The following budget was adopted for 1947: *Journal*, \$2300; *Memoirs*, \$800; Editor's Expenses, \$100; General Administration, \$200; Committee on Research, \$50; Meeting Expenses, \$50.

### Resolution

The following resolution was unanimously passed by the Council:—

Be it resolved in the light of great and untiring service, a service which included the innovation of a much improved *Journal*, of the maintenance of a very high standard of editorship, which meant a journal full of articles that were not only scholarly but of a very lively interest, that, therefore, the Society express formally its very real debt of gratitude to Dr. Erminie W. Voegelin, its retiring Editor.

MACEDWARD LEACH, *Secretary*