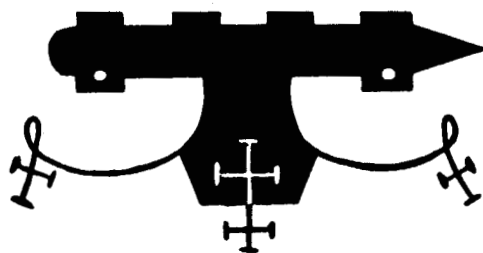


IV:6

FOLKLORE FORUM



A COMMUNICATION FOR STUDENTS OF FOLKLORE

THE EDITORS OF THE FOLKLORE FORUM DEDICATE THIS ISSUE TO THE
MEMORY OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS JOHN W. ASHTON

John W. Ashton (1900 - 1971)

John W. Ashton died four days before the 1971 meeting of the American Folklore Society in Washington, which he was planning to attend, as he usually did. He entered his office, took off his coat, and fell dead. He had recently been hospitalized and on the critical list but had been released and permitted to return to his task of writing up the history of Indiana University's Sesquicentennial Activities. Although formally retired in 1970, he was still busy and active.

From 1946 to 1965, Dr. Ashton held a number of key administrative posts at Indiana University. He served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Vice-President and Dean of Student Services, and Dean of the Graduate School. My own career at Indiana University leaned heavily upon him. He handled the arrangements for my interview at Indiana, helped me house-hunt, and, when he became the Graduate Dean in 1958, supervised the Folklore Program of which I was chairman. A few graduate programs, such as comparative literature, Uralic- Altaic Studies, and folklore, reported directly to Dean Ashton, and the chairmen of these programs counted their blessings at their fortunate situation. When Dr. Ashton reached the mandatory retirement age for administrators in 1965, he resumed teaching duties as University Professor of English and folklore, and taught a valued sequence on "Folklore in its Literary Relations" in the folklore curriculum. It was strange for me to have my vice-president and dean now a member of my department, but he made the transition easily and continued to be a great source of strength to the Folklore Institute.

The very fact that there is a Folklore Institute is due in good part to Dean Ashton. It was he who engineered the crucial transition from program to institute in 1963 that transformed the folklore operation from an interdepartmental committee with no real substance to an independent, autonomous department with its own faculty, courses, and budget. During those years I was continually in contact with him discussing plans for the development of the folklore program. After his retirement as Graduate Dean the several graduate programs were placed under the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, on a competitive footing with all the established departments from astronomy to zoology.

Dean Ashton was a marvelous administrator and a wonderful human being. He was always available, sympathetic, interested, responsive, discerning and wise. Thorny problems withered away when he took a look at them. Anyone who has worked within bureaucratic and impersonal organizations can appreciate the rare blessing of a friendly and accessible superior. Dean Ashton took the curse off administration. He was a friend, not a dean. He knew how to get people to give their best. A man of great personal dignity, indeed externally the very image of a dean, he could be informal, witty, and companionable with groups on every academic level. He attended our folklore picnics and parties whenever he could, and on occasion sang Child ballads, one of his earliest loves and teaching subjects.

Although administrative duties heavily invaded his time, he always managed to stay with folklore. One of the best early field collections in American folklore, Charles Neely's Tales and Songs of Southern Illinois (1935), is dedicated to John William Ashton, then professor of English at the University of Iowa, who encouraged its preparation. Dr. Ashton served as book review editor of the Journal of American Folklore and published nineteen reviews in JAF between 1936 and 1948. He participated in the symposium on folklore in literature that was published in JAF in 1957, and he read to the American Folklore Society a paper on "Three Twentieth Century Treatments of the Story of Odysseus" that appeared in the Journal of the Folklore Institute in 1969. His last years were clouded by the illness and death of his wife Florence and by his own uncertain health, but he maintained his serenity and largeness of spirit. Folklorists are fortunate to count themselves among his circles of friends and debtors. I will always cherish his memory.

Richard M. Dorson

INDEX TO VOLUME IV

Articles

- W. K. McNeil
The Nature of Speech According to Indian Proverbs.....2
- William M. Clements
The Polack Jokes in 1970: An Addendum.....19
- Steve Bartlett
Social Interaction Patterns of Adolescents in a Folklore Performance...39
- Dennis Coelho
Australian Folksong Scholarship -- Some Problems.....68
- Howard Wight Marshall
"Open Up Them Pearly Gates:" Pattern and Religious Expression in
Bluegrass Gospel Music.....92
- Priscilla Denby
Folklore in the Mass Media.....113
- Gerald E. Warshaver
Schlop Scholarship: A Survey of Folkloristic Studies of Lunchcounter
and Soda Jerk Operatives.....134
- P. Brandt George
Evolution and the "Myth" of Darwin.....146

Editorials

- Dick Sweterlitsch
Applied Folklore: The Debate Goes On.....15

Reviews

- Warren E. Roberts: Norsk Eventyrbiblioteket (ed. Alver, et al), 31.
F. A. De Caro: The Brothers Grimm (Michaelis-Jena), 32.
P. Brandt George: Folktales of Mexico (Paredes), 33.
Philip M. Peek: Myths & Legends of the Swahili (Knappert), 34.
William M. Clements: The Concept of Folklore (Carvalho-Neto), 86.
Bill Wiggins: The Art of the American Folk Preacher (Rosenberg), 88.
Bruce Nickerson: Cloud-Walking (Campbell), 89.
William K. McNeil: Forgotten Folk-tales of the English Counties (Tongue),
128.
John M. Vlach: Oral Literature in Africa (Finnegan), 129.
James R. Durham and Howard W. Marshall: Jesse James Meets Frankenstein's
Daughter (Circle Productions), 130.
Afterword, 132
John A. Gutowski: Folklore Methodology (Krohn), 152.
Thomas Adler: Heaven on Horseback: Revivalist Songs and Verse in the
Cowboy Idiom (Fife), 153.
Howard Wight Marshall: Cowboy Songs (Arizona Friends of Folklore), 154.

Notes for Queries

The "Tale of the Elevator Man".....30

Grimm's Fairy Tales for Adults: a review.....30

Response to the "Elevator Man" by "Kilroy".....85

Gross jokes from California.....85

Responses to "Kilroy".....126

The death of the JFK legend.....126

Comment on obscenity in folklore journals.....127

Madison County Historical Society Craft Archive.....151

Request for "Hippie Baby-sitter" legends.....151

More on the JFK legend.....151

FOLKLORE FORUM

A Communication for Students of Folklore

Volume IV Number 6

December 1971

Contents

Gerald E. Warshaver
Schlop Scholarship: A Survey of Folkloristic Studies of
Lunchcounter and Soda Jerk Operatives.....134

P. Brandt George
Evolution and the "Myth" of Darwin.....146

Notes for Queries.....151

Reviews

John A. Gutowski: Folklore Methodology, by Kaarle Krohn.....152

Thomas Adler: Heaven on Horseback: Revivalist Songs and Verse in
the Cowboy Idiom, by Austin and Alta Fife.....153

Howard Wight Marshall: Cowboy Songs, by Arizona Friends of Folklore..154

Editors: James R. Durham, Howard Wight Marshall, William K. McNeil, Dick Sweterlitsch, John M. Vlach, Philip B. George

Corresponding Editors: F. A. De Caro (Louisiana State University)
Elliott Oring (California State College, Los Angeles) William M. Clements (Northern Arkansas University)

The FOLKLORE FORUM is published bi-monthly; the Bibliographic and Special Series is published semi-annually. Combined subscription is \$4.00 per year. All subscribers are automatically members of the FOLKLORE FORUM SOCIETY. All correspondence should be addressed to FOLKLORE FORUM, c/o Folklore Institute, Indiana University, 504 North Fess Street, Bloomington, Indiana 47401, U.S.A. Make all checks payable to the FOLKLORE FORUM.

The FOLKLORE FORUM **invites** manuscripts from its readers on any topic which is related to folklore. Manuscripts should be sent to the FORUM business address.