

THE RICARDIAN REGISTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE
AMERICAN BRANCH,
RICHARD III SOCIETY



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NEW ADDRESS OF THE EDITOR: 368 KENWOOD AVE., DELMAR, NY 12054

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HOW TO USE THE LIBRARY

REPORT ON WASHINGTON MEETING

It has come to our attention that the library is not being used as much as it should be. Since this is probably because not all of you are certain how to use it, here is information for its use.

If you see something on the main library list, or on one of the supplements, which are published in the REGISTER, just write to Mrs Elizabeth Haynes Librarian, 4149 25 St. N, Arlington, Va. 22207, and tell her what you want. We will pay the postage for the item to be mailed to you, you are responsible for the return postage. Please return items the same way that they are mailed packaging, class of postage, etc. We have no definite time limit on loans, but should someone else write for the same article, Mrs Haynes will notify you and when you are finished with the material, you should mail it to the next person who wants it.

CLARENCE SWIMS AGAIN

Several REGISTERS ago, I mentioned that the English Branch was anxious to obtain an article about Clarence which was published in a December HISTORY TODAY. Two of our members promptly acted on the request. Miss Maud French sent the English Branch several Xerox copies, and Dorothy Marsden has sent our own library two copies. Many thanks to two responsible remembers.!

July 7, 1967

The meeting last night was pleasant and went off well, though attendance was rather small. We had strawberry shortcake and sherry, with a toast to King Richard on the four hundred eighty fourth anniversary of his coronation. Mr Snyder showed slides of Ricardian sites that they had visited on their recent trip including one of the bones; of Clarence and Isabelle Neville in their glass case in the vault of Tewkesbury Abbey, and the sacristy door in the Abbey which is plated with pieces of armour picked up after the battle in 1471. One picture gave a very clear idea of the lay of the land and the form of the battle. In addition to the Haynes and Snyders, the guests were: Mrs Gertrude Vetter; Mrs Fannie Wilson, a fourteenth generation descendent of Richard's niece Anne St. Leger; Mrs Malvina Lindsay Pyles; Mr Stuart Silverman, and Miss Jeanne Rose, research librarian for Arlington County

MEMBERS VISIT SAN FRANCISCO

The Western Secretary writes that she has had very pleasant visits recently with Mr William Snyder, regional director of the Washington area, and Miss Maud French, the new regional director of the New Hampshire area.

INFORMATION REQUESTED

Arthur Kincaid is doing an edition of Buck for his thesis, and would like to hear from any member who knows of any reference to this work in any century to write him: 29 Southmoor Road, Oxford, England.

DAUGHTER OF TIME FOUND

In response to the request by Hope Luder in the last REGISTER for extra copies of a DAUGHTER OF TIME, we have been deluged with places to order copies from. Miss Wigram writes that the English Branch can always obtain copies for us - our own member, Katherine Kellock, while visiting in England, was able to purchase one in the book shop at Westminster Abbey and in so doing discovered a nest of Ricardians! The clerk commented to Mrs Kellock that they don't usually carry detective stories, but that this one was different, and wasn't it a fine book and hasn't he been treated badly? They also had a card posted giving the name and address of the Society and some of our achievements! Since none of the people in the shop belongs to the Society, the English branch is more than pleased at this discovery of hidden Ricardian partisans.

Mrs Kellock also writes that a book store in England which she can highly recommend is Dillon's University Book Shop, 1 Malet St., London, W. C. 1, England. She writes: "it is surrounded by the University of London, gets out its own catalogues, and it even took my check on a Washington band and had the books here in Washington, this last time, a month after I bought them at the counter. They are particularly good on history. And they carry all kinds of paperbacks. I saw Tey there." She also warns: "I would never under any circumstances buy from the much touted Foyles. Some years ago I went in and bought a series - around 10-12 copies of 18th century issues of the GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE. They arrived loose in a long sack, with the covers broken off in many cases. (I've also discovered they never know where one can buy other books) When I wrote to complain of the condition of the copies of the GM, they wrote back a tittery note that said, in effect, 'dear, this must have been done by one of

DAUGHTER OF TIME cont.

our temporary employees."

Perhaps the best word of a source of copies comes from the Chairman of the Canadian Branch, William J. Buyers, 7 Wilgar Road, Toronto 18, Ontario. He writes that he will be glad to obtain copies of the Penguin edition which, by the way, has both Richard's and Henry's portraits on the cover, so if you like, you may order directly from him. The cost of the book is 3/6.

For those of you who would like to be able to expose your friends to more of the controversy as well as have a reliable source of information on hand for yourself, the book we can most highly recommend is TO PROVE A VILLAIN, by Littleton and Ray. This book includes a complete copy of DAUGHTER OF TIME, as well as other Ricardian material - pro and con. It is an invaluable book and one that every member should have. You can order it at the following address:

Order Dept.

The MacMillan Co.

Font and Brown St.

Riverside, N.J. 08075

It is a paperback book, very well bound and the cost is a most reasonable \$2.00 plus your local tax. If everyone who plans to attend the annual meeting gets this book and reads it, we will indeed have some interesting discussions.

CHAINS FOR PENDANTS

Those of you who have purchased the pendant type of badge will notice that it is very difficult to find a chain that matches the gold color of the badge. Mrs William Hogarth has located a source of matching chains. If you would like to order one, please write directly to her: 207 Carpenter Ave, Seacliff, N Y. The cost, including shipping is \$1.75.

NEW MEMBERS

Our first group of new members for the new year looks very promising, and I know we all welcome them into the Society.

Edwin Dean
Norton Lane
Framington, Conn. 06032

Mrs Jane Fletcher
Box 1076
Rollins College
Winter Park, Fla.

Miss Jean Fletcher
Box 1076
Rollins College
Winter Park, Fla.

Mrs Katharine B. Neilson
98 Garden St.
Hartford, Conn. 06105

Mr and Mrs Peter Stanford
16 Fulton St.
NY, NY, 10038

Miss Marcia Weinstein
Apt 3K
18 Harbour Terrace
Perth Amboy, N.J.

SECRETARY + NEWSLETTER = EDITOR

Since I am presently serving the Society in both capacities, I look upon mail to me as mail to the Editor - so if you do not want any material published, please notify me in your letter!!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mrs and Mrs David Hedges
253 Shakespeare Drive
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

NOTES ON A NEW MEMBER

Peter Stanford, who joined at the New York meeting, is the director of the South St. Seaport Museum at 16 Fulton St. He is the organizer and moving spirit behind New York's own version of the Mystic sailing ship.

On his application, Mr Stanford notes that he and his wife are interested in "all that existed in Merrie England before the calculating Tudors, ineffectiv Stuarts and generally lamentable Hanoverians took hold."

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

A date for the annual meeting of the Richard III Society has been set. We will meet in New York City on September 30. Plans are underway now to locate a suitable meeting place, and you will be notified as soon as a place is found. The meeting will be an afternoon meeting and include an optional dinner. We will have a competent professional lecturer on some facet of our field, and since there will be very little business to discuss, other discussions will be arranged - although on what format has not been decided. Any ideas or suggestions are welcome. The executive board is also hoping to arrange Ricardian activities for Friday night and Sunday afternoon. Thus you might say that this year there will be a Ricardian convention in New York. We would be interested in knowing how many of you would be able to attend such activities - obviously not everyone who attends the meeting will be able to attend everything else, but we think that we can arrange a most enjoyable weekend. You may invite INTERESTED friends to the meeting, but please make sure that they are interested, and not just curious - and let us know that they are coming!

PLEASE fill out the enclosed meeting slip and return it to me as soon as possible. Thank you.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

As you have probably noticed, this is a double mailing. Because of the amount of work which has gone into this, and because we expect to be very busy after the memorial notice goes out, this is also a double issue of the REGISTER.

I had a lovely vacation, and am now working as a budget analyst for the Narcotics Control Division of N. Y. State. On my way up from Englewood, I stopped and had a most enjoyable visit with Andre Norton and the Fletchers in Maitland. After a delicious dinner, we talked for several hours about a wide variety of subjects including the various ramifications of Heraldry.

The prayer of Richard's which is enclosed is courtesy of Mrs Katherine Kellock and was used at the Sutton Cheney dedication service which Mrs Kellock attended.

The list of questions and answers about Richard is revised from the copy used by the Friends of Richard III, inc. and comes to us courtesy of Mr Alexander Clark, the founder of the Friends. I have more copies available if you need some. We are working on the production of a wallet size card along these same lines, and will be glad to have any suggestions for the smaller card.

The questionnaire which is enclosed is to be filled out by everyone - and I must have your zip code, otherwise I cannot guarantee that your mail will continue to reach you. As noted, the questions are optional, but we would like to have you answer as many as you can.

Please note on the meeting slip what your plans are concerning the meeting. If you are certain one way or the other, please tell us, if you are planning on trying to come, but cannot be sure until later, please note that too. When we get a place, we want to be sure that there will be room for everyone.

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REPORT cont.

IF THE DATES ON YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD ARE 66-67, THEN YOUR DUES ARE DUE BEFORE OCTOBER 31.

\$3.00 adult, \$2.00 student, \$4.50 family

You will also find attached to this mailing a stamped, addressed envelope. You may return it with as many of the following as you wish - the questionnaire, the meeting notice, and/or your dues. You will be able to pay your dues at the meeting. I would like to have the questionnaire and the meeting notice returned as soon as possible.

LAST NOTICE FOR PORTRAIT

If there is anyone else who would like to order the 11x14 color linen finish portrait of Richard, will you please notify Libby Haynes, 4149 25th St. N, Arlington, Va. 22207 before August 31. Please enclose a check for \$3.00 and an inner seal from Maxwell House Coffee.

MESSAGES FROM ENGLAND

Pztrick Bacon, the Chairman of the English Branch, writes that he and his wife will be visiting the States in October and will be in New York for a few days around October 22. He would be interested in meeting some of our members.

Miss Isolde Wigram, secretary of the English branch, writes that they have just got a Xerox copy of a TUDOR defence of Richard which was mentioned by Buck and more particularly by a Wl Gordon Zeeveld in the publications of the Modern Language Aspiration of America in 1940. Unfortunately the unknown defender swallows the Tudor accusations hook, line, and sinker, but dreams up some very ingenious justifications for them!

RICARDIAN REFERENCE REVEALED

Libby Haynes has found another favorable reference to Richard in *MY LCRD OF CANTERBURY*, by Godfrey Turton, Doubleday and Co., Garden City, N Y 1967, a Literary Guild Selection. This is a biographical novel of Thomas Cramner, Henry VIII's archbishop written in the form of his memoirs. The following quote begins on p. 7,

It has been the custom in my lifetime to condemn the Kings of the House of York and contrast their faults with the merits of the Tudors. King Richard III in particular is represented as a monster so deformed in body and soul as to be scarcely human. I myself of course can only speak of him from hearsay, but I must admit that in many of the conversations to which I listened as a boy in Nottinghamshire well out of the earshot of the authorities, conversations among men to whom his reign was a recent memory, a much more favorable and more credible portrait was drawn. There was a wool merchant who used to visit us every summer after shearing time, travelling from the North down the Fosse Way. His own home was at York, and he spoke openly of the popularity enjoyed by King Richard and the respect still paid to his memory there. He himself saw the King riding through the town, and he declared emphatically that there was no sign of any deformity, although he looked carefully, having heard tales of a weakness in one of the King's shoulders. Whatever the weakness may have been, it was not of a kind to mar the appearance of a well-set figure and stern but gentle face.

That is the evidence of an eyewitness who saw King Richard, the last of the Plantagenets, in the flesh, and it recurs to me whenever the ignorant repeat the official legend of a mishapen bogy-man. I begin to wonder too how much truth there is in the moral enormities ascribed to him. The picture which I have

REFERENCE cont.

received of his short reign from those who lived in it is of great expectations bitterly disappointed, a false dawn heralding prematurely, but nonetheless indubitably the end of the long night of the civil wars. When his brother, King Edward IV, died undisputed ruler of the country the victory of the White Rose seemed to be secure, and men at last dared to believe that peace lay ahead. The only lingering source of uneasiness, only enemy able to blight the prospect was that very Henry Tudor whom we honour today as the founder of peace and prosperity. Whether King Richard would have justified the nation's hopes we cannot know. Henry Tudor invaded with French support, won the battle of Bosworth and the throne of England, and his fellow adversary has earned the ignominy due to those who are dead and unable to reply."

I will be getting in touch with Mr Turton and further explore his Ricardian tendencies.

THE MEMORIUM NOTICE

As is our custom, we will be placing an In Memoriam notice in the August 22 issue of the New York Times. This year will mark the 482nd anniversary of Richard's death.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

QUEST CROSSTIME, Ace Publications, by Andre Norton, a gift of the author.

LOYALTY BINDS ME, by Ruth Travençolo, a gift of Elizabeth Haynes

NEW SUBSCRIBER

A new subscriber to the REGISTER is Mrs Doris Mattingley
183 Canterbury Road
Blackburn, 3130, Victoria, Australia