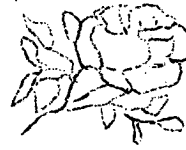


# THE RICARDIAN REGISTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
AMERICAN BRANCH,  
RICHARD III SOCIETY



Volume II, Issue 4 - February, 1968

## NOTE

### IMPORTANT

You will notice a change of address in this issue that is quite important. I am moving, as of February 14th, to Columbus Ohio. While this will not affect me very much as Secretary, it will have an effect on the publishing of the REGISTER. As you can see by the Treasurer's report, at the moment we cannot afford to pay for the publishing of the REGISTER, these costs must continue to be donated. The donation offer which has enabled us to have a newsletter still stands, and thanks to a very courageous co-editor, we will still be able to take advantage of it. From now on, I will continue to write the REGISTER, but they will be printed in Albany. Cynthia will take over the collating and mailing not only of the REGISTER, but of all Society material. I am leaving all the extra copies of everything we have printed with her, so if you don't get an issue or want an extra copy, write to her. She is now circulation manager (see story on following page). On the other hand, if you have an address change, let me know, as her mailing list will be based on what I send in each REGISTER.

Jean Airey, Secretary - Editor

#### NOT QUITE A SUCCESS - YET

Judge Donald Lybarger writes that, at the suggestion of Mr Bacon, he attempted to get Dr. Paul Murray Kendall to speak in London in a debate with Dr. Rowse. Although the attempt was not successful, we all sincerely appreciate the effort.

#### FOR OUR CONVENIENCE

Another copy of the order form for the back issues is attached.

CO-EDITOR & CIRCULATION MANAGER  
Cynthia Campbell  
204 Washington Ave.  
Rensselaer, N.Y. 12144

#### REPORT OF THE TREASURER

As of January 13, our books were closed, and our semi-annual assessment sent to England. We sent \$179.00, broken down into the following costs:

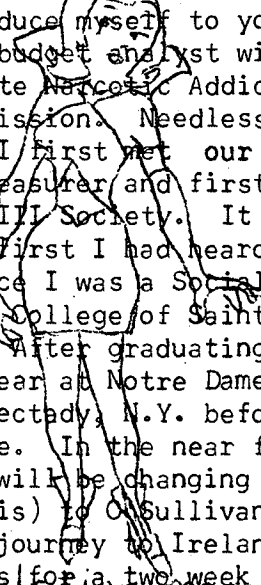
75 regular members @ \$1.50	112.50
24 student members @ \$1.00	24.00
18 family members @ \$2.00	36.00
2 "Betrayal of Richard III"	3.00
10 "College of Richard III"	3.50

Other expenses for this period totaled \$471.22, making our total expenditures \$650.72. Our total income for this period was \$880.72, leaving us with a cash on hand balance for the rest of the fiscal year of \$230.00. Most of the expenses for this period were for the newsletter, however all these, except the postage costs were offset by specific donations for this purpose. Our actual cost per member, regardless of type of membership is almost \$5.00. If postage costs continue to increase, and it becomes impossible to publish the REGISTER on a cost-free basis, it will be necessary to raise dues. If we can postpone this until we are incorporated, then dues payments and donations made will be tax-deductable.

Jean Airey Treasurer

#### STILL TIME TO ORDER

You can still send in your order for the back issues of the RICARDIAN, but do it soon. Remember that your order for the large set - \$15, or the small set - \$3, or both will help us offset the costs of incorporation. Order now from William Hogarth, 207 Carpenter Ave., Seacliffe, N.Y. Please make checks payable to Mr. Hogarth - The Richard III Society.



Let me introduce myself to you. I am presently a budget analyst with the New York State Narcotic Addiction Control Commission. Needless to say that is how I first met our traveling Secretary-Treasurer and first heard of the Richard III Society. It certainly was not the first I had heard of Richard, since I was a Social Studies major at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, N.Y. After graduating I managed to teach a year at Notre Dame High School, Schenectady, N.Y. before joining State Service. In the near future, May 25th, I will be changing my name (last, that is) to O'Sullivan, with whom I will journey to Ireland and the British Isles for a two week honeymoon. That is, if these are selected as 'favored' countries by a certain man in Washington. If not, and we cannot visit the habitat of the English Branch, we will go and visit the hunting grounds of the Western Branch.

KEEP WAVING - everyone

Hillary Weisgrau has written us a charming letter. It seems that she is combining her interest in Richard with a term paper that is due (and remember to make a copy for the library, Hillary). In fact her enthusiasm prompted her to place an advertisement in the school newspaper, saying:

Richard III was nice!

Underneath this ad when the paper came out was another ad:

Keep Waving, Hillary.

This last thought is, upon examination, a good motto for all of us. If we keep on waving - talking, reading, and writing - we stand a much better chance of being noticed and recognized, and perhaps even waved back at, than if we just curl up in a ball and say and do nothing. I think that we all need to remember that most of the material we consider 'elementary' is unknown and potentially interesting to the general public. Especially when lately there has even been distortion of the 'basic' Tudor legend. (See story on following page). Perhaps to outsiders we are tilting against windmills, but this is the first windmill I've seen that acts like a cancer.

THE PLANTAGENETS, 1154-1485, by John Harvey.

This little book (180) pages is unusual, readable, colorful, entertaining - and quite accurate as well. There are many illustrations, a genealogical table, a good index, and an appendix with various Kings' letters and poems by Richard I, Edward II, and Henry VI. A chapter is devoted to each Plantagenet King, and it is much to the author's credit that each one is presented as a real individual, with his particular talents and weaknesses when confronted with the problems of his time. We are mercifully spared long footnotes, detailed itineraries, and lengthy quotations from contemporary correspondence -- those old padding devices of historians.

The chapter on Richard III treats him in a very fair and objective manner, and the "monstrous legend" is traced back to Archbishop Morton. The last Plantagenet is shown as an able ruler who encouraged both cultural and legal reforms during his brief reign. The author exonerates Richard of several murders attributed to him by the Tudors (Prince Edward, Henry VI, Queen Anne Neville) but does blame him for the executions of Hastings, Rivers, etc. Perhaps the best way to describe Mr. Harvey's feelings as far as can be ascertained from this chapter, is that he is not a Ricardian, but that a very persuasive member could convince him to join the Society.

THE PLANTAGENETS is not a weighty, scholarly book, but a charming introduction to what is perhaps England's most dramatic period in history.

Liliane-Francoise Osborn

#### PAPERBACK NEWS

Several weeks ago, while looking through some racks of paperback books in one of the local shopping malls, I was delighted to notice that Kendall's edition of Richard III, THE GREAT DEBATE, ... has been reprinted in paperback. ... The reprint is in the Norton Library, number N310, and costs \$1.75.

Frank Hoffman

The charming, gracious lady mentioned in last month's REGISTER is none other than our former chairman of the American Branch, Mrs Liliane Osborn. This delightful lady is responsible for the recent availability of well-produced photo duplications of the RICARDIAN, beginning with number 1, and continuing through the issue published last May. The officers would like to express, on behalf of the entire membership, the great appreciation felt to Mrs Osborn for having made this photo-duplication possible through her generous willingness to allow her complete set of RICARDIANS to be used as the master copy in the duplication process. Without her willingness to lend her originals, which are, of course, so valuable because of the extreme scarcity of complete back issues, this project would have been impossible. Because of her loan, this scarcity has been alleviated, to the great benefit of all members of the branch and the Society as a whole.

#### BETTY SCHLOSS WAVES - FOR RAVES

Since we have already had one article in this issue about the value of 'waving', it is interesting to see the results of one piece of waving that Betty Schloss did recently.

In the Sunday, December 10, 1967 edition of "The Pittsburgh Press" is a very well written article, topped by a picture of Betty holding (could that qualify as a wave??) the portrait of Richard. The article begins by briefly relating the traditional opinion of Richard that is challenged by the Society.

The article goes on to explain that the portrait that Betty is holding is "endorsed" by the Society because of "the intelligent and kind expression of its subject". "Speaking for the Society, Mrs Schloss claims that Shakespeare was the victim of misinformation. Richard was deposed and killed by a Tudor, and she believes his character was painted black to defend that lineage.

"There is not sufficient evidence to prove Richard murdered the Princes in the Tower. Sir Thomas More, who supplied

#### BETTY SCHLOSS, cont.

the information for Shakespeare, was distributing historical propaganda for Henry VII (a Tudor)."

This article has already brought in some new members. Margie Patterson, who wrote the article, and her husband have joined - they were listed in the last REGISTER, and in this issue we find Mrs Raymond Tucker, a housewife and former speech therapist, writing that :

"Being interested in, and informed on, the subject of Tichard III, I think it only proper to join such a group. Born in England, and lovingly introduced to Shakespeare at an early age, I have always been interested in Richard III. My especial interest in History led me to Josephine Tey's DAUGHTER OF TIME, which completely convinced me of Richard's innocence."

#### ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

GUIDEBOOK TO YORK, gift of Mr. Wm Snyder

Analysis of Handwriting of Richard III, gift of Mrs Edward Schweser.

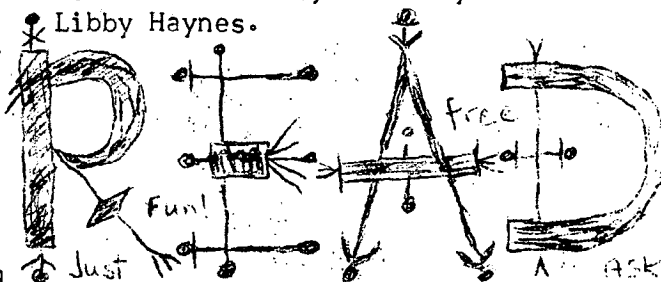
Newspaper clipping, interview of Betty Schloss, gift of Mrs Schloss

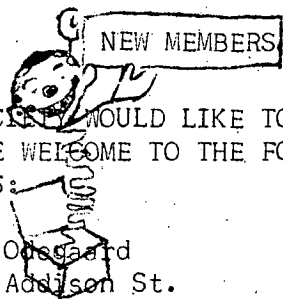
THE GREAT DEBATE, a fine hardback edition, a gift of Miss Isolde Wigman, given to the Branch for getting the Maxwell House portraits for the English members.

HISTORY'S RICHARD III AND SHAKESPEARE'S RICHARD III, by Mrs R. Ehrlich, a gift of Mrs Ehrlich.

TO DREAM UPON A CROWN by Joanne S. Williamson, a gift of Miss Mary McKittrick.

THE ENGLISH POSTAL SERVICE, gift of R. A. Bunnett, courtesy of Libby Haynes.





NEW MEMBERS

THE SOCIETY WOULD LIKE TO ISSUE A SINCERE WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

Gladys Oosgaard  
744 W. Addison St.  
Chicago, Illinois, 60613

Mrs Raymond S. Tucker  
5762 Woodmont St.  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Mrs William R. Doniger  
18 Split Tree Road  
Scarsdale, N.Y.

Irving H. Hertzberg  
500 Margate Boulevard  
Margate, Fla. 33063

AND:

Mrs William B. Airey  
6626 Rocky Den Road  
Reynoldsburg, Ohio

IS THERE A TUDOR YET ALIVE???

Judge Lybarger has found an interesting article in an issue of the Cleveland Press. The unknown writer (perhaps he has some sense) referred to the defense of Richard against the crime of murdering three royal PRINCESSES (that is not one of my typographical errors). He suggests that Richard must have put three of Elizabeth Woodville's daughters into a butt of malmselywine, thus originating the story about Clarence.

As Mr. Spock would say: 'fascinating'.

TALKING ABOUT ROWSE:

Does anyone out there know if Dr Rowse has ever excused the actions of a historical character on the grounds that "those times were different, and we cannot use the same standards of judgement" or words to that effect. If so, where, and whom?? Please let me know if you find any such reference in any of his books.

Jean

4 RAGOSIN PLAYS TO BECOME AVAILABLE

Patrick Bacon informs me that very soon now he will be able to send us tapes of the Lydia Ragosin plays entitled "A Cry of Treason" and "A Crown for the Strong." These plays will be broadcast in England on March 24 and 31st over B.B.C. (Radio 4). The tapes, which will be on a 5" diameter reel, will be available to members at no charge. Reservations for the tapes may be placed now with Libby Haynes - 4149 25th St., Arlington, Va. First Come, first served, and our deepest thanks to Mr Bacon for making the tapes available.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Andre Norton writes that the new autobiography of Cecil Roberts, THE GROWING BOY "has some very snide remarks about Richard, plus the memorial to him from the Society. But then Mr. Roberts appears to be very pro-Henry, --trotting out the Princes - in- the Tower bit as proven against Richard."

Lilaine Osborn has sent us a clipping with a more cheerful outlook, from the January 13, 1968 edition of the New York Post, TWO ON THE AISLE, by Richard Watts, Jr. who writes in dealing with the question of how closely should a play dealing with a theme from history accept the verdict of Historians. "Look at what happened to poor Richard III! Shakespeare, thanks to his admiration for the Tudors and his acceptance of the biased evidence supplied by the sainted Sir Thomas More, wrote the most successful propaganda play in all history, with the result that the last of the Plantage monarchs has been blasted for posterity as an evil, monstrous brute and a physical monstrosity. Although there has long been a school of opinion, to which I belong, which insists Richard was a fine sensitive man, we had no chance against the Shakespearean tradition."

RUSH RESERVATIONS FOR DR. ROWSE TALK  
2:00 - the Drake Hotel, Park & 56th.  
Afternoon of March 24th  
COST: \$1.00

Written reservations and checks to:  
Mr William Hogarth, 230 E. 52nd St.  
N.Y., N.Y. 10022.

The following excerpts are from analysis of Richard's handwriting as done by the members of the Long Island Handwriting Research Association. The complete text of this report is in the library. In reading this one should remember that the sample given for analysis was a postscript added by Richard to a letter asking for aid at the time of Buckingham's revolt. As this was a very traumatic experience, we should, if the analysis is good expect to find signs of this trauma turning up. Also questionable is the validity of current methods when applied to medieval writing materials and techniques. The members of the association were given the sample and told only that it was that of a well-born Englishman of the 15th century. Later they were told who it was and what he has been accused of. Personally, I feel that it would have been better to have described the circumstances surrounding the writing of this particular letter. It might be interesting to submit another sample of Richard's handwriting written at a less tumultuous time. Parenthetical interpretations are mine.

Lillian Braun, moderator with over fifteen years experience in in-depth analysis: "Strong, creative, original, highly emotional personality, altruistically inclined, but with tendency toward erratic behavior. (remember the circumstances of this letter)

Marion and Otto Schneider, for twelve years have been compiling a comparative study of handwriting systems: "tremendous inner conflict between altruism and acquisitiveness, artistic, moody, creative, dynamic yet deliberate, form level, genius.

Rex Smith, counselor and columnist for a Suffolk paper: "Strong personality torn by contradictory emotions, would attain leadership by personal intimidation.

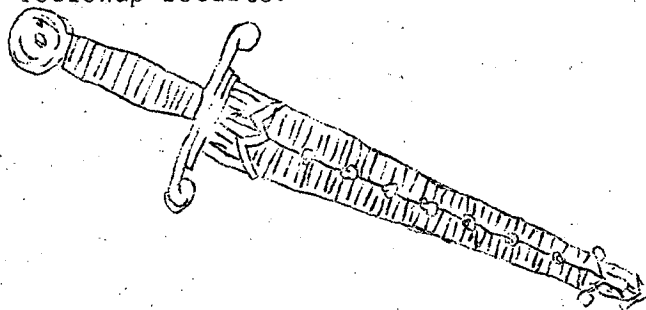
Inge Ketterer Wenz: Student of handwriting analysis for 20 years, searching for correlation between handwriting deviations and physical and mental ills: "Exaggerated idealism versus strong physical drives, thrifty, but prone to bursts of extravagance,

fiercely protective of his 'image' but in private insecure and self-destructive. Extremes in behavior may be triggered by inherited tendency toward epilepsy. (I do not recall that as one of the faults of the Plantagenet family)

CONCLUSION: A most interesting personality who felt deeply, reacted strongly, always with intelligence, sometimes with charm. Torn between an obsessive need to be the 'best' and an 'inferiority complex' his behavior was often brilliant, most often unpredictable. (I do not find unpredictability compatible with a person who always acts intelligently - they don't blend)

Had he been born in this day of protected monarchy, his individualism would have made him 'good copy' and the object of grudging admiration. Since he lived in an era of suspicion and intrigue, it is entirely possible that he could have made an emotional decision on facts provided by a self-serving advisor. (Might it not be better to conclude that he would react emotionally to the discovery that one of his most trusted advisers and a man he considered a friend was engaging in an act of rebellion?) Richard sincerely believed that harm to himself meant harm to England, something that he would strive to prevent at all costs. "

In summary then, I think that this was a most interesting experiment, and I would like to see it followed up - if someone could have another sample of Richard's handwriting analysed - perhaps the letter to his mother, to see if the results are the same, I would also like to see an analysis of Henry VII's handwriting - for comparison. It might be interesting to see some followup results.



Mrs William P. Haynes  
4149 25th St.  
Arlington, Va. 22207

ALBANY  
JAN 30  
P M  
1968  
N. Y.

