

participants to its spring program meeting on "Economic Reality: Strategies for the Academic Library" on May 3 at the University of Maine, Orono. The New England Chapter has 768 personal members and 86 institutional members.

• The OREGON CHAPTER has established the pattern of meeting in the winter, spring, and fall of each year. At the February meeting, held on the campus of Pacific University in Forest Grove, Stephen Beckham, a historian at Lewis and Clark College and an authority on Northwest Indians, discussed the ways in which libraries have been helpful to him in his research. The April meeting at Oregon State University in Corvallis featured a presentation on Earlham College's course-related library user instruction program by Tom Kirk, science librarian, and Jerome Woolpy, professor of biology at Earlham.

• The WESTERN NEW YORK/ONTARIO CHAPTER sponsored a workshop on April 7 in Rochester jointly with the Upstate New York Chapter of the Special Libraries Association. The topic was "Analysis of Library Collections: How to Evaluate What You Own and How Much It Is Used." ■■



*James D. Lockwood*  
Assistant Director  
ALA Washington Office

The White House Conference on Library and Information Services is now only two months away. Much has been written about the resolutions adopted by the state conferences. Now people are beginning to speculate on the possible impact of resolutions that will come out of the national conference.

The Washington office is greatly interested in what happens at the White House Conference. The office is constantly seeking new material that will help tell the library story to those in government who make laws and regulations. Resolutions of library organizations and meetings lend weight to the message we convey on behalf of librarians and libraries.

Resolutions from the White House Conference will be special, however, and the 96th Congress will indeed require something special if libraries are to come out ahead. The purse strings of Congress remain very tight. As a result, more than the usual justifications will be necessary just to keep in place successful federal programs, let alone start new ones.

Every once in a while federal programs in any area need a shakedown. No matter how impor-

## POOLE NAMED CHOICE EDITOR

Jay Martin Poole has been appointed the new editor of *Choice*, a monthly book selection journal published by ACRL in Middletown, Connecticut. At *Choice* Poole will have responsibility for a publication with a circulation of about 6,000, a budget of \$700,000, and a staff of twenty-two.

Since 1974 Poole has been head librarian of the Undergraduate Library, University of Texas at Austin. He was head of the Reference Department at the State University of New York at Buffalo Library during 1973-1974, and special programs librarian and reference librarian at the University of Washington (Seattle) Libraries from 1970 to 1973.

He earned his B.A. degree from the University of Tulsa and his M.L.S. degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Active in ACRL, he was the 1978-1979 chair of the ACRL Undergraduate Librarians Discussion Group.

## Inside Washington

tant the goals of minority librarian recruitment, service to the disadvantaged, and cooperation and sharing, the programs designed to meet these needs must occasionally be reviewed and repackaged. To be sure, the U.S. Office of Education conducts its own evaluations, but an evaluation by librarians and library users themselves could have an even greater impact.

The results of the White House Conference will have special significance for several reasons. First, the time is right for a fresh look at the direction the library field is taking. Second, the conference will focus national attention on library issues. Third, the predominance of citizen participants (two-thirds of the total) should not only improve discussion but also enhance the overall credibility of the process. And finally, multiple targeting on local, state, and national issues and the wide scope of the topics to be considered will give added importance to the resolutions that come out of the conference.

All of this is not to say that the current slate of library problems will be wiped clean, or that long-debated issues will finally be resolved. On the other hand, it will be refreshing to look at a brand new distillation of what is changing (and not changing) in the field. In the Washington office, we are confident that the overall results of the conference will help to highlight our national assets, to reconfirm continuing needs, and to focus our efforts in new areas. ■■

*Announcing a Major New Series of Studies in American Literature*

## CRITICAL ESSAYS IN AMERICAN LITERATURE

General Editor, James Nagel, Northeastern University

G.K. Hall & Co. is pleased to announce a major new series in American literary criticism. *Critical Essays on American Literature* collects the best of original and reprinted scholarly essays on major American writers. Edited by outstanding scholars, the series will often present the only collection of writings on many of the subjects and will cover the entire history of American writing from 1620 to the present.

*AVAILABLE IN DECEMBER - 3 MAJOR CONTEMPORARY WRITERS*

### CRITICAL ESSAYS ON JOYCE CAROL OATES

edited by Linda Wagner

0-8161-8224-8

\$25.00

Joyce Carol Oates wrote the preface for this book, the first collection of criticism about her work. Her fiction is known for its reflection of the violence and neuroses of contemporary society. In the introduction to the book, Wagner presents a valuable and much-needed overview of Oates' career and of the critical response to her writings. Included are original essays by Irving Mallin, Ellen Freedman, Eileen T. Bender, Peter Stevens, and G.F. Waller. Linda Wagner, the editor, is the author of 17 books as well as scores of poems, stories, and articles.

### CRITICAL ESSAYS ON SAUL BELLOW

edited by Stanley Trachtenberg

0-8161-8281-7

\$27.50

Professor Trachtenberg charts the critical reception received by Bellow, a 1976 Nobel laureate. The introduction by the editor is a comprehensive overview of Bellow's career and of critical response to his work. The collection of essays that follows includes distinguished criticism by Philip Stevick, Eusebio Rodrigues, and Irvin Stock. Daniel Fuchs offers an analysis of hitherto unknown writings by Bellow. Stanley Trachtenberg, the editor, has written extensively on American Literature in such journals as the *Yale*, *Kenyon*, and *Georgia Reviews*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, and *Commentary*.

### CRITICAL ESSAYS ON ARTHUR MILLER

James J. Martine

0-8161-8258-2

\$25.00

As a playwright, Miller has enjoyed both critical and public acclaim. This collection is the most substantial collection of criticism ever published on Miller's life and writings. Brooks Atkinson, John Simon, Walter Kerr, and Thomas Porter are among the distinguished critics whose writings

appear in this volume. Also included is Professor Martine's 1979 interview with Miller, published here for the first time. Daniel Walde has also contributed an original essay, and the collection offers a useful bibliographic guide. James Martine is Associate Professor and Head of the Graduate Program in English at St. Bonaventure University.

*FORTHCOMING IN SPRING 1980*

### CRITICAL ESSAYS ON HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

edited by Elizabeth Ammons

0-8161-8260-4

### CRITICAL ESSAYS ON MARGARET FULLER

edited by Joel Myerson

0-8161-8283-3

### CRITICAL ESSAYS ON GEORGE WASHINGTON CABLE

edited by Arlin Turner

0-8161-8256-6

### CRITICAL ESSAYS ON JONATHAN EDWARDS

edited by William J. Scheick

0-8161-8304-X



Call toll-free  
1-800-343-2806



**G.K. HALL & CO.**

70 Lincoln Street, Boston, MA 02111