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Gleanings From Academic Gatherings

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GLEANINGS FROM ACADEMIC GATHERINGS

Research Committee on the History of Sociology

Scheduled papers of anthropological interest at the Munich conference of the RCHS (July, 1984) included: "The 'Psychologie des Peuples': An Anthropological Subdiscipline in Turn of the Century France" (Joseph R. Llobera); "Kobertson Smith and James Frazer: Two Traditions in the Anthropological Study of Religion" (Bob Jones); "Toward the History of Social Darwinism: Georges Vacher de Lapouge's Theory of 'Social Selections'" (Andre Bejin).

Western History Association.

The program for the 1984 meetings in St. Paul, Minnesota, included a paper by Katherine Spencer Halpern, Mary E. Holt, and Susan McGreevy (Wheelwright Museum, Santa Fe New Mexico) entitled: "Washington Matthews: Army Surgeon and Field Anthropologist in the American West, 1843-1905".

Sapir Centennial Symposia

The centenary of the birth of Edward Sapir saw two major symposia discussing various aspects of his life and work. At the annual meetings of the AAA, two sessions were organized by James N. Nyce (Brown). The first, entitled "Edward Sapir's Place in the History of the Social Sciences," was chaired by George W. Stocking (Chicago), and an introductory paper was given by J. David Sapir (Virginia). Other papers included: "Edward Sapir: The Jewish Dimension" (Edgar E. Siskin, Jerusalem Center for Anthropological Research); "Edward Sapir and the Mapping of American Indian Languages and Cultures" (Regna Darnell, Alberta and Dell Hymes, Pennsylvania); "Edward Sapir and the Rockefeller Foundation" (Lawrence C. Kelly, North Texas State); "The Sapir, Sullivan and Lasswell Collaborations: Real and Imagined" (Richard J. Preston, McMaster); "Sapir as Psychological Anthropologist" (Philip K. Bock, New Mexico); "Edward Sapir's Thought in American Psychoanalysis" (Eugene B. Brody, Maryland) and "Edward Sapir and the Aesthetics of Language" (Bill Beeman, Brown).

A second session, entitled "Edward Sapir as an Anthropologist", was chaired by Dell Hymes (Pennsylvania) and included the following papers: "Edward Sapir, Ethnologist, at Chicago" (Morria E. Opler, Oklahoma); "Retrospective Ethnography: Field Notes as Myth" (Susan Golla, Columbia); "When the Exotic is Mistaken for Subject: Sapir's Critique of Ethnography" (Howard F. Stein, Oklahoma); "Sapir and Linguistics" (Victoria A. Fromkin, UCLA); "The Classification of American Indian Languages by Radin and Sapir" (Mary Sacharoff, San Francisco State) and "Significant Form: The Influence of Sapir's Poetics on his Phonemic Theory" (Richard Handler, Lake Forest College).

Earlier in the fall, a second symposium was held in Ottawa at the Victoria Memorial Museum Building from October 1 - 3, 1984. Papers were given by Robert J. Alien (SUNY-Albany), Regna Darnell (Alberta), Federica de Laguna (Bryn Mawr), Fred Eggan (Chicago), William N. Fenton (SUNY-Albany), Catherine S. Fowler (Nevada-Reno), Ives Goddard (Smithsonian), Victor Golla (George Washington), Richard Handler (Lake Forest), Deil Hymes (Pennsylvania), Michael E. Krauss (Alaska), Margaret Langdon (San Diego), Wendy Leeds-Hurwitz (Wisconsin), Yakov Malkiel (Berkeley), Stephen O. Murray (San Francisco), Stanley Newman (New Mexico), James N. Nyce (Brown), Els Oksaar (Hamburg), Richard J. Preston (McMaster), Michael Silverstein (Chicago), and David Weinstein (Bethesda, MD).

In conjunction with the Ottawa symposium was a roundtable discussion which included fred Eggan, Mary R. Haas, Fang Kuei Li, David G. Mandelbaum, Stanley S. Newman, Kenneth L. Pike, Edgar Siskin, and Charles F. Voegelin.

The Sapir centenary has also been the stimulus for various publications, including a plan to reprint many of Sapir's works. Already available is Victor Golla's addition of The Sapir-Kroeber Correspondence: Letters Between Edward Sapir and A. L. Kroeber 1905-1925, published as Report #6 of The Survey of California and Other American Indian Languages. University of California, Berkeley, 1984.