



# Mark Twain Circular

Newsletter of the Mark Twain Circle of America  
Published in Association with the Mark Twain Journal

James S. Leonard, Editor, *Mark Twain Circular*  
The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

Thomas A. Tenney, Editor, *Mark Twain Journal*  
The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

---

Volume 6

October-December 1992

Number 4

---

## Walter Blair, 1900-1992, Distinguished Mark Twain Scholar

Walter Blair, recipient of the Mark Twain Circle's first award for a lifetime of distinguished achievement in Twain scholarship, died of lung cancer at his home in Chicago's Hyde Park district June 29 in his ninety-third year. At the Circle's dinner in Washington, D.C. on May 25, 1991, I had the pleasure of reading a citation Hamlin Hill and I jointly prepared for this award at the behest of Pascal Covici. Hamlin was then fulfilling his two-year residence as Salgo Professor of American Studies in Budapest, and I had just returned from Vienna, where we collaborated on our citation. In fact, I flew home a few days early because we agreed it would be desirable for one of us to deliver our rather whimsical-sounding memento personally lest its "Blairian" tone seem irreverent in another's reading. Pascal then forwarded our composition to Walter, who was deeply appreciative and grateful to the Circle; but because many members were unable to attend, there's no better way to memorialize Walter Blair than to reproduce it here:

-----  
In 1974 and 1975 his colleagues

around the United States honored Walter Blair with the finest accolades then available to our profession. He received the first Charlie Chaplin Award and the first Honorary Life Membership in the American Humor Studies Association, the Jay B. Hubbell Award from the American Language Association, and a special issue of *Studies in American Humor* dedicated to him. Such laurels seemed prudent. Walter Blair, born in the first months of this century, was then in his mid-70's, had retired after a distinguished teaching career at the University of Chicago, and was the acknowledged patriarch of the study of Mark Twain and American humor. At the time it seemed Walter could become a hit-and-run victim of Time's Winged Chariot and head for the Great MLA in the Sky with little advance warning.

It was a career that merited high praise. Walter Blair had almost literally discovered a discipline and had proceeded to chart its outlines, metes and bounds, and lushness. That discipline was, of course, American humor. From his first facetious introduction to the poetry of Julia A. Moore in 1928, through *Native American Humor*, *Horse Sense in American Humor*, *Tall Tale America*, *Davy Crockett: Frontier Hero*, *Half Horse Half Alligator*, plus a steady

---

David E. E. Sloane  
President, Mark Twain Circle  
University of New Haven  
West Haven, CT 06516

Susan K. Harris  
Vice President, Mark Twain Circle  
Pennsylvania State University  
University Park, PA 16802

Michael J. Kiskis  
Executive Coordinator, MT Circle  
Empire State College  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

stream of scholarly (and sometimes not so scholarly) articles, Blair explored the territory ahead of the rest. As was pointed out in his acceptance speech for the Hubbell Award in 1974:

Anyone for whom 1927 is ancient history will find it hard to believe the low esteem in which American writings were held at the time. When a graduate student told a specialist in English literature that he was specializing in American literature, he had to brace himself for a standard put-down: "Is there any? . . ."

Unsophisticated and frivolous, I elected to write a dissertation on a subject even less respected than *American literature*--our humor.

The extent of Blair's success may be measured by the fact that *Native American Humor*, the basic text which emerged from that dissertation, has remained in print for fifty-four years! Not content merely to elucidate our country's humor, Blair has insistently added to its store with his own comic drawings and caricatures which he occasionally used to illustrate this and other books of his, including one mock-formal pose of himself holding converse with Mark Twain.

As he asserted in that pioneering work, Mark Twain was the pinnacle and culmination of a century of the humor of the Old Southwest, Down East humor, Local Color, and Literary Comedian humor. Here, too, Blair was a pioneer. Earlier this year, when the first half of the manuscript of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* was disinterred, he mused to a reporter for the *Chicago Tribune*, "Twain wasn't recognized as respectable when I started on him . . . He was a low humorist." In the 1930's Blair began to work on an "anatomy" of Huck Finn, not to mention his study of other Twain works. This pursuit culminated--or so we thought at the time--with *Mark Twain & Huck Finn* (1960), that amazing combination of

biography, history, source and influence study, and critical acumen. He edited *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *Selected Shorter Writings of Mark Twain*, and *Mark Twain's Hannibal, Huck, and Tom* for the Mark Twain Project at Berkeley in 1969. And along the way he found time to edit, with John Gerber, several editions of *The College Anthology* (1949), one of the most widely used texts in freshmen rhetoric for two decades and, with the late Theodore Hornberger and Randall Stewart, one of the most popular survey anthologies of American literature.

We were all gloriously mistaken in the mid-1970s when we congratulated Walter for his achievements. Like an academic George Burns, he refused to quit. In 1978 he wrote well over half of *America's Humor from Poor Richard to Doonesbury* and he edited with Raven McDavid the anthology, *The Mirth of a Nation* in 1983. Meanwhile, a continuous outpouring of his articles on Twain and American humor appeared in journals and books. For example, he explored the French ancestry of Twain's "Petrified Man" hoax and tantalized us with the question, "Was *Huckleberry Finn* Written?," both in the *Mark Twain Journal* in 1977 and 1979 respectively, and in 1980 he contributed an analysis of the satirical methods used in "Franklin's Massacre of the Hessians" to *Toward a New American Literature: Essays in Honor of Arlin Turner* (ed. Louis J. Budd, et al.) and the following year (1981), *The American Self: Myth, Ideology, and Popular Culture* (ed. Samuel B. Gingus) contained a chapter by Blair on "Mark Twain and The Mind's Ear."

Nor was this his Swan Song. While earlier pieces by the now venerable scholar-critic began appearing frequently in collections like M. Thomas Inge's *Frontier Humorist: Critical Views* (1975) and *Critical Essays on American Humor*, edited by William B. Clark and W. Craig Turner in 1984, Blair forged

ahead with Victor Fischer to his thirty-fifth book in 1988: the Iowa/California *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, four pounds and 875 pages containing what Walter himself called "everything . . . we thought anybody above the grade of an idiot would want." Finally--though Blair may yet give the lie to that adverb--he edited (with Dahlia Armon) and wrote the forward and notes to Twain's *Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer Among the Indians & Other Unfinished Stories* for the Mark Twain Project in 1989.

Now, sixteen years after we congratulated Walter Blair on a spectacular career, we honor him again with the first Distinguished Mark Twain Scholar Award for his over sixty years of eminent contributions to the subject that collects us here today. Walter told that *Chicago Tribune* reporter that he feared he would not be able to contribute to the work now to be done on those 665 new pages of *Huck Finn* manuscript: "I'm 90 years old," he said, "and barely able to wiggle around." From all of us who are so deeply in his debt, the heartfelt message of this award is: "Wiggle on, Walter, wiggle on!"

-----

Perhaps a few details should now be added. For one thing, few Circle members may know that Walter published murder mysteries under the pseudonym "Mortimer Post" or that as Sunday painters he and his wife Carol delighted friends, colleagues, and former students for decades with Christmas cards bearing their own parodies of such famous art works as Seurat's "Sunday in the Park" or Paul Revere's engraving of the Boston Massacre in which they slyly interpolated caricatures of themselves.

Walter's final years were sad and lonely. His contemporaries had all departed. Carol, with whom he had shared 65 years of their life, died of cancer in 1989, and shortly

before Christmas in 1991 their only child, a daughter who lived in California, died of a sudden heart attack. Still, his wonderfully indomitable sense of humor remained to the end. When the Circle's citation reached him last summer, he was just out of the hospital, recovering from a mastectomy to remove the carcinoma that eventually spread to his lungs. He wrote me a "thank you" note on a postcard bearing his caricature of himself as Hank Morgan in armor on horseback, adding, "just imagine--at my age having female troubles!" We can be sure that in the "Great Mark Twain Circle in the Sky," Walter Blair is undoubtedly still and forever "wiggling on."

Carl Dolmetsch  
College of William and Mary

---

#### Mark Twain at MLA

The Mark Twain Circle will sponsor two sessions at the MLA Convention in New York:

(1) "Theoretical Approaches to Mark Twain" (Dec. 30, 3:30-4:45 p.m., Gibson Suite, Hilton; Chair: John Dolis, Penn State/Worthington-Scranton):

a. Elizabeth A. Kessler (U of Houston), "Hegel, Huck, and Maslow: Narrative Switching."

b. Victoria Thorpe Miller (Alverno C), "Truth No One Would Believe: Ironic Discourse in Mark Twain's *Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc*."

c. Pamela A. Boker (Columbia U), "'Blessed are they that mourn, for they--': Narratives of Repressed Grief and Pathological Mourning in Mark Twain's Fiction."

d. John Ernest (Florida International U-North Miami), "The Politics of Cultural Perspective: Mark Twain's *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*."

(2) "Other Views and Visions in Mark Twain's Works" (Dec. 27, 7:00-8:15, Room 524, Hilton; Chair: Scott

Michaelson, U of Texas-El Paso):

- a. Shelley Fisher Fishkin (U of Texas-Austin), "Jimmy, Jerry, and Trueblood: Mark Twain's Links to African-American Voices."
- b. Kate H. Winter (SUNY-Albany), "The Connecticut Yankee in King Kamehameha's Court."
- c. Glen Scott Allen (Reed C), "Caught in the Great Glare: The Modernist Horizon in Mark Twain's 'The Great Dark.'"
- d. Gretchen Beidler (Lehigh U), "Huck Finn as Tourist: Mark Twain's Parody Travelogue."

In addition, two "Cocktail Hour with Mark Twain" sessions are planned for the Mark Twain Suite, which will be in the Warwick Hotel (diagonally across from the Hilton), in the 5:30-7:00 p.m. time slot:

(1) Dec. 28; Vic Doyno (SUNY-Buffalo) on "New Findings in the *Huckleberry Finn* Manuscript"; David E. E. Sloane, President of the Mark Twain Circle, will preside.

(2) Dec. 29; Greg W. Zacharias (Creighton U), on "Henry Rogers, Public Relations and the Recovery of Mark Twain's Public Character"; Thomas A. Tenney, Editor of the *Mark Twain Journal*, will preside.

The Mark Twain Suite will be registered in the name of David E. E. Sloane or Thomas A. Tenney.

There will be a Mark Twain Circle business meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 30, at 10:15 a.m. in Room 510 of the Hilton.

James S. Leonard  
Editor, *Mark Twain Circular*

---

### Two Corrections

1. The July-September 1992 *Circular* indicated in both the "Call for Papers" for "Teaching *Huckleberry Finn*" and the "Dates to Circle" entry for the 1993 American Literature Association Conference that the ALA would meet in Washington, D.C. The

ALA Conference for 1993 will actually be held in Baltimore--an error which has been corrected in this issue's "Dates to Circle."

2. The July-September issue also indicated my internet address as LEONARDJ@VAX.CITADEL.EDU. That was correct at the time I entered it, but my internet address has since been changed (i.e., simplified) to LEONARDJ@CITADEL.EDU.

--J.S.L.

---

### Circle Directory

I intend to publish a new directory of Circle members in the next issue of the *Circular* (January-March 1993). The last such directory was published in the July-September 1990 issue. Only members whose dues are (reasonably) current will be included in the directory. If you don't remember when you last paid your dues, check the lower right corner of your mailing label; in most cases, the year will be indicated there. Also, please check to be sure I'm using your correct name and address; if not, let me know. And if you have an electronic mail address you would like to have listed, please let me know that as well. My mailing address, e-mail addresses, FAX number, and telephone number are printed on the back page of each issue.

--J.S.L.

---

### Conference Notice and Call for Papers: "The State of Mark Twain Studies"

A conference on "The State of Mark Twain Studies" sponsored by the Elmira College Center for Mark Twain Studies will be held at Elmira College (Elmira, New York), August 12-14, 1993. The conference will feature panels on Mark Twain and Short



Fiction; Mark Twain and Sexuality; Mark Twain and His Contemporaries; Mark Twain's "Home Circle"; Critical Approaches to Mark Twain; Collecting Mark Twain; Negotiating Mark Twain: The Anxiety of Influence; and Research and Revision Opportunities. The program also includes seminars on teaching Mark Twain, as well as a number of social interludes for informal exchanges. The program co-chairs are Alan Gribben of Auburn University at Montgomery and Susan Harris of Pennsylvania State University. The conference will salute the lifetime achievement of Louis Budd, Emeritus of Duke University, who will be the keynote speaker. The registration fee is \$44. On-campus lodging at reasonable rates is available. For further information and a registration form write Darryl Baskin, Director, Center for Mark Twain Studies, Elmira College, Elmira, N.Y. 14901.

Ten-page papers suitable for a twenty-minute presentation on one of the above-listed panels should be submitted to the Center's Director no later than February 1, 1993. Papers will be juried on a blind basis; any notes identifying the author should be listed on a separate page.

---

### Call for Essays: "Twain's Short Stories"

Jim Wilson and I are planning a volume of scholarly essays on *Twain's Short Stories*. We believe that the California MTP texts and editions, along with Lou Budd's Library of America volumes, will set the stage for much greater use of the short stories in American Literature survey courses and in the anthologies. Please contact us with proposals or for exploratory conversations!

Vic Doyno  
SUNY, Buffalo

---

### Mark Twain and Ned Buntline, 1868

According to Paul Fatout (*Mark Twain on the Lecture Circuit* 93), Samuel Langhorne Clemens met Edward Zane Carroll Judson on a Sacramento riverboat in the spring of 1868. Judson, like Clemens, was better known to the general public by a *nom de plume*: in his case, "Ned Buntline," king of the dime novelists. (His biographer, Jay Monaghan, calls him "The Great Rascal.")

Fatout knew that Ned was giving temperance lectures in California. He also knew that Ned was making occasional contributions to a Sacramento temperance journal, *The Weekly Rescue*. Fatout was probably right in his (undocumented) assertion that the *Rescue* published an account (undated by Fatout) of the casual meeting between these two prominent author-lecturers.

Fatout erred, however, in suggesting that the meeting took place during the last two weeks of April, when Mark was lecturing in Northern California and Nevada. That was impossible: Ned Buntline did not arrive in California until May 9th or thereabouts; and he made his first contribution to the *Rescue* in the number published on Saturday, June 6th.

Despite the error, I have no reason to doubt the accuracy of Fatout's basic premises: that a meeting between Mark and Ned did occur; and that it is described in the *Weekly Rescue*. Unfortunately, to the best of my knowledge the only file of that journal for the year 1868 is in the American Antiquarian Society, at Worcester, Massachusetts--which for me is literally too far from home.

Could I prevail upon some Twainian who lives in or near Worcester to consult the AAS file for June and July 1868? I'm fairly certain Ned Buntline did in fact describe a riverboat meeting with Twain. And I'd be more than happy to turn

over the background information I've accumulated to any such volunteer, assuming that he or she might wish to write it up. My own quite sufficient reward would be a copy of Ned's remarks about his younger contemporary.

Robert D. Pepper  
Professor Emeritus  
San José State Univ.

---

### Mark Twain in Berlin Revisited

In addition to the above information on Mark Twain and Ned Buntline, Dr. Robert Pepper offers the following correction to the "Mark Twain in Berlin" article that appeared in the July-September *Circular*: "there was no 'International Herald Tribune' in 1892. At that date it was just the Paris edition of the *New York Herald*, run pretty much directly by James Gordon Bennett, Jr., who spent most of his time in Paris."

---

### Special Library of America Offer to Circular Readers

The Library of America, publishers of authoritative, cloth-bound editions of classic American writers, announces the recent publication of *Mark Twain's Collected Tales, Sketches, Speeches, & Essays* (2 vols.), edited by Louis J. Budd.

This landmark collection--the most dependable and by far the fullest ever published--includes over 270 pieces, arranged chronologically, spanning 58 years, from sketches published when he was sixteen in Hannibal, Missouri, to the stories, tall tales, speeches, maxims, and other writings that brought him international renown. Alongside popular favorites and familiar classics are gems to be rediscovered--like the startlingly topical sketches on everything from clothing fashions to

presidential elections. These editions, based on the University of California editions, include a detailed note on the text, a chronology of Twain's life, notes, and index. [Volume 1: 1852-1890 (1,076 pages); Volume 2: 1891-1910 (1,050 pages)]

For readers of the *Mark Twain Circular* The Library of America is offering 20% off the normal price of \$35.00 each or \$70.00 for the specially boxed two-volume set. *Circular* readers pay only \$28.00 each (\$56.00 for the set), plus \$3.50 postage and handling. Also available by Mark Twain from the Library of America: *Mississippi Writings* (\$29.95) and *The Innocents Abroad, Roughing It* (\$27.95).

To order books or receive more information about the series, please write directly to The Library of America, Dept. M, 14 East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022, or call (212) 308-3360.

---

### Reloading the Canon

Everett Emerson has revised his contribution to the canon-busting Heath anthology for the forthcoming second edition. He has now included "Sociable Jimmy," with a bow to Professor Shelley Fisher Fishkin. Recently Prof. Emerson was made *Alumni Distinguished Professor*. He plans to retire at the end of June 1993; says he, "I'd better stop while I'm ahead!"

---

### Stowe-Day Foundation Names Executive Director

Jo Blatti has been named executive director of the Stowe-Day Foundation in Hartford, Connecticut. The foundation maintains the Harriet Beecher Stowe House, open year-round for visitation, and the Stowe-Day Library, a research facility that

focuses on the history, literature, architecture, decorative arts, and woman suffrage movement of 19th-century America. Both the Stowe-Day Library and the Harriet Beecher Stowe House are, of course, part of the Nook Farm complex that also includes the Mark Twain Memorial.

---

### Mark Twain as Physiognomic Illustration

The following entry was included in an 1891 book by Joseph Simms, M.D., titled *Physiognomy Illustrated; or, Nature's Revelations of Character: A Description of the Mental, Moral, and Volitive Dispositions of Mankind, as Manifested in the Human Form and Countenance* (New York: Murray Hill Publishing Company).

---

#### SALITIVENESS--WIT.

The Power of Seizing on Thoughts and Occurrences and Presenting Them in a Laughable Manner, Chiefly Depending on Quickness of Fancy.

*A face very wide in the upper portion, and tapering downwards like an inverted pear or pyriform, always denotes the very witty person, provided the health is good and no bad habits exhaust the vitality.*

The face of expansive width in its upper, and narrowing proportions in its lower hemisphere, shows the predominance of vivid sensations, which are forced by natural pressure, and with increasing vivacity downward to find an outlet at the mouth, or still farther downwards through the arm and hand to the pen. Those con-

densed currents comprise the thing we call wit, and the happy and joyous surprises which its exercise affords in others is only the reflection of the vivid reality having its origin within ourselves.

-----  
At the end of the entry is a picture of Mark Twain, with the following caption: "Salitiveness Large--Mark Twain, author of 'Innocents Abroad,' and several other amusing works."

[Thanks to Stanley Blair (Duke University) for sharing the above--J.S.L.]

---

### Dates to Circle

December 27-30, 1992. The Circle will sponsor two sessions at the MLA Convention in New York. In addition to the formal sessions, there will be informal cocktail hour gatherings and a Circle business meeting. See "Mark Twain at MLA" (above) for details.

May 28-30, 1993. American Literature Association Conference in Baltimore, MD (mistakenly listed as Washington, DC in the July-September *Circular*). Mark Twain Circle sessions: (1) "Teaching *Huckleberry Finn*" (Chair: James S. Leonard, The Citadel); (2) "Mark Twain's World Reviewed" (Chair: David E. E. Sloane, U of New Haven).

August 12-14, 1993. "The State of Mark Twain Studies" conference at Elmira College (Elmira, NY). See "Conference Notice and Call for Papers" (above) for details.

Elmira College  
Center for Mark Twain Studies at Quarry Farm

Proudly Presents

*Mark Twain and the Starchy Boys*  
by Edgar M. Branch

A Quarry Farm Volume  
Darryl Baskin, General Editor

In this second Quarry Farm Volume, Edgar M. Branch, the nation's foremost authority on Twain's river years expands the famous American author's own account of the Mississippi River pilot's union in terms of its bearing on Twain's development as both a pilot and a writer. In the words of its author, *Mark Twain and the Starchy Boys* is a study that "encompasses the union's turbulent antebellum growth, its significant role in the ensuing war between the states, and its long and sometimes painful decline. It focuses on the union's labor policies and practices and its successful efforts to improve the benefits, the status, and the professional competence of all pilots. It explores antagonisms between capital and labor on the river which affected the lives of Sam Clemens and his fellow pilots. In doing so much, the story necessarily reveals in detail significant information about Clemens's many river colleagues and their place in his life and writings." In addition, this second Quarry Farm Volume explores in detail some unexpected relationships between Clemens's river career, with Clemens's intimate involvement in the pilots' union at its core, and *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, which was written in large measure at Quarry Farm. Paperbound, 97 pp. \$10.00 plus \$1.50 shipping and handling. ISBN 1-880817-04-7

Also available:

*Overland with Mark Twain: James B. Pond's Photographs and Journal of the North American Lecture Tour of 1895*, ed. Alan Gribben and Nick Karanovich. A Quarry Farm Volume, 1992. Hardbound, 112 pp. \$29.00 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling. ISBN 1-880817-00-4

Quarry Farm Papers.No.1.,1989. Henry Nash Smith, "How True Are Dreams?: The Theme of Fantasy in Mark Twain's Later Work." Commemorative Foreword by Alan Gribben. 25 pp. \$5.00.

Quarry Farm Papers.No.2.,1990. John S. Tuckey, "Mark Twain: The Youth Who Lived on in the Sage." Commemorative Foreword by Howard Baetzhold. 16pp. \$5.00.

Quarry Farm Papers, No.3.,1991. Lorraine Welling Lanmon, "Quarry Farm: A Study of the 'Picturesque.'" 30 pp. \$5.00.

To order any of the above, make check payable to Center for Mark Twain Studies and mail to the Center for Mark Twain Studies, Elmira College, Elmira, New York 14901.

Center publications are available to members of the Friends of the Center at a 20% discount. To join, send \$10.00. Members of the Friends also receive the Center's occasional newsletter Dear Friends and Center Program Announcements.





## ABOUT MARK TWAIN

Abbreviations used in this bibliographical series are listed in the January-March 1992 *Mark Twain Circular*. In addition, a combination of year, letter, and number refers to an entry in my *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* (Boston: G. K. Hall, 1977), and ALR refers to one of its supplements appearing in the journal *American Literary Realism*. Readers wishing to keep up to date on Twain scholarship may also wish to consult the list of other recommended bibliographic sources in the January-March 1992 *Circular*.

Thomas A. Tenney  
(Editor, *MT Journal*)

---

ALLINGHAM, PHILIP V. "Patterns of Deception in *Huckleberry Finn* and *Great Expectations*." *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 46:4 (March 1992): 447-72. In both books "deception may be viewed under three heads: a deliberate misleading of the reader by the author through the narrator; a fraud perpetrated or a practical joke played by one character on another; and a character's deceiving himself. . . . each story can be seen as an interplay of these patterns of deception."

BEARDSMORE, R. W. "Wittgenstein on Tolstoi's *What Is Art?*" *Philosophical Investigations* (University College of Swansea, Wales) 14:3 (July 1991): 187-204. On pp. 192-93, uses MT's "The Story of the Bad Little Boy" to demonstrate the importance of a "response which involves understanding." MT was satirizing Sunday-school stories which are "not merely implausible, they are obviously implausible, and are given to children in the vain hope that they will be too naive, too unworldly to notice the implausibility. So that their distribution by Sunday-

school teachers amounts to a variety of cheating, where one have least expected it." Unfortunately MT's wit is lost on those unfamiliar with the Sunday-school books he is satirizing.

CARDWELL, GUY. "Author, Intention, Text: The California Mark Twain." *Review* 11 (1989): 256-88. This begins as a review-essay on five books from the Mark Twain Project: *Union Catalog of Clemens Letters* (ed. Paul Machlis, 1986); *Early Tales and Sketches*, Vol. 1 (1979); *Early Tales and Sketches*, Vol. 2 (1981); *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (ed. Walter Blair and Victor Fischer, 1986); and *Mark Twain's Letters*, Vol. 1 (1988). Cardwell praises the meticulous editing by the Mark Twain Project: "Clearly this is a project of exceptional magnitude and importance in the history of academic publishing," but questions whether every scrap of writing by MT deserves publication and annotation.

Cardwell provides a thorough account of the history of MT's papers and their successive editors (Paine, DeVoto, Wecter, Smith, Anderson, Hirst), the debate over critical and editorial principles, and especially the acrimonious quarrel between Edmund Wilson and the academic establishment; he also discusses other scholarly editions of American authors and the editorial and financial considerations involved, and provides a brief history of the Library of America, which has been producing attractive and durable editions of our major authors.

CHIKUGO, KATSUHIKO. *Pudd'nhead Wilson ni okeru David Wilson no Shakaiteki Seiko no Imi--Dawson's Landing no Kyozo to Jitsuzo--(The Meaning of David Wilson's Social Success in Pudd'nhead Wilson--The Illusion and Reality of Dawson's Landing--)*. *Shuryu* [Kyoto, Japan: English Literary Society of Doshisha University] 53 (March 1992): 71-84 (In Japanese). Dawson's Landing has two aspects. The town is outwardly

good and peaceful (before the false Tom grows up), but it has a dark side. For example, the F. F. V. aristocrats, representatives of the town, are regarded as virtuous people, but they have negative qualities. They are mean, cowardly, and inhuman; besides which, they maintain bad conventions without knowing the injustice. Roxy, a representative of slaves, is meek and humble in the presence of whites, but she hates them inwardly. The false Tom exposes the "shadowy" side of the town. As whites' "shadow," he exposes their ugly nature, and as blacks' "shadow," he takes revenge on whites by killing and stealing with his face painted black or with Roxy's dress on.

Pudd'nhead Wilson, who comes to Dawson's Landing to seek his fortune, really succeeds in life 23 years after he arrives there. He becomes mayor and restores peace to the town by unmasking the false Tom. People praise Wilson, realizing that they, not he, were pudd'nheads. But he is a pudd'nhead. The peace he restores is mere show, because even if he ruins the false Tom, the "shadow" lurks deep in the town. He knows it; he knows the reality of the town and hates its conventions inwardly. But in order to win popularity, he has to ruin the false Tom and restore outward peace. He cannot help being the boss of the pudd'nheads, people who fail to realize its reality.

[Summary by Katsuhiko Chikugo.]

HOLCOMB, CHRISTOPHER. "Nodal Humor in Comic Narrative: A Semantic Analysis of Two Stories by Twain and Wodehouse." *Humor: International Journal of Humor Research*, 5.3 (1992): 233-50. Following Victor Raskin's "script-based semantic theory of humor," Holcomb examines "Journalism in Tennessee" and P. G. Wodehouse's "Ukridge's Accident Syndicate" as scripts, containing both jokes and "joke-like constructions, for which the term 'nodal points of humor' is used." After

discussing the two stories separately, Holcomb argues that they share a pattern of beginning with major scripts, which are then held in suspension and brought and brought in at concentrated, "nodal" points in the stories.

TWAIN, MARK. *Mark Twain. Collected Tales, Sketches, Speeches & Essays 1857-1890*. Ed. Louis J. Budd. New York: The Library of America, 1992. A superb collection of MT's short writings selected with notes by a highly respected MT scholar, with the cooperation and editorial assistance of Robert H. Hirst and the Mark Twain Project (Berkeley). This and its following volume each contain a 48-page running chronology of major events in MT's life, year-by-year. The scholarship in selections of texts and annotation is meticulous but unobtrusive, making the two volumes a delight to read, and the most convenient source of writings as diverse as "The Dandy Frightening the Squatter," "Some Thoughts on the Science of Onanism," "Fenimore Cooper's Literary Offenses" and "Fenimore Cooper's Further Literary Offenses," and "King Leopold's Soliloquy."

---. *Mark Twain. Collected Tales, Sketches, Speeches & Essays 1891-1910*. Ed. Louis J. Budd. New York: The Library of America, 1992.

---. *Mark Twain's Letters*. Vol. 3, 1869. Ed. Victor Fischer, Michael B. Frank, and Associate Editor Dahlia Armon. Berkeley: U of California P, 1992. These 188 letters, meticulously annotated and indexed, cover a pivotal time in MT's literary development and courtship of Olivia Langdon. Supplements include genealogical charts of the Clemens and Langdon families, a calendar of MT's courtship letters, a schedule of his two lecture tours, photographs, and facsimile reproductions of some letters and of promotional material MT prepared for his lectures.

**ABOUT THE CIRCULAR.** The *Mark Twain Circular* was launched in January 1987 by Thomas A. Tenney (Editor of the *Mark Twain Journal*), who edited the first issue, then passed the *Circular* baton to the present editor. An individual who pays dues to the Mark Twain Circle and/or subscribes to the *Mark Twain Journal* receives one subscription (four issues per year) to the *Circular*.

**ABOUT THE CIRCLE.** The Mark Twain Circle of America was formed at an organizational meeting held at the December 1986 Modern Language Association convention in New York; the membership has since grown to more than 350. Current officers are: President--David E. E. Sloane; Vice President--Susan K. Harris; Executive Coordinator--Michael J. Kiskis; Executive Committee--Shelley Fisher Fishkin, Pascal Covici, Jr., and James D. Wilson. Past Presidents: Louis J. Budd, Alan Gribben, Pascal Covici, Jr. Past Executive Coordinators: Everett Emerson, James D. Wilson. Although many members are academic specialists, the Circle also includes many non-academic Twain enthusiasts. The Circle is in communication with other Mark Twain organizations, including those associated with sites important in his life, and cooperates with them.

**ABOUT THE JOURNAL.** Founded in 1936 by Cyril Clemens, the *Mark Twain Journal* is the oldest American magazine devoted to a single author. In 1982 Mr. Clemens retired, and the *Journal* moved to its present home in Charleston, S.C., under the editorship of Thomas A. Tenney. There are two issues per year, Spring and Fall, with a new volume each year (rather than every second year, as in the past). The *Journal* tends to appear late, and begs your patient indulgence. New subscribers may wish to begin with the 1989 issues rather than the 1992. Although the Mark Twain Circle and the *Mark Twain Journal* are separate entities, Circle members enjoy a reduced subscription rate for the *Journal* (see coupon below for prices). Back issues from 13:1 to the present are available at \$5.00 each, postpaid (\$2.50 on orders for ten or more; pre-1983 issues are thinner than modern ones and some are badly reprinted). An index 1936-83 counts as a back issue.

<p>To: Michael J. Kiskis Executive Coordinator, Mark Twain Circle Empire State College (SUNY) Saratoga Springs, NY 12866</p> <p>Please enroll me as a member of the MARK TWAIN CIRCLE OF AMERICA and subscriber to the MARK TWAIN CIRCULAR. I enclose a check for \$7.00 (\$8.00 for a non-U.S. address) made out to "Mark Twain Circle of America."</p> <p>_____ (printed name)</p> <p>_____ (address)</p> <p>_____ (city, state, zip)</p>	<p>To: Mark Twain Journal Box 1834 Charleston, SC 29402</p> <p>Please enter my subscription to the <i>Mark Twain Journal</i> for the year (s) circled: 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993.</p> <p>_____ I am not a member of the Mark Twain Circle. Subscription rates are \$15 for one year, \$28 for two years, \$43 for four years, or \$50 for four years.</p> <p>_____ I am a member of the Mark Twain Circle, or about to join. Subscription rates are \$10 for one year, \$18 for two years, \$25 for three years, or \$30 for four years.</p> <p>_____ (printed name)</p> <p>_____ (address)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Libraries: \$17.00/year, no discount. Foreign: Add \$2.00/year for postage.</p>
---	--

LIBRARIANS: Please note in your computer that the *Mark Twain Circular* provides publication information on the *Mark Twain Journal*. This may help reduce avoidable claims. Your cooperation is important. The *Journal's* staff is very small, and must allocate time between responding to claims and finishing the issues due on your subscription. Avoiding needless claims will help speed the publication of issues you need.

---

FULFILLMENT NOTICE: The Fall 1990 issue (28:2) of the *Mark Twain Journal* was mailed to subscribers in September 1992. The Editor hopes to mail the two 1991 issues (29:1 and 29:2) by December 1992.

---

SERIAL LIBRARIANS: The *Mark Twain Circular* is entered selectively in the annual bibliographies of the Modern Language Association and the Modern Humanities Research Association, and in the *American Humanities Index*, the *Literary Criticism Register*, *American Literary Scholarship*, and "A Checklist of Scholarship on Southern Literature," which appears annually in the *Mississippi Quarterly* (Spring issues). The *Mark Twain Circular* contains ongoing annotated bibliography which was begun in Thomas A. Tenney's *Mark Twain: A Reference Guide* (G. K. Hall, 1977) and continued in seven issues of *American Literary Realism*, from 1977-1983. Please file and bind with your *Mark Twain Journal*.

---

Publication of the *Mark Twain Circular* is funded in part through a grant from the Citadel Development Foundation.

---

Thanks to student assistant Forrest Poole (The Citadel) for his help in preparing this issue of the *Circular*.

---

Material for publication in the *Mark Twain Circular* should be directed to:

James S. Leonard, Editor  
*Mark Twain Circular*  
English Department  
The Citadel  
Charleston, SC 29409

(Bitnet: leonardj@citadel)  
(Internet: leonardj@citadel.edu)  
(Phone: 803-792-5138)  
(Fax: 803-792-7084)