Mark Twain Circular

Newsletter of the Mark Twain Circle of America
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James S. Leonard, Editor, Mark Twain Circular The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409

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

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Around the Circle

FROM THIS PERSPECTIVE—After the last ALA conference in Baltimore, I had a sense of intellectual exhilaration—excitement, active joy, heightened curiosity—call it whatever you will; it seemed to be a wonderful conference. And, most importantly, a number of Twainians shared similar attitudes.

I received a letter from one senior, very well respected Twainian saying that it was the best conference he had EVER attended. And the thanks for that should go to the Mark Twain Circle members, especially those who attended. Congratulations to our new Honorary Members: Howard Baetzhold, Alan Gribben, and Ham Hill!

The Mark Twain Circle has given me a new set of meanings for the word "colleague." In the first fifteen years of my teaching, at three different schools, I thought of colleagues only as the people in my department whom I saw every day. Their interests were quite diverse: we somehow made departmental and university governance work—well or badly—and even then we competed or argued over the allocation of resources.

As an old-time medievalist, I reverted to habit and looked up word

origins to learn that the meanings for "colleague" include "selected to serve together."

Now for Twainian colleagues, it seems to mean a group of highly individualized folks who are enjoyable conversationalists, astonishingly knowledgeable, eager and open thinkers. Some are ambling, affable encyclopedias; some are in other ways equally intense, curious, complex thinkers. The phone calls are fun, precise, efficient. I particularly remember a call from Tom Quirk inquiring about manuscript insertions of "whisky" or "jug" in Huck. The question was actually predictive; he suspected/thought a certain phrase was inserted, and he needed quick corroboration. He was on target, and an example was offered to confirm his theory.

Please plan to join your colleagues at the Mark Twain Circle suite at the Chicago MLA convention. We shall have breakfast and cocktail hour presentations, an open business meeting of the Executive Committee, and a celebratory initiation of some new honorary members.

Vic Doyno SUNY Buffalo President, MTCA

Victor Doyno President, MT Circle SUNY, Buffalo Buffalo, NY 14214 Michael J. Kiskis Vice President, MT Circle Elmira College Elmira. NY 14901

Laura Skandera-Trombley Exec. Director, MT Circle SUNY, Potsdam Potsdam, NY 13676

Mark Twain Circle Sessions MLA 1995

A105A. Friday, December 29, 3:30-4:45 p.m.; Columbus Hall A, Hyatt Regency, Chicago. "Twain's World: Finance and Politics." Presiding: Vic Doyno (SUNY, Buffalo).

1. "Cashing in on a Bull Market: Twain's Use of Financial Terms," Joseph Towson (Robert Thomas Securities, Spartanburg, SC)

2. "Re-membering the Nation, Remembering the Past: Emancipation Anxieties, Lincoln's Proclamation, and Huckleberry Finn," George Uba (California State U. Northridge)

3. "Entrepreneurial and Communal Values in A Connecticut Yankee," Jill Benton (Pitzer C)

A105B. Saturday, December 30, 12:00 noon-1:15 p.m.; Columbus Hall B, Hyatt Regency, Chicago. "Mark Twain and Religion." Presiding: Joseph McCullough (U of Nevada, Las Vegas).

1. "The Innocents Abroad: Twain's Quest for the Historical Jesus," Anthony

Berret (Saint Joseph's U)

- 2. "Mark Twain as Anticreator: Identity and Christian Typology in Pudd'nhead, Edward A. Shannon (North Carolina State U)
- 3. "Religious Satire to Tragedy: Evolution of Theme in Mysterious Stranger Manuscripts," Joseph Csicsila (U of Nevada, Las Vegas)

Breakfast with Mark Twain sessions: Mark Twain Suite:

- 1. "'Maybe We've Both Got the Bulge Twain's Narrative Structures," Thomas Wilmeth
- 2. "'Colonel Sellers': Twain's Misplaced Drama," Jerry Thomason

Cocktail Hour Sessions; Mark Twain Suite:

- 1. "Huck and The Arabian Nights: The Fine Art of Moral Burlesque," Gregg Camfield
- 2. "The War Between Twain and Webster," Andrew Jay Hoffman

MT at SAMLA (Revised Program)

Nov. 3-5, 1995. At the annual convention of the South Atlantic Modern Lanquage Association (Marriot Marquis; Atlanta; Nov. 3-5), the Mark Twain Circle will sponsor a session titled "Mark Twain as Letter Writer" (Marriot Marquis, Salon B; Saturday, 9:45-11:00 a.m.). Presentations:

1. "Mark Twain's Unsent Letters"—Alan Gribben (Auburn U, Montgomery)

2. "An Unpublished Mark Twain Letter"—Rayburn S. Moore (U of Georgia)

3. "Writing Metaphor in the Mark Twain-Howells Letters"—John Bird (Winthrop

4. (Title to be announced)—Jeff Melton (Auburn U. Montgomery)

Calls for Papers

1996 ALA. The American Literature Association will return to San Diego in 1996 for its annual conference. The ALA conferences are much smaller than the MLA, with more time for casual conversations. Often the Twain sessions are on a modern-style riverboat. Spectacular setting.

Please send your paper proposal, abstract, working draft, essay, or tape or video recording to Vic Doyno, before Nov. 1. One session will focus on Mark Twain and the act/art of writing, and one session will have an open call.

1996 MLA. Please send your paper Somehow': Conversational Confusion in proposal to Vic Doyno by Feb. 15, 1996. Open call for papers. The Mark Twain Circle will probably have a social event at both this conference and the ALA. The MLA conference features a Twain Circle Suite, where we meet and often have breakfast and/or cocktail-hour presentations with a great deal of conversational response.

> 1996 Cancún. A conference on the topic of Romanticism is planned for late 1996 at Cancún, Mexico, under the auspices of the American Literature Association. Cir-

At ALA



MTCA President Vic Doyno (far right) and Honorary Member Tom Tenney (far left) salute new Honorary Members Hamlin Hill, Alan Gribben, and Howard Baetzhold.



Circle members drink a toast to the new Honorary members.

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cle members are invited to propose Twain-related sessions or papers appropriate to that topic. Contact Vic Doyno.

For your information . . . I have been asked to inform you that a Mark Twain compact disk (new-style record) is available. The composer is Paul Allen Levi, and the performers are the New York Choral Society. Centaur Record Company. (I offer no evaluation or comment because music is one of my many areas of ignorance.)

Vic Dovno

Personal Note. Mark Twain scholar James D. Wilson (author of A Reader's Guide to the Short Stories of Mark Twain, coeditor of The Mark Twain Encyclopedia, Respondent: Nancy Walker (Vanderbilt U) Past Executive Director of the Mark Twain Circle) has temporarily relocated to ------Houston, TX while undergoing a biochemotherapy protocol for malignant melanoma. He expects to be there until about Thanksgiving. Anyone wanting to get in touch with Jim can reach him at:

7490 Brompton Ct., Apt. 215 Houston, TX 77025 His telephone number during his stay in Houston is (713) 660-9601.

American Humor Studies Association

MLA 1995 Sessions:

Wednesday, December 27, 3:30-4:45 p.m. "American Humor Pop-Top-(ics): Harriet Beecher Stowe, Negro Menckens, and Click and Clack as American Discourse." Presiding: Cheri Louise Ross (Penn State-Harrisburg)

- 1. "'She had not precisely the air of a man': Stowe's American Humor," Karen L. Kilcup (U of Hull, England)

ter: George Schuyler's Fall from Grace," Siva Vaidhyanathan (U of Texas, Austin) 3. "Radio in Reverse: Click and Clack's Car Talk," Judith Y. Lee (Ohio U) Respondents: Bryan Bott (U of Colorado. Boulder) and Robin Bott (U of Colorado, Boulder)

A11A. Thursday, December, 10:15-11:30 a.m.; Columbian, Hyatt Regency, Chicago. "Humor and Gender: The Social Context." Presiding: Cameron Nickels (James Madison U)

- 1. "Re-membering the Body: Breast Humor in the Age of Breast Cancer," Cynthia Ryan (Purdue U, West Lafavette)
- 2. "Insidious Humor and the Construction of Masculinity," Peter Murphy (Empire State C)
- 3. "Sexual Humor and Credibility," Lynn Sykes (Purdue U, Calumet)

Calls for Papers—1996 MLA:

- 1. "Twentieth-Century Humor in the Twenty-first Century: What Will Last and Why?" Alleen Pace Nilsen, Arizona State U, Box 870302, Tempe AZ 85287-0302. Open call. Deadline: Jan. 15, 1996. E-mail: IADAPN@ASUACAD.BITNET.
- 2. Open Topics on American Humor. David E. E. Sloane, Univ. of New Haven, 300 Orange Ave., West Haven, CT 06516. Open call for papers on any American Humor Studies topic. Deadline: January 15, 1996.

David E. E. Sloane, Exec. Dir. American Humor Studies Assoc.

Index to the Mark Twain Circular and "About Mark Twain" Volume 8 (1994)

2. "Trying to be Mencken and Still Mat- This index updates the ongoing index of

items in the Mark Twain Circular and "About Mark Twain." Each item is listed by its initials (see below) followed by the page number on which the item appears. Items listed in the annotated "About Mark Clemens, Samuel (son of Cyril) A/J 5-6 Twain" section are indicated by "AMT" followed by the month and page numbers Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's (e.g.: "Blair, Walter AMT M/A 10"). Both authors and subject matter are listed; Cir- Cox, James M. J/M 4 cle business, calls for papers, and conference information are not indexed.

The April/June issue, pages 6-8, con- Davis, Chester AMT J/S 8 tains Everett Emerson's "Additions to Bib- De Quille, Dan AMT J/M 10 liographies in The Mark Twain Encyclopedia." Subjects in this list are indicated by an EB before the month and page number.

Volume 8 January/March (J/M) No. 1 (contains index of '92 Circular) April/June (A/J) No. 2 (contains "Additions to Bibliographies in the Mark Twain Encyclopedia," indexed below) July/Sept. (J/S) No. 3 Oct./Dec. (O/D) No. 4 (Mark Twain Circle Directory appears pages 2-10)

Aldrich, Thomas Bailey EB A/J 6 Anti-Imperialist League AMT A/J 9 Arnold, Matthew EB A/J 6-7 Ashcroft, Ralph AMT J/S 8 Athon, William A/J 3

Baetzhold, Howard AMT J/S 7 Beard, Daniel Carter EB A/J 7; AMT J/S 8 Berret, Anthony AMT J/M 9 Boyer, John AMT J/M 10 Brady, Laura AMT J/S 7 Branch, Edgar J/S 2-3 Brent, Linda J/M 5 Britton, Wesley J/M 6-7 Budd, Louis AMT J/S 7 Buntline, Ned J/M 1

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Fishkin, Shelley Fisher A/J 3; AMT J/S 7-8, 9 folklore EB A/J 7 Freud, Sigmund AMT J/M 10

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illustrators (of MT's works) EB A/J 7; AMT J/S 8 Incidents in the Live of a Slave Girl (see Jacobs, Harriet) Indians EB A/J 7 linge, M. Thomas AMT J/S 8

Jacobs, Harriet (Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl) J/M 4-7 James, Henry AMT J/S 7 Joan of Arc, Personal Recollections of EB Rodney, Robert AMT J/M 9 A/J7

Kahn, Sholom J/M 4-7 Kern, Jerome J/A 4-5 Kersten, Holger AMT A/J 9

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Thomason, Jerry AMT J/S 8 "To the Person Sitting in Darkness" AMT A/J 9 Towson, Joseph J/S 3-5 "True Story, A" J/M 4 Turner, Deborah Ann AMT J/M 9 "Twain's World" (CD-ROM resource) J/S 3-5

UV "Uncle Mark" (multi-media resource) J/S Union Catalog of Letters to Clemens AMT J/M 9

W Ward, Artemus AMT J/M 10; EB A/J 8 Wisby, Herbert AMT J/S 9 "Whittier Dinner Birthday Speech" EB A/J

Whole Family, The (H. James) AMT J/S 7 Winkler, Karen AMT J/S 8 Wonham, Henry AMT J/S 9

XYZ Yellin, Jean Fagon J/M 4-6 Zwick, Jim AMT A/J 9 Wesley Britton Sherman, TX

Media Update

Since my article "Media Adaptations of Mark Twain and His Works" appeared in the Mark Twain Encyclopedia, new productions have been issued, and other items I had overlooked have come to my attention. This list supplements that article and seeks assistance in locating further information. Movies

1. Anyone interested in specific information on Hollywood studio versions of Mark Twain's works should consult Magill's Survey of Cinema On Line Directory. For each film, Magill's provides all production and casting credits, plot synopsis, and in many cases extended reviews and short bibliographies of reviews. The information is detailed and well-organized; the reviews

are unevenly insightful. 2. According to the January/March 1995 issue of the Mark Twain Circular (pg. 8), Clyde V. Haupt's 1994 Huckleberry Finn on Film: Film and Television Adventures of Mark Twain's Novel 1970-1993 (Macfarlane and Co.) discusses eleven American versions of HF. including historical and production background, plot summaries, comparisons of biographies to date. the films with the original text, analysis, and critical and box-office reception to the films.

3. In 1980, Signet paperbacks issued a tie-in edition of Life On the Mississippi to by Justin Kaplan, James Cox, Victor coincide with the PBS T.V. movie of the Doyno, Garrison Keillor, John Wallace, book hosted by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. Eight pages of photographs from the film are included.

p. 7

4. The rare dustcover of the 1944

hardcover edition of The Adventures of Mark Twain, by Albert B. Paine, released as a tie-in with the 1944 Warner Brothers movie of the same name, has a collage of photographs of Frederick March as Twain on the back. 5. According to Cardiff's Internet Movie Database, "A Million to Juan"—a new version of Twain's "The Million Pound Bank Note"—was released in 1994.

Television

Disney continues to be the studio most interested in Mark Twain, and has issued several well-crafted family-fare. made-for-cable films. In 1991, the Disney Channel broadcast "Mark Twain and Me" (starring Jason Robards as Twain)—a romanticized retelling of Mark Twain's relationship with Angelfish Dorothy Quick. The film is now available on video. The same network aired in 1992 "Return to Hannibal," a speculative narrative of Huck and Tom as adults helping Jim in a legal jam, with the King and Duke appearing as minor characters in this minor effort.

In August and September 1994, the Learning Channel cable network aired two high-quality Twain documentaries. The first was a well-constructed episode of the "This Century" series hosted by Tom Brokaw, an hour show originally produced in 1989 by NBC for its "America: A Look Back" series. The show emphasizes Twain as a cultural figure and observer of his times. The hour is illustrated by photographs of styles and fashions of the nineteenth century. The film has a quick pace, touching on many points and ignores Twain's literary works. Still, the films's visual details and appropriate background materials make this one of the more useful media

The second Learning Channel project documents "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," examining the novel from a variety of standpoints with commentary and Nat Hentoff (the last two speaking at the 1993 Hartford Mark Twain Conference). The hour-long documentary serves as an excellent introduction to the

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novel, with scenes from many Huck Finn movies including the rarely seen silent versions as well as newer re-enactments and readings from the book. An installment of the "Great Book" series, the film was produced by Dale Minor and Gordon Hyatt for Discover Productions, earning a Cronkite Award for film documentaries.

The film, narrated by Donald for the classroom, although its editing and organization are occasionally confusing, and the ending (last fifteen minutes) seems to drift. It is most useful in pointing to the variety of interpretations, highlighting the novel's key scenes, and analyzing the novel's significance for modern readers. (My more detailed analysis of using media materials to teach HF will be included in the upcoming Making Mark Twain Work in the Classroom, edited by James Leonard.)

War Journals series episode "Vicksburg: Siege and Battle" included two quotes from Life on the Mississippi describing the Twain Gift Set (Adventures of Huckcity.

Voyaging West With Mark Twain and Star Jumping Frog of Calaveras County). Trek's Imperial Subject" is an overblown Marxist analysis of "Star Trek," with limited comments on Mark Twain's appearance in two episodes of that series. The article is available in the May 1994 Postmodern Culture (v.4, n.3), and on the Mark Twain Forum.

One episode of Bonanza featured a young Sam Clemens (played by Howard Duff) in a fictional adventure set in Virginia City. Writing for the Enterprise, Sam helps the Cartwrights win a land dispute, choosing the pen-name "Mark Twain" at the episode's end. Twain is briefly quoted in a 1994 episode of Kung Fu: The Legend Continues (featuring Robert Vaughn and Patrick Magnee). CD-ROM, VCR, and Audiotexts

In the July/September 1994 issue of the Mark Twain Circular, Joseph Towson's review of the CD-ROM Twain's World (pp. 3-5) lists the videos included on that disc (including the 1909 Edison film of Twain himself). In the same issue (pp. 5-6) James Leonard discusses the

educational merits of the videotape/ filmstrip *Uncle Mark*.

A posting on the Mark Twain Forum listed a 1993 Virtual Mark Twain, which "stands at the threshold of the public's craving for new types of entertainment." A creation of Color Concepts and Images.

"American Humor and Satire" is a Sutherland, contains much useful material six-cassette anthology of readings including works by Twain, Harte, Artemus Ward, and many others. It is available from Filmic Archives for \$44.95.

In 1995, R. Kent Rasmussen wrote an insightful, detailed, and useful review of the following audiobooks for the *Mark* Twain Forum: Michael Prichard's The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1977, 7 cassettes, 10.5 hours); The Adventures of Tom Sawyer (1979, 6 cassettes, 9 hours); and Roughing It (1986, 12 cassettes, 18 hours). Each of Prichard's In 1995, the History Channel's Civil readings was released by Books on Tape, Newport Beach, California.

Rasmussen also reviewed Mark leberry Finn, A Connecticut Yankee in Valerie Fulton's "An Other Frontier: King Arthur's Court, and The Celebrated Much of this material, issued by Mind's Eye, Petaluma, CA (7 cassettes), was listed separately in the original Mark Twain Encyclopedia media entry.

> Actor Norman Dietz has issued nine Twain titles on Recorded Books, including Twain's major novels as well as Roughing It and "The Man That Corrupted Hadlevburg." Further information about these books is available on the Mark Twain Forum.

Musical Adaptations

Originally released in 1966, the soundtrack of the Broadway show, "The Apple Tree," was reissued in 1992 featuring ten songs based on The Diaries of Adam and Eve. Goddard Lieberson, unquestionably the most important and influential producer of Broadway soundtracks, oversaw the cast of Alan Alda (yes, Hawkeye sings), Barbara Harris, Larry Blyden, and Robert Klein in retellings of three stories: Twain's Diaries, "The Lady and the Tiger" by Frank R.

Stockton, and Passionela by Jules Feiffer.

Fiddler on the Roof veterans Jerry Boch and Sheldon Harnick wrote the music.

Elmira College's "Mark Twain: A Musical Biography" (1989), with William Perky and Bernadette Wilson, is now available on audio-cassette and video. Produced by the Mark Twain Arts Council, the show is more musical production than biography, with many inaccuracies and distortions of Twain's life. In 87 minutes, the well-staged show emphasizes Twain's Elmira connections and his "home circle" of Livy and the children—a local production with a local emphasis.

of Jerome Kern's "Mark Twain: Portrait for Orchestra" is in the April/June (Vol. 8. No. 3) issue of the Mark Twain Circular on pages 4-5.

Write George Sterm, Music Assoc. of America (224 King St., Englewood, NJ 07631) for information about the 1995 CD of Paul Allan Levi's "Mark Twain

Suite" performed by the New York Choral Marquis, Salon B; Saturday, 9:45-11:00 Society.

Help

Kevin Bochynski—to whom I am deeply indebted for much of this information—discovered an old T.V. Guide which listed a film of Roughing It with James Daly as "an elderly Mark Twain" and Andrew Prine as the younger Sam Clemens. Robert Saudek Associates hour sessions. See "Around the Circle" produced it. We know nothing more about it. Does anyone know more? Does anyone have information about "The Great Rocky Mountain Chase," in which Sam Clemens and Mike Fink have a contest? Do you know the airdate of the MacNeil/Lehrer report on the Mark Twain Project? Word has it a "Rifleman" television episode featured Twain playing pool with Lucas McCain and telling his son about time passing by. The time-travel series Voyagers had an episode featuring a young Sam Clemens helping a black slave escape Hannibal on a raft, supposedly inspiring Huck Finn. Rumor has it (jeremy@agsm.unsw.edu.au)

a recent Babylon 5 episode featured a take on the "War Prayer." Does anyone have information about either This Old House's or the Discovery Channel's show on Twain's Hartford home or any other media productions not listed above or in the Mark Twain Encyclopedia? Please send any information (or copies, if feasible) to:

> Wesley Britton 1202 S. Walnut Sherman, TX 75090

Dates to Circle

Nov. 3-5, 1995. SAMLA Annual Convention: Atlanta. Mark Twain Circle session: "Mark Twain as Letter Writer" (Marriot a.m.). Brief business meeting following papers. See "Around the Circle" (above) for more details.

Dec. 27-30. Modern Language Association Annual Convention (Chicago), featuring Mark Twain Circle conference sessions, breakfast sessions, and cocktail (above) for more details.

May 1996. American Literature Association Annual Conference; San Diego. See "Calls for Papers" in "Around the Circle," above.

June-July, 1996. International Society for Humor Studies Annual Conference; University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. Chair: Jessica Milner Davis, School of Theatre Studies, Univ. of New South Wales, 2052, Sydney Australia. Ph.: 697-2222.

About Mark Twain

Abbreviations used in this bibliographical series are listed in the January-March 1995 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 tions are carefully chosen, though regrettably supplements in the journal American Literary Realism. Readers wishing to keep up to date on striking about this particular anthology is the Twain scholarship may also want to consult the list of other recommended bibliographic sources ticularly on "the anatomy of American in the January-March 1995 Circular.

> Thomas A. Tenney (Editor, MT Journal)

BEIDLER, GRETCHEN M. "Huck Finn as Tourist: Mark Twain's Parody Travelogue." Studies in American Fiction 20.2 (Autumn 1992): 155-67. In LOM, MT cites and sometimes defends the many foreigners who wrote of haunting loneliness." Escape to an imagined their travels in America, often unkindly. It is unclear whether his defense was sincere or ironic, but HF can be read "as a parodic rebuttal" to their complaints: Huck himself, "like the Z: The Essential Reference to His Life and foreign visitors, is a tourist exploring the Mississippi Valley for the very first time."

BRIDEN, EARL F. "The Sources of Nat Parsons's Tale in Tom Sawyer Abroad." ANO: A Quarterly Journal of Short Articles, Notes, and Reviews 6.1 n.s. (January 1993): 18-20. The incident in which the village postmaster broke through the floor of a hack and was forced to run may be traced to chapter 60 of LOM and an 1892 notebook entry, rather than the anecdote about Horace Greeley in RI.

CAMFIELD, GREGG. "'I Wouldn't Be as Ignorant as You for Wages': Huck Finn Talks Back to His Conscience." Studies in American Fiction 20.2 (Autumn 1992): 169-76. A substantial discussion, well supported and closely reasoned, of the background of Huck's lie to the slave-hunters that there was smallpox on the Nineteenth Century. University Park, PA: raft, and his decision to "go to Hell" rather than Pennsylvania State UP, 1993. On MT, 44-48, betray Jim. Camfield quotes a newspaper account of an MT lecture (in Australia) and a previously unpublished notebook entry to show complexities in MT's view of Huck's conscience, and his own inner conflict: is the conscience a utilitarian guide to right action, a MTC July-September 1995

sentimental "moral sense," or merely the product of training by society?

COLLINS, BRIAN. [Review: Gary Scharnhorst, ed., Critical Essays on "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" (1993). Western American Literature 29.1 (Spring 1994): 76-77. The selecsome appear in abridged form. "What is most way the essays resonate with one another," parhypocrisy that lies at the center" of TS.

HOLSTEIN, SUZY CLARKSON. "'All Growed Up' in the True West, or Huck and Tom Meet Sam Shepard." Western American Literature 29.1 (Spring 1991): 41-50. A comparison of Sam Shepard's True West and HF: Lee, the older brother in the play, is like a grown-up Huck: he, too, has "lit out," but still admires respectability like that of the Grangerfords, and like Huck "is pursued by deep, West is elusive for both.

RASMUSSEN, R. KENT. Mark Twain A to Writings. New York: Facts on File, 1995. MT's works are summarized, important persons and places identified, themes and ideas explored in a remarkably thorough and coherent study that one prominent MT scholar finds "impossible to overpraise"; it leaves another wishing "our alphabet had more than twenty-six letters." Whether discussing MT's son-in-law Ossip Gabrilowitsch or the fictional Hadleyburg and naming possible models for it, Rasmussen is firmly in command of his material and gives the details a reader needs. The index and chronology of MT's life are excellent. The \$45.00 price (\$39.95 until Dec. 31, 1995) is a bargain. After a reader or a library has bought TS, HF, and CY, Mark Twain A to Z should be next.

VOGEL, LESTER I. To See a Promised Land: Americans and the Holy Land in the 61-72, 76-86, 218-19. Emphasis is on IA, both for its fresh vision and for the way it "summarized several American experiences and reactions to the Holy Land." MT scholars will find this of interest mainly for adding context, rather than providing new interpretations of IA.

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 approximately 400. Current officers are: President—Victor Doyno; Vice President—Michael J. Kiskis; Executive Director—Laura Skandera-Trombley; Executive Committee—David E. E. Sloane, Susan K. Harris, and Jennifer Rafferty. Past Presidents: Louis J. Budd, Alan Gribben, Pascal Covici, Jr., David E. E. Sloane. Past Executive Directors: Everett Emerson, James D. Wilson, Michael J. Kiskis. 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 1992 issues (to be mailed in summer 1994) rather than the 1994. 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). Most 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.

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FULFILLMENT NOTICE: Both 1992 issues (30:1 and 30:2) and the Spring 1993 issue (31:1) of the <i>Mark Twain Journal</i> were mailed to subscribers in early September 1994. We hope to mail the Fall 1993 issue (31:2) and possibly the Spring 1994 issue (32:1) soon; we ask libraries not to claim these before December 1995. We're doing our best to catch up!
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James S. Leonard, Editor Mark Twain Circular English Department The Citadel Charleston, SC 29409

leonardj@citadel.bitnet leonardj@citadel.edu Ph: 803-953-5138 Fax: 803-953-7084 "Nonprofit Org."
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