

*Contemporary
Authors*

volume 118

Contemporary Authors[®]

Contemporary Authors[®]

**A Bio-Bibliographical Guide to
Current Writers in Fiction, General Nonfiction,
Poetry, Journalism, Drama, Motion Pictures,
Television, and Other Fields**

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Authors and Media People Featured in This Volume

Antony Armstrong-Jones (British photographer)—Known especially for his portraiture, Armstrong-Jones photographed Britain's royal family first as a court photographer and later as the first Earl of Snowdon, husband of Britain's Princess Margaret. His work is collected in such well-received books as *Sittings, 1979-1983* and *Snowdon: A Photographic Autobiography*.

Thomas Boswell (American sportswriter)—Boswell is an award-winning columnist with the *Washington Post* and the author of two critically acclaimed collections of humorous and philosophical baseball essays, *How Life Imitates the World Series* and *Why Time Begins on Opening Day*.

Tina Brown (British journalist)—As editor in chief of *Tatler*, a British monthly devoted to coverage of the socially prominent, Brown also wrote witty and sardonic articles for the periodical that were later compiled in the books *Loose Talk* and *Life as a Party*. In 1984 she became editor in chief of the American literary, arts, and entertainment monthly *Vanity Fair*.

Douglas Edwards (American journalist)—Edwards's career in broadcast news spans more than fifty years, beginning with radio work in the 1930's. He became affiliated with the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) in 1945 and pioneered television news as anchor of the network's nightly "Douglas Edwards With the News" from 1948 to 1962. His current broadcast assignments include the daily "World Tonight" radio feature. (Sketch contains interview.)

Nawal El Saadawi (Egyptian psychiatrist, feminist, and writer)—El Saadawi outspokenly champions political and sexual rights for women in the Arab world. Her books, comprised of nonfiction, novels, and short story collections, are banned in Egypt and other Arab countries but have nevertheless become best-sellers throughout the region. Her indictment of Arab patriarchy and class structure, *The Hidden Face of Eve: Women in the Arab World*, is available in English translation.

Dennis Etchison (American writer)—Etchison's reputation as a leading author of psychological horror fiction is built on such short story collections as *Red Dreams* and *The Blood Kiss* and the novel *Darkside*. He first gained widespread critical acclaim upon publication of his short story collection, *The Dark Country*, whose title story won both a British Fantasy Award and a World Fantasy Award. (Sketch contains interview.)

Ray Geiger (American editor and publisher)—Since 1934 Geiger has edited and published the annual *Farmer's Almanac*, a classic of practical information and homespun humor valued for features that include tide tables, proverbs, recipes, and weather predictions estimated to be at least eighty percent accurate. Published since 1818, the almanac during this century underwent a dramatic increase in circulation that is attributed to Geiger's aggressive promotional efforts, which he has maintained over five decades of leadership.

Leonard Gross (American journalist and writer)—Now a full-time writer, Gross earned several major awards over the course of twenty years as a reporter for national publications. During his twelve years with *Look* magazine, he served variously as Latin-American correspondent, European editor, and West Coast editor. Gross's more than one dozen fiction and non-fiction books reflect his expertise and interest in such wide-ranging topics as politics, foreign affairs, history, health, fitness, and espionage. (Sketch contains interview.)

Sonia Johnson (American social activist, lecturer, and writer)—Johnson first attracted national attention in 1978 when, as a Mormon, she supported the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This stance brought her into conflict with the Mormon Church, which, after closed-door hearings, excommunicated Johnson in 1979. Since that time she has been associated with the political left—lecturing on women's rights and peace issues and running for the U.S. presidency in 1984 on a feminist platform. Johnson recounts her experiences in her autobiography, *From Housewife to Heretic*.

Danilo Kis (Yugoslavian writer)—Now living in France, Kis is considered a major voice in Yugoslavian fiction. He initially gained a Western readership with his well-received short novel *Garden, Ashes*, and again impressed critics with *A Tomb for Boris Davidovich*, his poetic yet journalistic short story cycle of Stalinist intrigue.

Gary Larson (American cartoonist)—Larson's one-panel comic feature, "The Far Side," is syndicated in more than three hundred newspapers and praised by critics and fans for its "weirdly inverted depictions of life." Larson has collected his cartoons in a series of consistently bestselling anthologies such as *Beyond the Far Side*, *It Came From the Far Side*, and *In Search of the Far Side*.

Bernard Lewis (Anglo-American scholar)—Lewis, an expert in Near and Middle Eastern history, has been Cleveland E. Dodge Professor of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University since 1974. In the role of author, translator, or editor, Lewis has produced numerous books and articles considered classics in their field, notably *Islam and the Arab World*, *The Muslim Discovery of Europe*, and *The Jews of Islam*. (Sketch contains interview.)

Bernard Mac Laverty (Irish writer)—Crafted in prose noted for its rhythm, complexity, and thematic subtlety, Mac Laverty's critically acclaimed fiction includes the short story collections *Secrets* and *A Time to Dance* and the novels *Lamb* and *Cal*. From these works Mac Laverty has also written award-winning radio, television, and screen adaptations. (Sketch contains interview.)

Jay L. McMullen (American journalist)—McMullen entered journalism during World War II when he broadcast front-line radio reports. With the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS)

since the 1950's, McMullen pioneered many techniques now standard to investigative journalism while earning numerous top awards for his radio and television documentaries. (Sketch contains interview.)

Frank Moorhouse (Australian writer)—Moorhouse, whose writing is considered radical in form and technique, is known as the "elder statesman of the Australian avant-garde." He has received several literary awards for work that includes a prize-winning story collection, *The Electrical Experience*, and the screenplay for the internationally acclaimed film "The Coca-Cola Kid."

Frank O'Rourke (American novelist)—Since his first novel, *E Company*, was published in 1945, O'Rourke has written nearly seventy volumes of fiction, including mysteries, sports novels, and westerns. Notable among O'Rourke's works are *The Far Mountains*, a historical novel of the American Southwest, and *The Bright Morning*, a novel detailing the lives of midwestern youths as they mature to adulthood in the 1930's. (Sketch contains interview.)

Felix G. Rohatyn (Austrian-born American finance expert)—Rohatyn is best known for orchestrating the financial recovery of New York City when it faced bankruptcy in 1975. A specialist in corporate finance and mergers, he is also credited with averting chaos in the New York Stock Exchange in 1970 when several major trading firms were in danger of collapse. In *The Twenty-Year Century: Essays on Economics and Public Finance*, Rohatyn proposes a plan for national economic reconstruction.

Ben Sargent (American political cartoonist)—Winner of the 1982 Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning, Sargent has been acclaimed for his combination of artistic style, humor, and candor in treating distinctly political subjects. His work is

collected in two anthologies, *Texas Statehouse Blues* and *Big Brother Blues*. (Sketch contains interview.)

Allan Sloan (American journalist)—Sloan, an award-winning financial writer, assumed the senior editorship of *Forbes* magazine in 1984. His account of a headline-making corporate takeover attempt, *Three Plus One: The Bendix-Martin Marietta War*, met with positive critical response upon its publication.

Gerry Spence (American attorney)—As a trial lawyer Spence is considered a master in the arts of cross examination and jury persuasion. He owes his public prominence to his selection of socially significant, highly visible personal injury cases such as the successful multi-million-dollar damage suit he brought on behalf of the Karen Silkwood estate against Kerr-McGee Corporation, manufacturers of radioactive plutonium-based fuel rods for nuclear reactors. Critics have noted the candid approach, narrative flair, and compelling and often evocative prose in Spence's writings, which include *Gunning for Justice*, *Of Murder and Madness*, and *Trial by Fire*.

Somtow Sucharitkul (Thai-born composer, conductor, and writer)—An avant-garde musician, Sucharitkul made his conducting debut in 1978 at age nineteen. Also a fiction writer, he is the author of the award-winning *Starship and Haiku*, and since the publication of that first novel critics have maintained the highest expectations for Sucharitkul's mastery of and impact on the science fiction novel. Among his other critically acclaimed works is the multi-novel "Inquestors" series.

David Toma (American youth counselor and lecturer)—Toma's police work as an undercover vice and narcotics squad detective inspired two 1970's network television series, "Toma" and "Baretta." Now devoted to counseling young people about drug abuse, Toma is the author of two autobiographical works, *Toma, the Compassionate Cop* and *Toma Tells It Straight—With Love*.

Preface

The over 1,000 entries in *Contemporary Authors (CA)*, Volume 118, bring to nearly 86,000 the number of authors now represented in the *Contemporary Authors* series. *CA* includes nontechnical writers in all genres—fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, etc.—whose books are issued by commercial, risk publishers or by university presses. Authors of books published only by known vanity or author-subsidized firms are ordinarily not included. Since native language and nationality have no bearing on inclusion in *CA*, authors who write in languages other than English are included in *CA* if their works have been published in the United States or translated into English.

Although *CA* focuses primarily on authors of published books, the series also encompasses prominent persons in communications: newspaper and television reporters and correspondents, columnists, newspaper and magazine editors, photojournalists, syndicated cartoonists, screenwriters, television scriptwriters, and other media people.

Starting with Volume 104, the editors of *CA* began to broaden the series' scope to encompass authors deceased since 1900 whose works are still of interest to today's readers. (Previously, *CA* covered only living writers and authors deceased 1960 or later.) Since the great poets, novelists, short story writers, and playwrights of the early twentieth century are popular writers for study in today's high school and college curriculums, and since their writings continue to be analyzed by today's literary critics, these writers are in many ways as contemporary as the authors *CA* has featured up to this point.

Therefore, *CA* now contains information on important authors who lived and wrote between 1900 and 1959. Numerous authors from this period, most of whom will receive longer treatment later, are presently represented in *CA* with short, succinct entries that summarize their lives and literary contributions. These brief entries are further explained in the section of the preface below headed "Brief Entries."

No charge or obligation is attached to a *CA* listing. Authors are included in the series solely on the basis of the above criteria and their interest to *CA* users.

Compilation Methods

The editors make every effort to secure information directly from the authors through questionnaires and personal correspondence. If writers of special interest to *CA* users are deceased or fail to reply to requests for information, material is gathered from other reliable sources. Biographical dictionaries are checked (a task made easier through the use of Gale's *Biography and Genealogy Master Index* and other volumes in the "Gale Biographical Index Series"), as are bibliographical sources such as *Cumulative Book Index* and *The National Union Catalog*. Published interviews, feature stories, and book reviews are examined, and often material is supplied by the authors' publishers. All sketches, whether prepared from questionnaires or through extensive research, are sent to the biographees for review prior to publication. Sketches on recently deceased authors are sent to family members, agents, etc., if possible, for a similar review.

Format

CA is designed to present, clearly and concisely, biographical and bibliographical information in three kinds of listings: sketches, brief entries, and obituary notices. In recent volumes the editors have introduced a number of format changes so that a reader needing specific information can quickly focus on the pertinent portion of an entry. Beginning with Volume 114, for instance, sketches contain individual paragraphs with rubrics identifying address, membership, and awards and honors information, helping *CA* users to locate readily the facts they need.

As part of the editors' continuing efforts to make the information in entries as accessible as possible, *CA* now employs a new format for title listings. In sketch sections headed "Writings," the title of each book, play, and other published or unpublished work appears on a separate line, clearly distinguishing one title from another. This same convenient bibliographical presentation is featured in the "Biographical/Critical Sources" sections of sketches and brief entries and in the "Obituaries and Other Sources" sections of obituary notices where individual book and periodical titles are also listed on separate lines.

Brief Entries

CA users have indicated that having some information, however brief, on authors not yet in the series would be preferable to waiting until full-length sketches can be prepared as outlined above under "Compilation Methods." Since Volume 104, therefore, CA has included concise, condensed entries on both early twentieth-century and current writers who presently do not have sketches in CA. These short listings, identified by the heading "Brief Entry," highlight the author's career and writings and often provide a few sources where additional information can be found.

Brief entries are not intended to serve as sketches. Instead, they are designed to increase CA's comprehensiveness and thus better serve CA users by providing pertinent information about a large number of authors, many of whom will be the subjects of full sketches in forthcoming volumes.

Informative Sidelights

Numerous CA sketches contain sidelights, which provide personal dimensions to the listings, supply information about the critical reception the authors' works have received, or both. Some authors presented in Volume 118 worked closely with CA's editors to develop lengthy, incisive sidelights. British author and broadcast personality Tom Vernon, for example, provided comments that explain the connection between bicycling and his work: "On a bicycle you are nobody's enemy—that is why I often ride, write, and make programs on two wheels." Cycling, he observes, enables him to "meet the world casually, before it can put on its Sunday best for the man from the media." His bicycle trips have formed the basis for several radio and television series as well as for books such as *Fat Man on a Bicycle* and *Fat Man on a Roman Road*.

CA's editors also compile sidelights when authors and media people of particular interest do not supply sidelights material, or when demand for information about the critical reception their books have received is especially high. In sidelights for financial expert Felix G. Rohatyn, for example, assistant editor Joanne M. Peters details career achievements that include masterful corporate mergers and ingenious strategies for successfully rescuing Wall Street from financial collapse and New York City from bankruptcy. "Rohatyn emerged as the principal figure in effecting the partnership between business, labor, and government that ultimately resolved one crisis after another," Ms. Peters writes. In *The Twenty-Year Century*, his collection of essays on economics and public finance, Rohatyn recommends a similar partnership in his proposals for an overhaul of the entire American economic system. Deemed "one of the most original thinkers in America today," by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Rohatyn is viewed by many as a likely future candidate for public office.

In her sidelights for social activist and lecturer Sonia Johnson, senior assistant editor Nancy H. Evans examines the philosophical development that Johnson described in her book *From Housewife to Heretic*. Since being excommunicated by the Mormon Church for supporting the Equal Rights Amendment, Johnson "has also become active in the American political left with a feminist philosophy and commitment to peace and justice that call for nothing less than a transformation of society." As a 1984 candidate for the U.S. presidency, Johnson declared that she mounted her campaign "to say that there cannot be peace in the world without justice, without compassion, without mercy at home" and to help prove that "war, pollution, poverty, inequality and powerlessness of individuals are not inevitable."

And sidelights for author Bernard Lewis by senior assistant editor Lori R. Clemens demonstrate how throughout a nearly fifty-year career the eminent scholar of Near and Middle Eastern history has "sustained a reputation for innovative perspective, thorough research, and clear, informative prose." Called "the foremost and most prolific of today's Orientalists" by critic Alain Silvera, Lewis has produced, as editor, translator, or author, several classics in his field. In *Islam and the Arab World*, Lewis emphasizes the importance of studying and understanding modern-day Islam: "For the first time in centuries the Muslims have, in some measure, the power to choose their own form of government and to decide their own fate. The choices that they have made and are continuing to make will affect the course of history, for themselves and for many others, for a long time to come."

We hope these sketches, as well as others with sidelights compiled by CA's editors, provide informative and enjoyable reading.

Writers of Special Interest

CA's editors make every effort to include a substantial number of entries in each volume on active authors and media people of special interest to CA's readers. Since CA also includes sketches on noteworthy deceased writers, a significant amount of work on the part of CA's editors goes into the compilation of full-length

entries on important deceased authors. Some of the prominent writers, both living and deceased, whose sketches are contained in this volume are noted in the list on pages 7-8 headed "Authors and Media People Featured in This Volume."

Exclusive Interviews

CA provides exclusive, primary information on certain writers in the form of interviews. Prepared specifically for *CA*, the never-before-published conversations presented in the section of the sketch headed "CA Interview" give users the opportunity to learn the authors' thoughts, in depth, about their craft. Subjects chosen for interviews are, the editors feel, authors who hold special interest for *CA*'s readers.

Writers and journalists in this volume whose sketches include interviews are Douglas Edwards, Dennis Etchison, Leonard Gross, Bernard Lewis, Bernard Mac Laverty, Jay L. McMullen, Frank O'Rourke, and Ben Sargent.

Obituary Notices Make *CA* Timely and Comprehensive

To be as timely and comprehensive as possible, *CA* publishes obituary notices on deceased authors within the scope of the series. These notices provide date and place of birth and death, highlight the author's career and writings, and list other sources where additional biographical information and obituaries may be found. To distinguish them from full-length sketches, obituaries are identified with the heading "Obituary Notice."

CA includes obituary notices for writers who already have full-length entries in earlier *CA* volumes—44 percent of the obituary notices in this volume are for such authors—as well as for authors who do not yet have sketches in the series. Deceased writers of special interest currently represented only by obituary notices will be scheduled for full-length sketch treatment in forthcoming *CA* volumes.

Numerous *CA* users have commented favorably on the value of *CA*'s obituary notices. To continue to meet the need for concise obituary information on authors and media people, *CA*'s editors intend to maintain the emphasis on comprehensive obituary coverage.

Contemporary Authors New Revision Series

A major change in the preparation of *CA* revision volumes began with the first volume of *Contemporary Authors New Revision Series*. No longer are all of the sketches in a given *CA* volume updated and published together as a revision volume. Instead, entries from a number of volumes are assessed, and only those sketches requiring *significant change* are revised and published in a *New Revision Series* volume. This enables us to provide *CA* users with updated information about active writers on a more timely basis and avoids printing entries in which there has been little or no change. As always, the most recent *CA* cumulative index continues to be the user's guide to the location of an individual author's revised listing.

Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series

Designed to complement the information in *CA* original and revision volumes, the new *Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series* provides autobiographical essays written by important current authors. Each volume contains from twenty to thirty specially commissioned autobiographies and is illustrated with numerous personal photographs supplied by the authors. The range of contemporary writers describing their lives and interests in the *Autobiography Series* encompasses authors such as Dannie Abse, Vance Bourjaily, Erskine Caldwell, John Ciardi, Doris Grumbach, Elizabeth Forsythe Hailey, Marge Piercy, Frederik Pohl, Alan Sillitoe, and Diane Wakoski. Though the information presented in the autobiographies is as varied and unique as the authors, common topics of discussion include their motivations for writing, the people and experiences that shaped their careers, the rewards they derive from their work, and their impressions of the current literary scene.

Autobiographies included in the *Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series* can be located through both the *CA* cumulative index and the *Contemporary Authors Autobiography Series* cumulative index, which lists not only personal names but also titles of works, geographical names, subjects, and schools of writing.

Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series

The *Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series* is a comprehensive survey of writings by and about the most important authors since World War II in the United States and abroad. Each volume concentrates on a specific genre and nationality and features approximately ten major writers. Volume 1, for instance, covers

the American novelists James Baldwin, John Barth, Saul Bellow, John Cheever, Joseph Heller, Norman Mailer, Bernard Malamud, Carson McCullers, John Updike, and Eudora Welty. *Bibliographical Series* entries consist of three parts: a primary bibliography that lists works written by the author, a secondary bibliography that lists works about the author, and an analytical bibliographical essay that thoroughly discusses the merits and deficiencies of major critical and scholarly works. Complementing the information in other *CA* volumes, the *Bibliographical Series* is a new key to finding and evaluating information on the lives and writings of those authors who have attracted significant critical attention.

Each author's entry in the *Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series* can be located through both the *CA* cumulative index and, beginning with Volume 2, the *Contemporary Authors Bibliographical Series* cumulative author index. A cumulative critic index, citing critics discussed in the bibliographical essays, also appears in each *Bibliographical Series* volume.

CA Numbering System

Occasionally questions arise about the *CA* numbering system. Despite numbers like "97-100" and "118," the entire *CA* series consists of only 68 physical volumes with the publication of *CA* Volume 118. The following information notes changes in the numbering system, as well as in cover design, to help users better understand the organization of the entire *CA* series.

CA First Revisions

- 1-4R through 41-44R (11 books)
Cover: Brown with black and gold trim.
There will be no further *First Revisions* because revised entries are now being handled exclusively through the more efficient *New Revision Series* mentioned below.

CA Original Volumes

- 45-48 through 97-100 (14 books)
Cover: Brown with black and gold trim.
- 101 through 118 (18 books)
Cover: Blue and black with orange bands.
The same as previous *CA* original volumes but with a new, simplified numbering system and new cover design.

CA New Revision Series

- *CANR*-1 through *CANR*-19 (19 books)
Cover: Blue and black with green bands.
Includes only sketches requiring extensive change; **sketches are taken from any previously published *CA* volume.**

CA Permanent Series

- *CAP*-1 and *CAP*-2 (2 books)
Cover: Brown with red and gold trim.
There will be no further *Permanent Series* volumes because revised entries are now being handled exclusively through the more efficient *New Revision Series* mentioned above.

CA Autobiography Series

- *CAAS*-1 through *CAAS*-3 (3 books)
Cover: Blue and black with pink and purple bands.
Presents specially commissioned autobiographies by leading contemporary writers.

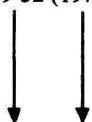
CA Bibliographical Series

- *CABS*-1
Cover: Blue and black with blue bands. Provides comprehensive bibliographical information on published works by and about major modern authors.

Retaining CA Volumes

As new volumes in the series are published, users often ask which *CA* volumes, if any, can be discarded. The Volume Update Chart on page 13 is designed to assist users in keeping their collections as complete as

Volume Update Chart

IF YOU HAVE:	YOU MAY DISCARD:
1-4 First Revision (1967)	1 (1962) 2 (1963) 3 (1963) 4 (1963)
5-8 First Revision (1969)	5-6 (1963) 7-8 (1963)
Both 9-12 First Revision (1974) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volume 1 (1975)	9-10 (1964) 11-12 (1965)
Both 13-16 First Revision (1975) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volumes 1 and 2 (1975, 1978)	13-14 (1965) 15-16 (1966)
Both 17-20 First Revision (1976) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volumes 1 and 2 (1975, 1978)	17-18 (1967) 19-20 (1968)
Both 21-24 First Revision (1977) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volumes 1 and 2 (1975, 1978)	21-22 (1969) 23-24 (1970)
Both 25-28 First Revision (1977) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volume 2 (1978)	25-28 (1971)
Both 29-32 First Revision (1978) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volume 2 (1978)	29-32 (1972)
Both 33-36 First Revision (1978) AND <i>Contemporary Authors Permanent Series</i> , Volume 2 (1978)	33-36 (1973)
37-40 First Revision (1979)	37-40 (1973)
41-44 First Revision (1979)	41-44 (1974)
45-48 (1974) 49-52 (1975)  118 (1986)	NONE: These volumes will not be superseded by corresponding revised volumes. Individual entries from these and all other volumes appearing in the left column of this chart will be revised and included in the <i>New Revision Series</i> .
Volumes in the <i>Contemporary Authors New Revision Series</i>	NONE: The <i>New Revision Series</i> does not replace any single volume of <i>CA</i> . All volumes appearing in the left column of this chart must be retained to have information on all authors in the series.

possible. All volumes in the left column of the chart should be retained to have the most complete, up-to-date coverage possible; volumes in the right column can be discarded if the appropriate replacements are held.

Cumulative Index Should Always Be Consulted

The key to locating an individual author's listing is the *CA* cumulative index bound into the back of alternate original volumes (and available separately as an offprint). Since the *CA* cumulative index provides access to *all* entries in the *CA* series, the latest cumulative index should always be consulted to find the specific volume containing an author's original or most recently revised sketch.

For the convenience of *CA* users, the *CA* cumulative index also includes references to all entries in these related Gale literary series: *Authors in the News*, *Children's Literature Review*, *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, *Something About the Author*, *Something About the Author Autobiography Series*, and *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*.

Suggestions Are Welcome

The editors welcome comments and suggestions from users on any aspects of the *CA* series. If readers would like to suggest authors whose *CA* entries should appear in future volumes of the series, they are cordially invited to write: The Editors, *Contemporary Authors*, Gale Research Company, Book Tower, Detroit, MI 48226; or call toll-free at 1-800-521-0707.

Contemporary Authors

**Indicates that a listing has been compiled from secondary sources believed to be reliable, but has not been personally verified for this edition by the author sketched.*

AACH, Herb(ert) 1923-1985

OBITUARY NOTICE: Born March 24, 1923, in Cologne, Germany (now West Germany); died of cancer, October 13, 1985, in New York, N.Y. Artist, educator, translator, editor, and author of articles about art. Aach, who studied art in Germany, the United States, and Mexico, became a U.S. citizen in 1942. He exhibited his paintings at the Creative Gallery in New York City and participated in one-man and group shows at various other galleries, museums, and institutions. Collections of paintings by the artist have been displayed at museums in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Calcutta, India. A faculty member for several years and later chairman of the art department at Queens College of the City University of New York, Aach also served as New York City's technical color consultant. In addition, he contributed to and edited various art publications, including *Arts Magazine*, and was translator and editor of the book *Goethe's Color Theory*.

OBITUARIES AND OTHER SOURCES:

BOOKS

A Dictionary of Contemporary American Artists, 3rd edition, St. Martin's, 1977.
Who's Who in America, 43rd edition, Marquis, 1984.

PERIODICALS

New York Times, October 14, 1985.

* * *

ABATE, Frank R(ober) 1951-

PERSONAL: Surname is pronounced Ah-bah-tee; born June 10, 1951, in Detroit, Mich.; son of Frank M. and Cecilia (Homic) Abate; married Christine A. Kelley, June 20, 1981; children: Alexandra, Gregory. **Education:** Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio, H.A.B., 1973; Ohio State University, M.A., 1975, Ph.D., 1978.

ADDRESSES: Office—Laurence Urdang, Inc., P.O. Box 668, Essex, Conn. 06426.

CAREER: University of Massachusetts—Amherst, assistant professor of classics, 1978-80; Kollmorgen Corp., Northampton, Mass., manufacturing program administrator, 1981-82;

Laurence Urdang, Inc., Essex, Conn., managing editor of company and of *Verbatim* magazine, 1982—.

MEMBER: European Association for Lexicography (charter member), Dictionary Society of North America, Modern Language Association of America, American Philological Association.

WRITINGS:

- (Managing editor) Laurence Urdang, editor in chief, *Fine and Applied Arts Terms Index*, Gale, 1983.
- (Managing editor) Laurence Urdang, editor in chief, *Literary, Rhetorical, and Linguistics Terms Index*, Gale, 1983.
- (Managing editor) Laurence Urdang, editor in chief, *Loanwords Index*, Gale, 1983.
- (Managing editor) Laurence Urdang, editor in chief, *Idioms and Phrases Index*, Gale, 1983.
- (Managing editor) Laurence Urdang, editorial director, *Prefixes and Other Word-Final Elements of English*, Gale, 1984.
- (Managing editor) Laurence Urdang, editorial director, *Slogans*, Gale, 1984.
- (Managing editor) Laurence Urdang, editorial director, *Holidays and Anniversaries of the World*, Gale, 1985.
- (Managing editor) *Picturesque Expressions: A Thematic Dictionary*, 2nd edition, Gale, 1985.
- (Editor) *Loanwords Dictionary*, Gale, 1986.
- (Associate editor) *-Ologies & -Isms: A Thematic Dictionary*, 3rd edition, Gale, 1986.
- (Managing editor) *Allusions—Cultural, Literary, Biblical, and Historical: A Thematic Dictionary*, 2nd edition, Gale, 1986.
- (Managing editor) *Mottoes*, Gale, 1986.

Contributor of articles and reviews to *Verbatim: The Language Quarterly*.

WORK IN PROGRESS: Research on computer applications to lexicographic data bases; *Names & Nicknames of Places & Things*, with Laurence Urdang, for G. K. Hall.

SIDELIGHTS: Frank R. Abate told CA: "Language—the essential medium for thought, expression, and communication—has been the principal focus of my professional and intellectual endeavors. Specific manifestations of this interest, whether in my daily work, in casual discussions, or in formal presentations and publications, have of necessity concentrated on nar-

rower aspects of this subject, but it remains a general fascination with the phenomenon of language that is, for me, a prime source of motivation. In the future, I hope that through my work I may be simultaneously helping in the attainment of a loftier goal, which is a more thorough knowledge of what language is and how it works, thereby fostering human co-operation and understanding."

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ABBINGTON, John

See GIBSON, Walter B(rown)

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ABERCROMBIE, Nigel J(ames) 1908-1986

OBITUARY NOTICE—See index for CA sketch: Born August 5, 1908, in India; died February 17, 1986. Educator, administrator, translator, editor, and author. Abercrombie served the Arts Council of Great Britain as secretary general in the mid-1960's and was largely responsible for the development of regional arts associations in England. He also taught French at the University of Exeter in the late 1930's and held administrative posts at the British Admiralty from 1940 to 1962. Among Abercrombie's scholarly writings are *The Origins of Jansenism*, *Saint Augustine and French Classical Thought*, and *Studies in Sussex Church History*. He also translated Jean Danielou's *The Lord of History* and edited editions of Moliere's *Le Misanthrope* and *Tartuffe*.

OBITUARIES AND OTHER SOURCES:

BOOKS

Who's Who, 138th edition, St. Martin's, 1986.

PERIODICALS

Times (London), March 1, 1986.

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ABRAMOWITZ, Shalom Jacob 1835(?) -1917
(Mendele mocher seforim)

BRIEF ENTRY: Name also transliterated as Shalom Jacob Abramovitch, Solomon Jacob Abramowitsch, and Sholem Yakob Abramowitz; pseudonym also transliterated as Mendele mocher sfarim, Mendele meycher sform, Mendele mocher sform, Mendele moicher sform, Mendele moicher sfurim, and Mendele mokher sefarim; born December 20, 1835 (one source says 1836), in Kapolic, Belorussia, Russia (one source says Kopyl, Lithuania; both now U.S.S.R.); died December 8, 1917, in Odessa, U.S.S.R. Russian educator, translator, and author. Best known as a pioneer of modern Yiddish and Hebrew literature, Abramowitz began his literary career while associated with the Russian Haskalah, a movement dedicated to improving life for East European Jews. His earliest works, such as *Mishpat shalom* (1860; title means "Peaceful Judgment") and *En mishpat* (1866; title means "Critical Eye"), were written in Hebrew, the language of educated Jews, and articulated his ideas for reform.

Subsequently disappointed with the Haskalah and the limited audience for Hebrew, Abramowitz adopted the pseudonym Mendele mocher seforim—"Mendele the bookseller"—and began writing fiction in Yiddish, the language of the people. He focused on Jewish life in nineteenth-century Czarist Russia and was successful in a variety of genres, from his first novel,

Der kleine menshele (1864; title means "The Little Man"), to drama such as *Die takse, oder die bande shtot baale tovot* (1868; title means "The Tax, or the Gang of Municipal Benefactors"), to the allegorical work *Die kliatshe* (1873; translated as *The Nag*, 1955), to the satirical prose epic *Masa'ot Binyamin ha-Shelishi*, (1878; translated as *The Travels and Adventures of Benjamin the Third*, 1949), which earned him acclaim as the "Jewish Cervantes."

Credited with establishing Yiddish—formerly regarded simply as a colloquial idiom—as a medium for literary achievement, Abramowitz has become known as the grandfather of modern Yiddish literature. He also, after moving to Odessa in 1881 and becoming principal of a Hebrew school, translated and adapted many of his own Yiddish works into Hebrew, and they are now regarded as keystones in the development of modern Hebrew prose.

BIOGRAPHICAL/CRITICAL SOURCES:

BOOKS

Columbia Dictionary of Modern European Literature, Columbia University Press, 1947.

European Authors, 1000-1900, H. W. Wilson, 1967.

Twentieth-Century Culture: A Biographical Companion, Harper, 1983.

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ADAMS, Andy

See GIBSON, Walter B(rown)

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AHERN, James F(rancis) 1932-1986

OBITUARY NOTICE—See index for CA sketch: Born January 24, 1932, in New Haven, Conn.; died of cancer, February 28, 1986, in Wilton, Conn. Law enforcer, crime prevention expert, administrator, educator, and author. Ahern was police chief in New Haven, Connecticut, from 1968 to 1971 and was best known for his peaceable handling in 1970 of a potentially violent demonstration in support of Black Panther leader Bobby Seale, who was on trial for murder. Ahern was subsequently named to President Richard Nixon's Commission on Campus Unrest, where he gained recognition as an outspoken liberal. His reputation, however, was somewhat tainted in the mid-1970's when he was implicated in an illegal wiretapping scheme in New Haven. Throughout his career Ahern held various administrative posts, including volunteer executive director of the Institute for Effective Criminal Justice. He was also director of the Insurance Crime Prevention Institute and a lecturer at Yale University. He wrote *Police in Trouble: Our Frightening Crisis in Law Enforcement*.

OBITUARIES AND OTHER SOURCES:

PERIODICALS

Chicago Tribune, March 4, 1986.

New Haven Register, March 1, 1986.

New York Times, March 4, 1986.

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AHERNE, Brian (de Lacy) 1902-1986

OBITUARY NOTICE: Born May 2, 1902, in King's Norton, Worcestershire, England; died of heart failure, February 10,