



The Lawrence Durrell Society

HERALD

NUMBER 7

15 AUGUST 1986

EDITOR & PRODUCER: Susan S. MacNiven

ASSISTANT EDITORS: Gregory Dickson
Lawrence W. Markert

All material c. The Lawrence Durrell Society Herald, 1986.

ON MIRACLE GROUND IV SUPPLEMENT

James R. Nichols

THE OUT-GOING PRESIDENT SPEAKS

On Miracle Ground IV is now history, and for that matter, so is my tenure as President of the Heraldic Band. I've enjoyed it, especially since so many of you helped with the work and made my job so easy. I now hand over the reins to, give the keys to, place the mantle upon the more than capable hands and shoulders of Nancy Lewis. Being your President has been a privilege, and I hope Nancy finds this job as rewarding as I did.

OMG IV turned out well. We "wowed 'em in Peoria" (Penn State) with Lawrence Durrell's consummate urbanity and Michael Begnal's genius for organization and hard work. It was a good conference, with more papers than ever before, more people attending, and a bigger Saturday night banquet. I'm told that the Proceedings that Michael is putting together has a better than even chance of major university sponsorship, and the papers that do not fit into this volume will be published in forthcoming issues of the Society journal.

Gregory Dickson remains Secretary/Treasurer (thanks, "Monsieur"), and Frank Kersnowski will be our Vice-President for the next two years (bless Sebastian's ghost). We've got two winners, eh what?

There's something else I want to say before

I go.

Last week I brought out the old onionskin paper dating from 29 December 1980 in Houston. Many of you remember it: the birth certificate of the Lawrence Durrell Society signed by Carol and Brooke Peirce, Michael Cartwright, George Cleyet (how I missed you, George, at Penn State), Susan and Ian MacNiven, Julie Wosk, Ray Morrison (sorry illness kept you from OMG IV), Kent Ekberg, Tina Lewis, Jay Brigham, and me. I remember the three hours it took for us to get our steaks that night, the gallons (?) of wine we drank, and Cartwright finally going into the kitchen of the Savoy Hotel and taking control at medium rare. Most of us had been at the first OMG conference at SUNY/Maritime in April 1980. It's been six years of memories, and I really didn't want to give that onionskin to Susan for the Society Archives. But then, I've saved it for those Archives and that's where it belongs. It's not mine alone. Never was.

What I'm trying to say, rather falteringly I suspect, is that the Society is growing up and changing. Many of us, myself included, regret such change almost as much as we welcome the Society's maturity. Penn State was our first major university conference. Southern Illinois in 1988 looks like another one. In the coming years I expect the Society to publish more, grow wealthy (relatively), increase its membership (I also missed Bill Richards from Victoria, Australia, at OMG IV, but he'll be back

once the America's Cup finals are over), and eventually be recognized by the Modern Language Association.

Will we lose the camaraderie that existed at SUNY/Maritime and Houston in 1980 and Baltimore in 1982? Not if we can help it! Your Executive Board will work hard to make CMG V what you wish it to be.

As for me "ma propre place" (or "mon lieu à moi" or "mon endroit à moi" or "mon rôle approprié"—but I like the anglicized ambiguities of my first creation) is amidst it all: listening to Harry Stoneback play the piano very late at night, watching Carol Peirce smile, dancing the boogie with Jennifer Leonard, or watching Markert (it was Wayne up there, wasn't it?) attempt the same. As Bill Godshalk has informed me, I know paganism intimately. I blush before such praise. But then I've been a Durrellian for a long time. I want to be part of the action, and the only way I can miss it is by failing to show.

See you all in '88.

Nancy Lewis

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Greetings, Durrellians:

On Miracle Ground IV must have been fantastic; certainly congratulations are in order to everyone who helped to make it a memorable celebration of a marvellous writer's career. Best of all, it sounds as if Durrell himself enjoyed it.

Summer term (what a misnomer) is coming to a close here in Bristol; classes are over, students are in the midst of reading period, and exams begin in early June. From here, Bob and I are off to the James Joyce Symposium in Copenhagen during the week of Bloomsday. I hope some of us will cross paths there.

We plan to spend July and early August in France or Italy; from accounts here of the Reagan Administration's strategies for destroying American tourism to Europe, I wager we'll have either France or Italy to ourselves and all the northern Europeans who are looking forward to uncrowded Mediterranean holidays.

With Carol, Michael, Ian, and Jim before me as presidents of the Lawrence Durrell Society, I hope to live up to the excellent standards they set. Nice to have such predecessors!

But first, for everybody, a happy summer;

surely that is an "all right" wish for Durrellians. Until autumn, cheers.

Bristol, England
22 May 1986

Frank Kersnowski

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Sorting and rejecting material for a regular column that would be useful and interesting for Durrellians, I heard in my memory Lyn Goldman saying "Sure, you can still get a good, reasonable hotel in Athens. Close to the Acropolis" The rest was lost in other voices ordering drinks at the On Miracle Ground IV cocktail party. LDS members travel whenever possible, often to places significant to the life and writings of Lawrence Durrell. So if you will send me your recommendations and warnings about travel, I'll use them as the basis for my columns. I'll start with Paris and Durrell's favorite places: Hôtel Royal for lodging and Le Dôme for meals, diversions, and meetings, "Except for the Chinese joint around the corner on Raspail when we get tired of the garlicky stuff," said Durrell.

The Hôtel Royal at 212 bd. Raspail (tel. 320.69.20) is a good choice, though it is following the trend of hotels in the 14th arrondissement to become modern. Such updating, by the way, does not assure air-conditioning similar to that of a Great Western, so in warm weather, windows are left open to the late night sounds of the city and the early morning ones of street cleaners and metal shutters being hoisted up. L'Aiglon at 232 bd. Raspail (tel. 320.82.42) is close and similar, a very helpful place for travellers who need to hear English spoken. The smaller hotels on Raspail, such as the Select at 259 bd. Raspail (tel. 326.74.03), have the charm and scrupulousness of the family-run French hotel. The breakfast room at the Select doubles as an art gallery. The paintings that are not quite primitive surpass the coffee. Each of these hotels is under \$30.00 for a double, if the rate of exchange is around 10 FF. to the dollar. The Hôtel Istria at 29 rue Campagne Première (tel. 320.91.82) is a small and inexpensive hotel with a cat, great charm, and a few rooms with private baths. It is just one building off Raspail. Wherever you stay on Raspail, have your breakfast at Le Dôme.

Raspail is convenient for getting around in Paris. The metro from the airport will take you to Denfert-Rochereau, just one metro stop from Raspail. You can easily get to George Whitman's Shakespeare and Company, across the Seine from Notre Dame. Durrell frequents Whitman's when he is in Paris. It upholds the fine tradition of Sylvia Beach's original Shakespeare and Company: a place to take your literary bearings. Marthe Nochy's Galerie Marthe Nochy, Librairie de Seine (93 rue de Seine, 75006 [tel. 326.31.76]) has paintings by Durrell for sale. Her ease in talking about "Larry" comes from a friendship of many years.

To be in Paris is to walk, through the Luxembourg Gardens to Boulevard St. Michel. Do not go into a restaurant on that street. Climb the hill to the area around the University of Paris and look for the small, busy restaurants with three-course lunches for 32 FF., including the wine. You might also try the Restaurant Univers on rue d'Alesia, just two metro stops from Raspail, a block or so to your left when you get off the metro. Dinner there is 36 FF., though you can always get mussels for 22 FF. This is a small, clean restaurant with dog, blonde proprietress, mustachioed waiter, and bouncy waitress. The sort of place Hollywood made into a cliché. Fortunately, the Parisians prefer to keep their restaurants rather than abandon them because they have been trivialized in films.

Across Raspail from Le Dôme is Le Bar Huitre, a restaurant with more shell fish and crustaceans than I can name or remember. The specialty is a variety of these set into a mound of ice, usually with a circle of oysters at the bottom and ascending through clams and crabs to the summit of shrimp rampant. The tastiest, most unusual of the fruits de mer was called a "violet," a mollusk with a deep purple and rubbery shell that had a large golden-colored piece of meat on each half shell. Trust the waiter's recommendation for a wine, but try the white burgundy called Quincy if they have it.

Of course, Montparnasse is old Hemingway territory as well, so you might want to go to the Café Select and even the Closerie des Lilas since they're on the same street with Le Dôme. Durrell said that Hemingway was right: the Closerie des Lilas is a good café but has got very expensive. Be prepared to pay for drinks what dinner would cost at the Univers. The terrace at the Closerie des Lilas has been glassed in, as is also true for Le Dôme. Of all the great cafés on Montparnasse, La Coupole has changed the least since the twenties. All

continue to live and change as does Paris, which is pleasing to those of us who do not expect life to reflect fiction eternally.

But the place to go for Durrellians is Le Dôme. Coffee and croissants for breakfast. Perhaps mussel soup served in a bowl topped with puff pastry for lunch. A ragout of sole and foie gras or coquille de St. Jacques prepared with a light sauce rather than the traditional cream does one well for dinner. Then there is the pleasure of sitting on the terrace with a glass of good marc and looking up to see Durrell, with his hands deep in the pockets of the blue duffel coat that covers the tweed jacket, the turtleneck, the flannel trousers as he looks around the room, smiles, and comes to your table to say: "What are you drinking? Do have another." Though he may not be in Paris at the time, he will be part of what is found in Le Dôme, where the waiters call him "maître" and where he always gets a good table.

Gregory Dickson

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

My overly long column is partly personal, partly official this time. The personal part first. I would like to thank Lawrence Durrell not only for attending the conference but for being so open and gracious. I would like to thank Mike Begnal for all the time and hard work he invested in organizing and hosting the conference. I would like to thank Jay Brigham for his seven years of co-editing and producing Deus Loci. I would like to thank the Society for electing me to another term as Secretary/Treasurer. And, finally, I would like to thank Jim Nichols. He is one of the founders of the Society; he was Secretary/Treasurer for our first four years and President for the last two. We owe him a great debt, and though I hate to think of our Society without Jim as one of the officers, at least we still have him on the Executive Board.

Now on to official business.

Summary of the minutes of The Lawrence Durrell Society meeting held on 13 April 1986 at the home of Michael and Cynthia Begnal, State College, Pennsylvania.

President James Nichols called the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M.

Nichols gave thanks to Michael Begnal for

organizing the conference, to Cynthia Begnal for hosting the Society meeting and breakfast, and to Wayne Markert and Carol Peirce for editing and producing the On Miracle Ground II Proceedings.

FINANCES: Greg Dickson, Secretary/Treasurer, gave the financial report for April 1984 through April 1986. A summary of the report follows:

Received from James Nichols (former Secretary/Treasurer) on 4 June 1984:

Publications Account:	\$356.52
General Account:	\$310.08
Total:	\$666.60

Income from membership dues and sale of Proceedings:

To Publications Account:	\$344.00
To General Account:	\$300.00
Total:	\$644.00

Expenses:

From Publications Account:	\$514.64
From General Account:	\$129.00
Total:	\$643.64

Balance as of 13 April 1986:

Publications Account:	\$185.88
General Account:	\$481.08
Total:	\$666.96

CONFERENCES: The Society briefly discussed the possibility of holding the 1988 OMG V at Southern Illinois University and the 1990 OMG VI at Georgia State University.

SOCIETY MEETINGS: It was moved and seconded that the Society hold an official meeting at each annual Modern Language Association convention. The motion passed by acclamation.

PUBLICATIONS: 1) The Society briefly discussed the disposition of editing and producing the OMG III Proceedings (Greg Dickson, editor) and the OMG IV Proceedings (Michael Begnal, editor). 2) It was moved and seconded that the Society find a new name for the Society journal (to replace Deus Loci: The Lawrence Durrell Quarterly) by sending ballots to all Society members. The motion was defeated, 6 votes to 7. 3) It was moved and seconded that the Society Publications Board select the new name for the journal. The motion passed, 8 votes to 5. 4) It was moved and seconded that the Publications Board select an editor for the journal. However, it was pointed out that this is already covered in the By-Laws of the Society, and the motion was withdrawn. 5) It was moved and seconded that Susan MacNiven be named editor and producer of the Society Herald, and

Greg Dickson and Wayne Markert named assistants or associates, instead of the current arrangement of naming all three as co-producers/editors. The motion passed by acclamation. 6) It was moved and seconded that the Publications Board report to the Society, via Society meetings and the Herald, on the progress of the new journal. The motion passed by acclamation.

SOCIETY OFFICERS: The Nominations Committee placed the following names before the Society for the term of April 1986 to April 1988: Nancy Lewis, President; Frank Kersnowski, Vice-President; Greg Dickson, Secretary/Treasurer. James Brigham was nominated from the floor for Vice-President. Nancy Lewis and Greg Dickson were elected by acclamation; Frank Kersnowski was elected by secret ballot.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP: It was moved and seconded that Alfred Perlès and Alan G. Thomas be given honorary membership in The Lawrence Durrell Society. The motion passed by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned by President Nichols at 12:30.

We are happy to add the names of our two honorary members, Alfred Perlès and Alan G. Thomas, to the membership roll. And we are also delighted to have twelve other new members:

Professor James Baker
Department of English
San Diego State University
San Diego, California 92182

Professor François Bucher
Department of Art History
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306

Jo Cohen

Martha Klironomas

Grove Koger

Anthony D. Knerr

Professor Lee Lemon
224 Andrews Hall
Department of English
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, Nebraska 68588

Frances and Horst von Maltitz

Lynn Smith and Brewster Chamberlin

David M. Woods

A Heraldic Welcome to you all!

Ian S. MacNiven

ON MIRACLE GROUND IV: A BRIEF REPORT

Lawrence Durrell had some misgivings about coming to the United States for the conference. "I dread being left stranded in drafty airports," he told the planning committee. We assured him this would not happen. "Where is Pennsylvania State University? Will we be anywhere near South Dakota?" he queried suspiciously. Well, yes, he would come, "If I don't croak first!" Those fortunate enough to have been in University Park between 11 and 13 April know that not only did Durrell attend the conference, but he listened attentively to nearly all the papers, commented on them privately to many of the panelists, spoke brilliantly from the podium, and survived various rounds of informal conviviality that would have destroyed a less seasoned campaigner.

For Durrell the Pennsylvania sojourn began the morning of the tenth, with a leisurely drive through the rolling farmlands of the Amish country, past Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, and Millheim. He was delighted by the Pennsylvania Dutch architecture of the small towns, admired the old brick fronts, the filigreed frame dwellings, even the stiff neoclassic bank façades. The Nittany Lion Inn on the PSU campus received Durrell with the insouciance of an establishment used to head football coaches and wealthy

returning alumni. "Mr. Durrell? Yes, we have your reservation." The first evening Durrell, along with the conference organizers, was the dinner guest of PSU President and Mrs. Bryce Jordan at their lovely home. Among others present were John and Sophie Hawkes, Stanley Weintraub, and Philip Young. Durrell turned in at eleven, but those who felt young enough in body and spirit went in search of fellow Durrellians celebrating reunions among the dark nightspots of State College, the imaginatively-named neighbor to the university.

Friday dawned cold, and Durrell's heavy overcoat and blue-and-yellow barred scarf, worn with a sedate dark suit, became his uniform of choice. Bill Kinser's beautifully-designed quincunx-motif programs were passed around in the Kern Graduate Center, and at 9:00 Dr. Weintraub spoke the formal words of welcome. Most appropriately, Jim Nichols was the first moderator, for a session with the formidable title "Metafiction and Metaphysics." Do not expect a play-by-play on the conference: look for the appearance of the papers either in the volume Michael Begnal is editing, or in the forthcoming Society journal. Some speakers found the solid, attentive form of The Author of It All, seated usually toward the rear of the auditorium, somewhat unnerving. They need not have worried. Not once did Durrell permit himself to say, "That is not what I meant at all!" even when the moderators invited his comments. Sometimes he replied graciously, "Yes, you have twigged it! Of course!" Whatever reservations he may have had, he seemed pleased overall. "This justifies what I have tried to accomplish." At 3:00 the empty seats filled as the audience was swelled by about two hundred who came to hear Durrell "tell all." Scorning notes, speaking without the slightest hesitation, he delivered an organized, far-ranging, humorous, serious talk, as though it were the most natural thing to do what he had never done before: lecture at a conference devoted solely to the consideration of his work. Nor did this end the day for Durrell: a signing at Svoboda's Books followed, and then a dinner meeting with John Hawkes at the Begnals' home, arranged so that moderator Sharon Spencer and the two principals of the next day's closing dialogue could become better acquainted.

On Saturday we awoke to a light powdering of snow. A few foolhardy Society members ran Michael Begnal's jogging trail around the golf course near the Nittany Lion Inn, while Durrell sipped coffee and shook his head at this proof

of insanity among certain American academics. Then more papers, more arguments, more laughter, trips for some to the superb exhibit of about eighty items from Anthony Knerr's Durrell collection, generously provided by Knerr and displayed in the Pattee Library by Charlie Mann, in charge of Special Collections. Again the audience grew for the Durrell/Hawkes talk, during which Hawkes asserted that without the example of The Alexandria Quartet he could not have written his subsequent books.

A cocktail party preceded the Saturday night banquet, and Jim Nichols closed the day with thanks to Durrell and Hawkes for their presence, to our hosts at PSU for their considerate attention to our many needs and wishes. Durrell rose to express his own appreciation.

The conference ended with the traditional champagne breakfast, held this time at the Begnals' red-doored stone cottage (Did it make Durrell recall the "Stone Cottage, Dorset," which was his address briefly in 1956?), where about thirty of us crowded in to rub elbows—and bend them. Surrounded by lovely women who tried unsuccessfully to fuddle his wits with champagne, Durrell held sway by the dining table, while in the next room the Society convoked its business meeting, patronized by the more conscientious members, each enviously conscious of the fun going on a few feet away. (See Greg Dickson's column for the minutes of this session.) Durrell left for New York at 1:00, and everyone spilled out onto the lawn to wave.

This does not pretend to describe thoroughly even the highlights of OMG IV. For a fuller account, talk to one of the participants. Better yet, listen to four or five separately. Then you can construct your own Pennsylvania Quartet or Quintet!

SOCIETY NOTICES

Officers, Board & Standing-Committee Members

The following will serve the Society until April 1988, per the election of officers and the motions passed at the meeting of 13 April 1986:

President:	Nancy Lewis
Vice-President:	Frank Kersnowski
Secretary/Treasurer:	Gregory Dickson

Executive Board:	Michael Cartwright Nancy Lewis Ian S. MacNiven James R. Nichols Carol Peirce
------------------	--

Publications Board:	Michael H. Begnal Michael Cartwright Gregory Dickson Lawrence W. Markert Carol Peirce
---------------------	---

Conference Committee:	Michael H. Begnal Richard F. Peterson
-----------------------	--

Archivist:	Susan S. MacNiven
------------	-------------------

Society Journal Editor:	[In Committee]
-------------------------	----------------

<u>Herald</u> Editor:	Susan S. MacNiven
Assistant Editors:	Gregory Dickson Lawrence W. Markert

LDS Membership & Renewal Time

With this issue of the Herald, members will receive a Society membership list. Our list now numbers seventy-six—quite an increase from the twelve in December 1980 when the Society was founded. This membership year ends 31 August 1986, and we hope that all of you whose membership expires then—and those of you whose membership has already expired—will renew. Dues have not increased:

A one-year single membership is \$ 7.50.
A two-year single membership is \$15.00.

A one-year double membership is \$10.00.
A two-year double membership is \$20.00.

Membership entitles you to take part in our annual meetings and biennial conferences and to receive the newsletter, the future Society journal, and various handouts. Please check the expiration date of your membership on the enclosed list. If your membership has expired, make your check payable to The Lawrence Durrell Society and mail it to Greg Dickson (Department of English, New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701). Help us maintain our record membership level!

OMG II PROCEEDINGS

Copies of On Miracle Ground II: Second International Lawrence Durrell Conference Proceedings, edited by Wayne Markert and Carol

Peirce, are available at \$10 (which includes postage at the surface rate; those wanting copies sent airmail will have to pay postage). Make checks payable to The Lawrence Durrell Society and send your order to Carol Peirce (Department of English, University of Baltimore, 1420 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201).

OMG IV: Finances

The Institute for the Arts and Humanistic Studies and the Department of English of Pennsylvania State University contributed some \$4400 for OMG IV. This covered the honoraria for Durrell (\$2000) and Hawkes (\$1250), the calls for papers (\$500), and the programs (\$638). The Society owes Penn State a considerable debt of gratitude for this superb generosity. Conference registration fees brought in \$570, and this was used for hotel and meal expenses for Durrell and Hawkes and for miscellaneous costs.

MLA: Special Session Rejected

The Modern Language Association turned down our proposal for a Special Session on Durrell at the New York 1986 convention. Susan Vander Closter had sent in a proposal for a program on the Quincunx. We thank Susan for her effort and share her disappointment. This is the fifth (or sixth?) time the MLA has rejected a Durrell session. In 1978 there was one Durrell session; in 1980 there were two, one on Durrell and one Durrell-related; and in 1981 there was one Durrell-related session. In 1979 (and probably in 1982) and in each of the past four years, the MLA has refused to accept a proposal on or concerning Durrell.

MLA: Special Session(s) in 1987

To end Monsieur's control of the MLA [see above], the Executive Board has suggested that we deluge that august body with numerous proposals for Durrell Special Sessions for the San Francisco 1987 convention. If there were a few, or several, proposals for sessions on Durrell and/or Durrell in relation to other writers, etc., the Board feels there would be a better chance for at least one Durrell program. If any of you have suggestions, please contact any member of the Executive Board or write a letter to the Herald.

LDS Meeting at the MLA

In accordance with the April Society decision to hold an official meeting at each annual

MLA convention, our officers are working to arrange such a meeting for this December in New York. An informal dinner will follow the meeting; time and place will be announced.

Society Journal

The Publications Board is still considering the name, frequency of publication, and the editorship of the journal. The Board expects to have decisions to report in the next Herald.

OMG V

The Executive Board has accepted Richard F. Peterson's invitation to hold On Miracle Ground V: The Fifth International Lawrence Durrell Conference at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. SIU houses the largest Durrell collection in the world, and David V. Koch, University Archivist, is planning a display of Durrell material and an exhibition catalogue.

HERALD Number 8

The next issue of the Herald (which appears regularly in October and March and appears irregularly from time to time) is scheduled for 15 October. Please send us news of your publications and talks concerning Durrell, of material you find relating to Durrell, of your experiences teaching Durrell. Remember that we are also interested in your non-Durrell activities—share your vacation adventures, research feats, etc.

The Society also welcomes criticism, proposals, and offers of help. Become an active member. Air your views through a "Letters to the Editors" column in the newsletter. We would like your participation.

Send contributions to Susan MacNiven

The deadline for material for the October number is 29 September.

PEOPLE, PLACES AND PUBLICATIONS

* In May a German television production crew descended upon LAWRENCE DURRELL in Sommières and made a film about him—his life, his family, and the characters in his books. On 10 June at the Society of Authors' (London) annual prize-giving night, Durrell was the winner of one of the three Cholmondeley awards for poetry, and

he was granted £1000. The other two recipients of this award were James Fenton (£1000) and Selima Hill (£500).

* Who says professors loaf during the summer! Besides running the Writing Lab at New Mexico Highlands University, GREG DICKSON has been teaching one course in Writing Skills for Native Americans and another in Word Processing. In the spring, Greg's "Starting a Writing Lab: An Argument for Haste" was the lead article in Purdue University's Writing Lab Newsletter, Vol. 10, No. 9 (May 1986).

* SUSAN and IAN MacNIVEN spent a week in May exploring the Caribbean islands of Nevis, St. Eustatius, Saba, and St. Barthélemy. On St. Bart's, Ian drove a Mini-Moke for the first time, and as they bounced over rough roads and rocky trails, Susan picked up a few bruises for souvenirs.

* CARLA and JIM NICHOLS have been touring Europe: London, Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris, Innsbruck, Florence, Rome, Athens, Madrid, etc. Jim wrote that he "jogged about Hyde Park and the Arch." How else would we expect Jim to do his sightseeing?

* ALFRED PERLES has recently translated into English The Lay of Love and Death of Cornet Christopher Rilke by Rainer Maria Rilke. Turret Books plans to publish this at the end of the year.

Susan S. MacNiven

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY

OR CONCERNING LAWRENCE DURRELL

* In May, Gallimard published Quinte ou La version landru. Quinx was translated into French by Paule Guivarch; this edition sells for 90 FF.

* In June the Faber paperback edition of Quinx appeared at £3.50. (Books published in Britain may be purchased from Bernard Stone, The Turret Book Shop, 42 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1N 3LJ.)

* Also in June, The Alexandria Quartet was reissued by Faber and Faber with a new dust jack-

et by David Gentleman that depicts the tower at 1 Sharia Mamoun in Alexandria where Durrell used to do his writing. The cloth edition is £14.95, and the paperback £5.95.

* Penguin Books (New York) issued a paperback edition of Sebastian or Ruling Passions in 1985 at \$5.95.

* The Lawrence Durrell Collected Poems, 1931-1974 edited by James A. Brigham and published with an original Henry Moore etching by Bernard Stone at The Turret Book Shop, London, in 1980 as Number 1 of the Therpewin Poetry Series has now been released for sale at £967. This edition is limited to 100 copies signed by the author and the artist. It has endpapers, in colors, designed by Henry Moore and dedicated to Lawrence Durrell; it is bound in full oasis goatskin by W. T. Morell of Covent Garden; and it is issued in a white art canvas slipcase.

* For those of you who also may have missed these: Pope Joan, translated and with a preface by Durrell, was reissued in 1984 by The Overlook Press (Woodstock, New York) for \$22.50 (cloth). The cover and dust wrapper are new, but this was printed from the same plates as the 1972 Overlook Press edition. Leete's Island Books (New Haven, Connecticut) reissued Spirit of Place, edited by Alan G. Thomas, in 1984. This paperback edition sells for \$8.95.

* Kathleen Hjerter's Doubly Gifted: The Author as Visual Artist (New York: Harry M. Abrams, 1986 with a Foreword by John Updike) has three paintings by Durrell and a quote from his poem "Orpheus."

* Durrell is included in London Magazine 1961-1985 (1986), an anthology garnered from twenty-five years of the magazine's publications. It sells for £10.95.

* A new translation into French of Richard Aldington's A Dream in the Luxembourg (1930) has been done by his daughter, Catherine Aldington. Lawrence Durrell wrote the Preface to this bilingual edition, Rêverie dans le Jardin du Luxembourg/A Dream in the Luxembourg, which was published in May by Éditions Actes Sud (Passage du Méjan, 43-47, rue du Docteur-Fanton, 13200 Arles, France) and sells for 85 FF. Part of the last paragraph of Durrell's Preface also serves as the blurb on the back cover of this lovely little book.

* The epigraph to The Ambassador by André Brink, one of the leaders of the anti-apartheid movement within Afrikaner literature, is Durrell's line: "Love is a form of metaphysical inquiry." This novel is reviewed by Fred Pfeil ("Sexual Healing," pp. 862-63) in The Nation of 21 June 1986 on the occasion of its first publication in the USA; it originally appeared as Die Ambassadeur in 1963 in South Africa, and it made its debut in English as File on a Diplomat in 1964 in Britain.

* As the epigraph to the first section of her book, The Island of the White Cow, Memories of an Irish Island (New York: Atheneum, 1986), Deborah Tall uses the passage from Durrell's Reflections on a Marine Venus that defines "islomania."

INTERVIEWS WITH LAWRENCE DURRELL

* In an interview with Charles E. Claffey, "Lawrence Durrell: British Author of the Exotic Is Still Dazzling the Critics" (The Boston Globe, 25 April 1986, pp. 11-12), Durrell talks about the ideas underlying the Quartet and the Quintet, contemporary authors, and writers who influenced him as a young man, and he mentions the tremendous reception he received at the fourth international Durrell conference.

* Speaking to Pascale Deschandel (in "Lawrence Durrell: 'Je suis usé comme un ruban de machine à écrire,'" Le Figaro Littéraire, 2 June 1986, p. 8) about his manner of living, his beginnings as a writer, jazz, Taoism, modern love, and old age, Durrell states that if he does not die this year, he will be obliged to write another book, one "sur un philosophe asiatique."

* In "Lawrence Durrell's Odyssey of the Mind: The Evolutionary Travels of the Author of 'The Alexandria Quartet'" (The Washington Post, 29 May 1986, pp. B1 and B4), Elizabeth Kastor combines an excellent summary of Durrell's life and work with a delightful interview. Two good photos of Durrell are included.

A condensed version of this article appeared in the week-end edition of the International Herald Tribune of 14-15 June as "Lawrence Durrell: A Chronicler of Locale Visits the Bronx."

* Writers he admires and those he dislikes, his wives, and the present state of the world are the main topics Durrell discusses with David Lida in the interview "Lawrence Durrell:

The Romantic Renegade" (W, 5-12 May 1986, p. 18). Durrell also refers to the Durrell conference to which "hundreds of his fans—collectors, academics, students, librarians—came for 'three days of sizzling creative play.'" There is a photo of Durrell with this too.

* In an interview with Cécile Wajsbrot, ("Lawrence Durrell: 'En français, je ne peux écrire que des lettres d'amour,'" Les Nouvelles Littéraires, April 1986, pp. 19-22), Durrell considers The Avignon Quintet, which he calls an intellectual autobiography, and says that his obsession is "to repair the short circuit between the East and the West." In this interview, Durrell also speaks about his trip to the USA: "'Je n'aime pas tellement les Etats-Unis, mais il s'est constitué là-bas une Lawrence Durrell Society pour me vénérer! Alors je vais les encourager un peu [il en parle d'un air malicieux, comme si tout cela n'était pas bien sérieux]. Le respect, c'est bien la première fois que cela m'arrive.'" Three excellent color photos of Durrell accompany this article.

* Lloyd Moss taped an interview with Durrell for the radio show This Is My Music. Discussion of Durrell's life and work alternate with the playing of his favorite music. This hour program was presented on 26 April on WQXR-FM (New York).

* P.-J. F. (in "Fin de quintette," Le Monde, 13 June 1986) is disappointed by Quinte and states that the perfection of The Alexandria Quartet has not been realized in The Avignon Quintet.

* In his review, "Les Tours de passe-passe d'un romancier magicien" (Le Figaro Littéraire, 2 June 1986, p. 8), Guy Le Clec'h compares Quinte to "Le Rubik's cube."

* In her column about happenings in New York City, "The Evening Hours" (The New York Times, 18 April 1986, p. A22), Carol Lawson describes Durrell's appearance at the Viking Penguin party held in his honor at the Gotham Book Mart.

* "Society of Authors' Literary Awards" in The Bookseller of 14 June 1986 informs us that Lawrence Durrell received one of the three Cholmondeley awards for poetry given by the Society of Authors on 10 June.

* SLIGHTLY SOILED (Another Boring Book Bi-Monthly Rag—ABBBMR) made its appearance in London in June. This first number contains a partial catalogue of books for sale, which lists Durrell's Deus Loci for £350.00. This magazine is available from Bernard Stone for £1.

We thank Catherine Aldington, Brewster Chamberlin, Jennifer Linton Leonard, Frances and Horst von Maltitz, Mary Mollo, Hugh Rogers, Anthea Morton-Saner, Carol Peirce, and Bernard Stone for contributing material for this issue of the newsletter.



*Mon mari a mis au point une machine
à lire Lawrence Durrell*

This old cartoon suggests the need for an update. The Herald invites its readers to submit designs for a Quincunxial Machine.