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STUDIES IN SCOTTISH LITERATURE

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STUDIES IN SCOTTISH LITERATURE

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EDITORIAL

The launching of any new journal is a precarious operation; when it is an unsubsidized scholarly journal the venture might well appear foolhardy. Not only is there the financial aspect of publication, but the very real problem of the availability of suitable material. If we have not yet solved the first of these problems, we have been greatly encouraged by the response of scholars in submitting articles.

Studies in Scottish Literature was founded with the idea of creating a common meeting ground for work embracing all aspects of the great Scottish literary heritage. It is not the organ of any school or faction; it welcomes all shades of opinion. It will publish articles on Scottish authors, including biographical studies or appreciations; or their influence on others; or trends in the literary history of Scotland, including aesthetics. As a journal devoted to a vigorous living literature it will carry studies of contemporary authors.

The question as to whether or not another scholarly journal is justified must find its answer in the future. The editorial board, those who have submitted articles, our advertising patrons and our subscribers obviously feel that it is. One thing is certain: considering the importance of Scottish literature there is not enough space available for publishing articles and notes on the subject.

A word about the future. It is planned to add reviews shortly in order to bring to the attention of our readers expert evaluations of recent Scottish literature. There will be reviews of critical works, biographies, poetry and fiction. At a later date it is hoped that an annual bibliography of Scottish literary studies can be added.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Nelson S. BUSHNELL: Robert Professor of English, Emeritus, at Williams College (Litt.D., Williams, 1959). In the 1930's his step-by-step reconstruction of Keats' tour of Galloway, the Western Isles and the Highlands introduced him to research in Scottish subjects; his latest publication in that field is *William Hamilton of Bangour, Poet and Jacobite*. At present Mr. Bushnell is examining the novels of Scott and of Susan Ferrier in the course of a study of the novel of manners.

Thomas CRAWFORD: Educated Dunfermline High School and University of Edinburgh; has lived in New Zealand since 1948, where he has worked in Adult Education, and as a Civil Servant and University teacher. At present Senior Lecturer in the Department of English Language and Literature at the University of Auckland. Author of *The Edinburgh Review and Romantic Poetry* (1955) and *Burns: A Study of the Poems and Songs* (1960). Was a Carnegie Senior Research Fellow in Edinburgh in 1960; at present preparing a general study of Scottish Popular Lyrics before Burns.

Francis R. HART: Assistant Professor of English at the University of Virginia, having received his degrees at Harvard and having taught previously at Harvard and Ohio State. He has published articles and reviews in *Victorian Newsletter*, *TLS*, *ELH* and *Studies in Bibliography*. His interest in Scottish literary traditions derive originally from the study of biographical theory and practice, 1790-1840, with special reference to Boswell, Scott, Lockhart and Carlyle. He is writing a book-length critical description and assessment of the Waverley Novels, and a series of essays on 20th century Scottish fiction.

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Tom SCOTT: Educated Hyndland Academy, Madras College, University of Edinburgh (M.A. with Honours in English Literature). Began publishing poems in 1941; published *Seven Poems of Maister Francis Villon: Made Oure intil Scots* (1953); *An Ode til New Jerusalem* (1956) and has in press (O.U.P.) *The Ship and Other Poems*. Presently taking a Ph.D. at Edinburgh University with a thesis on Dunbar's poems. Received an Atlantic Award in 1950 and travelled in France, Italy and Sicily during which time he became interested in Scots literature. Has had poems published in British magazines and in *Poetry* (Chicago) and broadcast over the B.B.C. Has written several book-length poems (unpublished), and has recently turned to the writing of satirical pamphlets.