

LOUIS M. STARR, director of the Oral History Research Office at Columbia University, died 2 March 1980, in Louisville, Kentucky, after having spoken at a dinner of the Kentucky Oral History Association. Dr. Starr, the first president of the national Oral History Association (1967–68), was born in New York in 1918, graduated from Yale University in 1940, and after a career in journalism received his doctorate from Columbia University. He joined the staff of Allan Nevins's oral history research office in 1953, and became director of the office when Nevins retired in 1956. Dr. Starr was book editor of the *Columbia Journalism Review* from 1961 to 1971, and was himself author of *Bohemian Brigade: Civil War Newsmen in Action*. He pioneered work in cataloging of oral history materials and was co-editor of *The Oral History Collection of Columbia University*, the fourth edition of which appeared in 1979. It was largely through the vision of Louis Starr, in cooperation with the *New York Times* and Microfilming Corporation of America that an ambitious project was launched to make oral history transcripts available to libraries on microfilm and microfiche, with an accompanying index. Dr. Starr's enthusiasm for oral history bordered on the evangelical, and he was tireless in speaking to those who sought to employ the technique, about its process and potential as a source of inestimable value for historians. Even after deteriorating health curbed his natural exuberance he continued to make himself available for speaking engagements and other chores in support of oral history, and seldom turned down an opportunity to help those wanting to know more about this new but ancient tool of the historian's trade.

WILLIAM W. MOSS, *Chief Archivist, John F. Kennedy Library*

CURTIS W. GARRISON, a founding member of the Society of American Archivists, died 21 November 1979. Although he had retired from government service in 1965, he had held a variety of part-time archival and historical positions in recent years and was an archivist-consultant at the time of his death.

Born in Chemung, New York, Dr. Garrison soon moved to Richmond, Virginia. He received a B.A. degree from the University of Richmond in 1923, followed in 1928 by a Ph.D. in history and economics from The Johns Hopkins University. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

He entered the archival profession in the fall of 1927 when he became "Assistant" in the Manuscripts Division of the Library of Congress, working under James Franklin Jameson, then the chief. His duties were varied because of the small staff of the division, but provided excellent training for his career.

In September 1933 the challenge of directing a state archives program attracted Dr. Garrison to Pennsylvania where he assumed the duties of state archivist. He later wrote that he had edited the "galley and page proof of the 8th and 9th series of *Pennsylvania Archives*," and begun the Pennsylvania Historical Records Survey, "the first of such projects in the U.S."

The Rutherford B. Hayes–Lucy Webb Hayes Foundation, of Fremont, Ohio, employed Dr. Garrison as director of research from 1937 until 1946 "to build up the library [and] administer . . . the small museum."

Returning to federal service in 1946, he held positions with various agencies over the next twenty years. He directed research for a history of the Corps of Engineers in World War II, carried out research and reference work for the Central Intelligence Agency, prepared a history of the U.S. Army Transportation Terminal Command, and was working on a history of the Army's Transportation Corps since World War II when he retired. He also embarked with his wife in what he called "an ill-fated restaurant business in Washington" for some eighteen months.

Retirement kept Dr. Garrison quite busy. He moved to Charlottesville, Virginia, and took a part-time position as information officer for the Virginia Highway Research Council, producing for it a bibliography of its writings and editing its annual report. The University of Virginia Library obtained Dr. Garrison's services as editor of a microfilm project of James Monroe's papers in Virginia repositories, and he later served as the first field archivist for the Manuscripts Department.

Moving to Oyster Bay, Long Island, and to another phase of his career—that of archival educator—he became adjunct associate professor of archives and manuscripts at C. W. Post College from 1972 until 1976, when he finally slowed his pace to that of an archivist-consultant.

Dr. Garrison maintained memberships in various professional organizations and in retirement remained an active member of SAA, often attending its annual meeting.

It was my privilege to work with Curtis Garrison when he came to the University of Virginia Library. I have enjoyed his friendship in the years that have passed. I shall miss this kind and gentle man very much.

EDMUND BERKELEY, JR., *University of Virginia Library*

As this issue went to press, the staff of the *American Archivist* learned, with deep regret, of the death on 28 May 1980 of JULIAN PARKS BOYD, founding member of the Society. A full account of his contributions to this and several other professions will be in the Fall issue.

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