

THE LAFF SOCIETY

For the men and women engaged in Life After the Ford Foundation

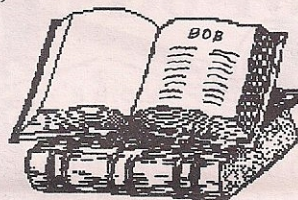
Spring 1995

No. 10

The LAFFing Parade

Robert B. Goldmann (National Affairs) (150 East 69th Street, NYC 10021) writes that he is still active on the European desk of the Anti-Defamation League "working mainly with Germany where I initiated a program against bigotry in four cities (Berlin, Bremen, Lübeck, and Rostock). My Foundation experience starting institutional development (the International Center for Ethnic Studies in Sri Lanka) came in handy!"

Bob's memoirs will soon be published in Germany by S. Fischer (send along a copy, Bob, so long as it isn't in German) and he also does occasional columns for the *International Herald Tribune* and *Frankfurter Allgemeine*.



Honoring Ed Meade

A notice from Harold Howe II of the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Michael D. Usdan of the Institute of Educational Leadership seeks support for establishment of an annual Harvard fellowship honoring the late **Edward J. Meade, Jr.** (Public Education and Urban Poverty, 1989), who died last May. "Ed is sorely missed, but we intend to sustain his legacy. Our goal is to create a fellowship in Ed's honor compatible with his values and abiding interest in developing leaders for education." The goal is \$30,000 to endow an annual fellowship for a doctoral student in educational policy/administration at Harvard. Contributions should be sent to Edward J. Meade, Jr. Fellowship, 3 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138-3624.

Allgemeine.

Terrance Keenan (Office of Reports) has been awarded the first leadership award in health philanthropy, established by Grantmakers in Health. In addition, the award was renamed The Terrance Keenan Leadership Award in his honor. After leaving the Foundation in the early 1960s, he joined the Commonwealth Fund, and in 1972 the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, where he was a vice president before retiring.

Hugh T. Murphy, vice president for finance, administration, and development at the Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development (Petit Jean Mountain, Route 3, Box 376 Morrilton, ARK 72110-9537), writes that he enjoys reading LAFF and sends

(cont. on p. 4)

New Sec-Treas

The masthead is graced by a new name, **Mary Camper-Titsingh** who takes over as LAFF secretary-treasurer from **Esther Roditti**. Ms. C-T has been to Europe annually since retiring as investment research librarian in 1989. Her latest venture is an Elder Hostel Service Program that will take her to Poland this spring to teach English. LAFF correspondence should be addressed to her at 531 Main Street, Apt. 1110, Roosevelt Island, NY 10044.

LAFF is grateful to Ms. Roditti for keeping us honest. She notes that we are in very good financial shape with a bank balance of more than \$2,000. We still can't figure out what to do with a smallish surplus (our only regular expense is publishing and mailing this samizdat). Suggestions are welcome.

Ms. Roditti (954 Lexington Avenue, Suite 163, NYC 10021) is busily engaged in the practice of computer law, having counseled U. S., British, Israeli, and French software and professional service companies and written treatises on negotiating computer contracts. Her latest book is *Hiring and Firing Knowledge Workers*--the latter a rather widespread practice these days.

The LAFF Society

c/o Mary Camper-Titsing
531 Main St., Apt. 1110
Roosevelt Island, NY 10044

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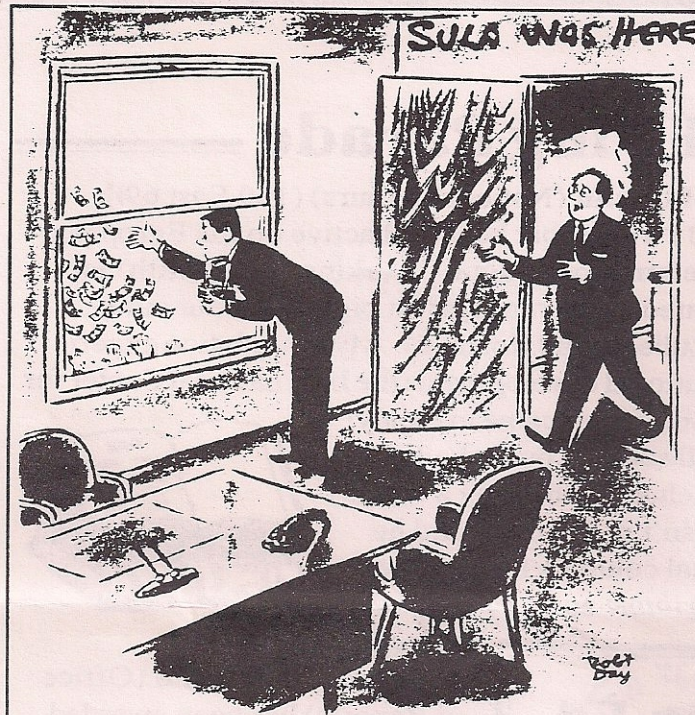
Editor, Robert Tolles
Graphic Designer, Ruth Neumann

Many Talented Consultant

A flyer has been received from **Gail Spangenberg** announcing her setting up shop as Spangenberg Learning Resources, 440 East 23rd Street, Ste 11C, NYC 10010, phone and fax 212 677-8656. Ms. Spangenberg was a member of the Foundation's program staff from 1965-81, working in the areas of educational technology, nontraditional education, adult literacy, and urban higher education. Most recently she was vice president and operating head of the Business Council for Effective Literacy. She has consulted for the Russell Sage Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation, and the Educational Facilities Laboratory, and served as study director for the task force study (chaired by Frank Keppel) that examined the New York State's external degree and college proficiency examination programs.

The Purloined Cartoon?

Ursula Kreutzer and Ruth Neumann, both Office of Reports alumnae (Mrs. Neumann does the make-up on this sheet, including the cute illustrations, on her new rocket-powered computer), pass



"Just a minute, young man. That's not quite the way we do things here at the Ford Foundation."

To My fellow trustees with warm and high regard - maybe this fellow has a better idea!

Kenny Larkin

December 1977

© 1962 The New Yorker Magazine, Inc.

Henry Ford's handwritten message is on this New Yorker cartoon by Robert Doty.

York Times article that had been sent to her by a friend when she joined the Foundation. She notes in passing that she is recovering from an eye operation.

It's Ready

The long awaited directory of LAFF Society members has come off the press and is available at \$6.50 a copy. Send checks to LAFF, c/o **Mary Camper-Titsing** at 531 Main St. Apt. 1110, Roosevelt Island NY 10044

on a little extra knowledge about the framed original Robert Day *New Yorker* cartoon (reproduced here) that was signed and presented to the Board of Trustees by Henry Ford. After hanging for a few days near the elevators, it disappeared, later showing up on a wall in the Office of Reports. Ruth says the Foundation owned about a half dozen such original cartoons. The reproduction is courtesy of Ms. Kreutzer (a/k/a Sula) who had kept a copy of it from a *New*

New LAFF Member?

The LAFF Society extends a warm welcome to Franklin A. Thomas who, having announced

“

I care deeply about the issues. . .

”

his retirement as Ford Foundation president effective in early 1996, becomes eligible for membership.

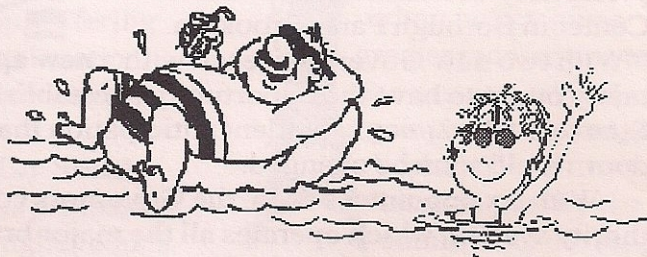
According to the Foundation's press release, Mr. Thomas will continue to work on South African and urban policy issues. Noting that the Ford Foundation has been an important connection in his life for 30 years, he said "I care deeply about the issues on which the Foundation works and in my new capacity will devote much of my time to them in the future."

Mr. Thomas became president of the Foundation in 1979, having been a member of the Board of Trustees since 1977. Previously he was president of the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation in New York.

The Board of Trustees named as his successor **Susan Vail Berresford**, also a native New Yorker, who joined the Foundation in 1970 as a project assistant in National Affairs (and was known in those days as one half of the team of Schrank-and-Stein). She was named a vice president for U. S.

and International Affairs Programs by Mr. Thomas in 1981, and then vice president in charge of worldwide programming in 1989.

The LAFF Society extends its best wishes to Frank and Susan as they take on their important new assignments.



More on 'What Do You Do?'

Bob Schrank's piece "On Doing Nothing" two issues ago brings a missive from **Mel Fox**, now living in retirement at 122 Channing Lane, Chapel Hill, NC 27516 ("in this retirement community residents typically don't ask 'what do you do,' they ask 'what *did* you do?") He recalls that "in the course of a visit to Princeton in 1941 to see my fiancée (whose father was a member of the Institute for Advanced Studies) a meeting was arranged with Professor Albert Einstein at his home on Mercer Street. After greeting me warmly with a disarmingly friendly handshake, Einstein asked 'what do you do,' while tapping his finger to his forehead.

"That question is hard enough to answer honestly in general terms without the awkward spin Einstein put on it. I'm an economist, I said, somewhat tentatively. 'Ah, but what do you do?' again tapping his forehead. 'I am a junior economist at the War Production Board,' I responded, 'but I really function as a statistical clerk moving numbers from column to column.' Surprisingly, that led to a relaxed chat for about an hour. I didn't dare ask Einstein what he did, besides winning the Nobel Prize, although at the time his intellectual connection with the atom bomb was not known."

Mel enclosed a picture taken about a decade ago after he returned from a consulting trip to Nigeria. "The cane was a 70th birthday present from Moses Awaniyi who had been my driver during my second tour in Lagos and for my consultancy. The most impressive part of the presentation ceremony was the instruction and demonstration Moses gave me of how to stride with my cane through my 'village' with an air suitable for a respected elder."

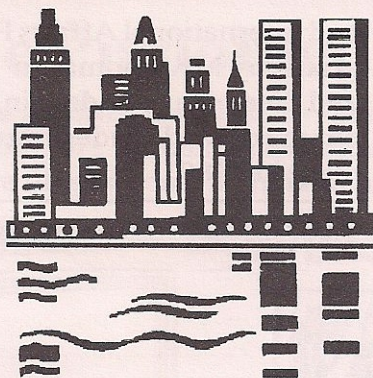
Mel enclosed a dues check, noting "I want to ensure that the periodic newsletter keeps coming."

A Graceful Exit

Stan Brezenoff (National Affairs) switched desks after the fall's blow-out election, stepping down as executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to take over the presidency of Maimonides Medical Center in Borough Park, Brooklyn.

"With two new Governors, each with a new approach, they certainly ought to have the opportunity to establish their priorities," Stan told *The Times* in evident anticipation that the lock on his door would soon be changed.

With six appointees each, the Governors control the Port Authority system, which operates all the major bridges and tunnels between New York and New Jersey, the region's three airports, and other facilities. Said *The Times*: "The tenure of Mr. Brezenoff, who is 57, will most likely be remembered best because of the terrorist bombing of the World Trade Center in 1993, which required Mr. Brezenoff to lead a complex and sweeping campaign to repair the center's twin towers, to calm public fears, and to persuade tenants to remain in the complex, as almost all of them had." Prior to his Port Authority job, Stan held a series of senior positions in the Koch administration, including first deputy mayor.



Wellesley reunion. She notes: "The driver of the Ford was proud of his car and its performance after 68 years but his passengers are still ticking along after some 90 plus years."

The LAFF roster continues to grow. **Lin Ryan** (249-36 51st Avenue, Little Neck, NY 11362) retired from the Foundation on January 31 after 31 years spent in Payroll, Personnel, and Information Services; **Ivo Lederer** (European and International Affairs), currently director of the Global Business Policy Council, A. T. Kearney, Inc., 132 E. 53 Street, NYC 10022; **Gustav Ranis**, formerly with the Foundation in Pakistan and now Frank Altschul Professor in International Economics at Yale (Economic Growth Center, Yale, 27 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven, CT 06520); **Richard Ruggles**,



formerly an in-house consultant with Economic Development and

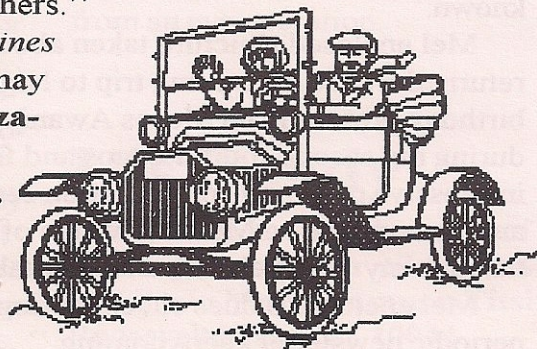
Administration in the early 1960s and now professor emeritus of economics at Yale (100 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511); **Kathleen A. Reynolds** (545 East 14th Street, NYC 10009), who was senior staff assistant in Public Education when she left the Foundation in 1976 and is now director of special projects of the Commission on Human Rights in New York; and **Ralph Schwarz** (30 West Market Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018)

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in his dues to keep it going. "I was with the Foundation from 1969 through 1974, first as assistant to the representative in Pakistan and then assistant representative in the Philippines. After that, I was with the International Rice Research Institute for a little more than 10 years. Now, I've been at Winrock International for the last 10 years. I've been fortunate in meeting with many former Foundation people, such as **Lowell Hardin**, **Bob Havener**, the first president of Winrock International, **David Nygaard**, **Bill Gormbley**, and many others."

Viewers of PBS's *Frontlines* show on "Hillary's Class" may have caught a glimpse of **Elizabeth Paschal** (569 Patricia Lane, Palo Alto, CA 94303), at age 93 LAFF's most senior member, riding in a 1926 Ford and waving a red pompon at her 70th



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currently a consultant for Bethlehem Steel who was the Foundation's staff person overseeing the construction of the building on 43rd Street.

Schwarz also had a role in the Fund for Area Planning, which did the initial planning to develop the area opposite UN headquarters and just around the corner from the Foundation. The Fund later was absorbed by the United Nations Development Corporation, set up by the state of New York and given authority to issue bonds to build office space for UN member agencies. The Foundation supported much of this early planning work, including turning over at cost to UNDC property it had acquired in the area. The latest wrinkle in this story is Mayor Giuliani's attempt to sell the city-owned property under the UNDC buildings to private

interests to help close the city's gaping budget gap.

Incidental intelligence: There's a LAFF organization operating in Princeton, NJ, according to a notice in the *Princeton Packet* sent by **John Doran** (Audit). This one is known as Life After 45, and is devoted to workshops offering "a unique blend of relaxation techniques, gentle exercises, dance and fun."

Josh (Joshua L.) Smith (Public Education) is professor and director of the higher education program at New York University. He is developing a new program in urban community leadership.

Mitchell Sviridoff (National Affairs) has a long piece in a recent issue of *The Public Interest* in which he argues that neither the massive social re-engineering advocated by doc-

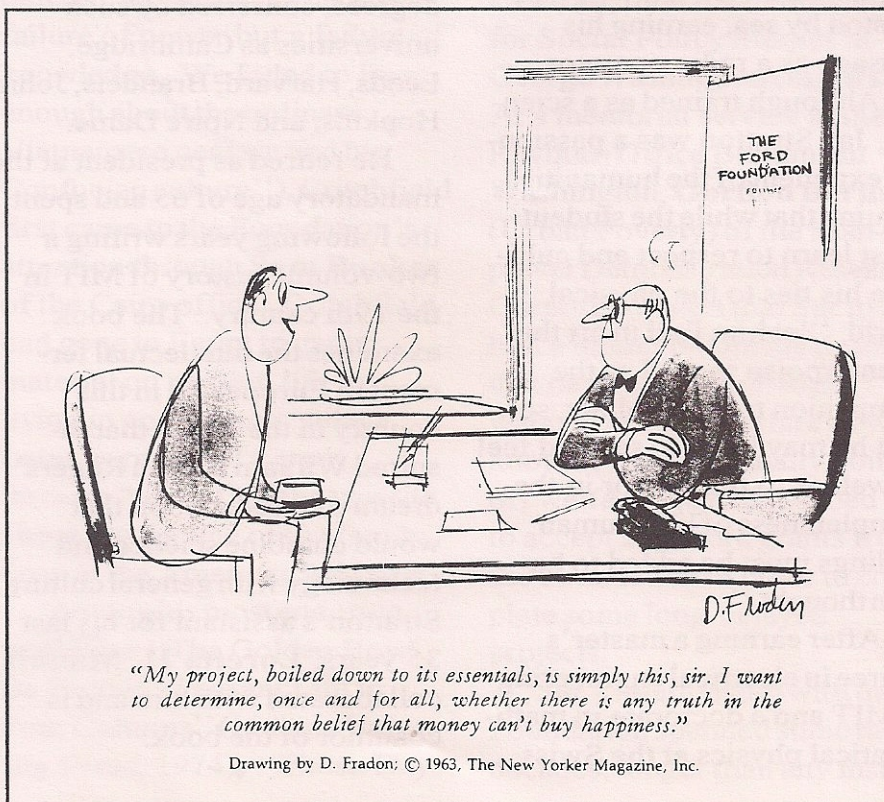
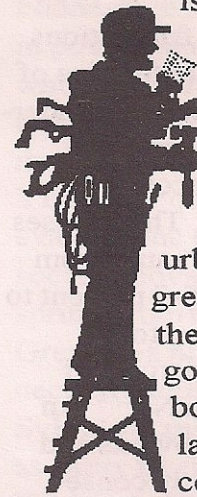
trinal liberals or the do-nothing stance of doctrinal conservatives

is an appropriate response to the country's worsening urban condition. He calls for an in-between approach in which urban policy gives greater recognition to the nascent revival going on at the neighborhood level stimulated in part by the community develop-

ment movement. "The rationale for [government] aid would be immeasurably strengthened, and the efficacy of aid heightened, if an appropriate portion of it were targeted on CDCs and other zones of emergence."

Members of the Ford Foundation family in New Delhi from 1963-70 were **R. Lyle Webster** (90 years old) and his wife **Edith** (81), now living at 1434 Punahou St., Apt. 1207, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822. Mrs. Webster notes that she did some reporting for CBS during their time in India and that their daughter, who came to visit them in New Delhi in 1964, stayed and married a young Ford Foundation assistant named **Robert Repetto**, now a Harvard PhD with the World Resources Institute. They have a granddaughter born in Holy Family Hospital, New Delhi, in 1966. "You can see that the Ford Foundation greatly affected our lives."

Another regular contributor to *The Public Interest* is **Louis**



Winnick, senior consultant at the Fund for the City of New York, who in the Winter 1995 issue writes of the frustrations of trying to estimate the size of

America's underground economy.



The guesses range from 6-7 percent to up to 20 percent of GNP. "An obvious and costly conse-

quence of the underground economy is a substantial loss of revenue to the public. An equally serious, if less obvious, problem is the impaired reliability of every statistical database derived from self-declared income"--from the degree of inequality in income distribution, to the incidence of unemployment, to the relative tax burdens borne by the self-defined rich, poor, and middle class.

In Memoriam

Julius Adams Stratton, 11th president of MIT and chairman of the board of the Ford Foundation from 1966 to '71, died on June 22, 1994 at the age of 93.

Jay Stratton had an almost unbroken connection with MIT, beginning in the fall of 1920 when he enrolled as a student in electrical engineering. According to a long account of his life

in the October 1994 issue of the *MIT Technology Review* (forwarded by **Nancy K. Zimmerman**), his coming to MIT was an accident. Too young at 16 to enlist during World War I, he enrolled in a night course at the YMCA near his home in Seattle to become a radio operator. After qualifying as a commercial radio operator, he was posted aboard the Western Glen, carrying steel rails for the Manchurian railroad to Dairen via Kobe and Osaka. The ship was to have brought him back in time to enroll as a freshman at Stanford but first a typhoon and then an explosion in the engine room delayed its return. He enrolled instead at the University of Washington, later transferring to MIT when a fellow student suggested it was the best place to study electrical engineering. He traveled to Boston by sea, earning his passage as a radio operator.

Although trained as a scientist, Jay Stratton was a passionate exponent of the humanities, arguing that while the student must learn to respect and cultivate his ties to the physical world, "let him find in art the counterpoise as well as the companion to the intellect, so that he may learn to see and feel as well as to think. For in the completeness of life, human feelings must be added to human thought."

After earning a master's degree in electrical engineering at MIT and a doctorate in mathematical physics at the Swiss

Federal Institute of Technology, he returned to MIT as assistant professor of electrical engineering. Much of his research at that time concerned the propagation of short waves, foreshadowing later developments in radar and post-war electronics. He moved up through the professorial ranks, becoming provost in 1949, acting president in 1957 when President James R. Killian became science advisor to President Eisenhower, and president in 1959.

In 1967 he was named by President Johnson to chair the Commission on Marine Science, Engineering and Resources whose landmark report, "Our Nation and the Sea," resulted in the formation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. He also was the recipient of 17 honorary degrees, conferred by such universities as Cambridge, Leeds, Harvard, Brandeis, Johns Hopkins, and Notre Dame.

He retired as president at the mandatory age of 65 and spent the following years writing a two-volume history of MIT in the 19th century. The book examines the intellectual ferment in Europe and in this country in the 1850s that inspired William Barton Rogers' dream of an education that would combine science and technology with general culture. Stratton's assistant for his last 35 years, **Loretta H. Mannix**, collaborated with him and is coauthor of the book.



LAFF

notes with
sorrow the
passing of

Richard Patrick Critchfield in December at age 63 in Berkeley, CA, after suffering a stroke in Washington where he had gone to attend a publication party for his latest book, "Villagers." Dick was not a FF staffer, but a close colleague, especially to those on the international side, as a result of his work writing about peasant life and culture in Indonesia, India, Egypt, Iran, Mexico, and other countries. Both Ford and Rockefeller supported him over a number of years in his self-assigned task of chronicling the great agricultural revolution set in motion by the spread of Western scientific agriculture.

A former Vietnam War correspondent ("The U. S. defeat," he wrote, "was not a failure of power but a failure of knowledge. We failed to learn enough about the ordinary Vietnamese peasant and his Confucian culture"), Critchfield first came to the Foundation's attention through **Sam Bunker** of the Cairo office. Critchfield had gone to Egypt to gather material on peasant life by living in an Egyptian village. Later he received a grant through **Norm Collins** to write about the decline of the family farm in the American Midwest.

Among his most enduring works are "The Golden Bowl Be Broken: Peasant Life in Four Cultures" (Indiana University Press, 1974), "Those Days:

An American Album" (Doubleday, 1986), in which he wrote about several generations of his own family while on a MacArthur Fellowship, and "An American Looks at Britain" (Doubleday, 1990), an expansion of an article he wrote for the London *Economist* on how postindustrial technology was working its way through British society. His last work "Villagers: Changed Values, Altered Lives: The Closing of the Urban-Rural Gap" was published by Doubleday last fall. The Foundation's archives bulge with Critchfield material, which someone may want to mine someday.

LAFF

also regrets
the passing
on May 24,

1994 of another friend, **Sar Levitan**, director of the Center for Social Policy Studies at George Washington University. At a memorial service at the Rayburn Office Building in Washington, **Gordon Berlin** (Urban Poverty) of the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation said that Sar told him a month before his death that because the President wanted "to end welfare as we know it," he was finally going off welfare. He had decided not to accept any more grants from the Foundation in order to complete some long-delayed projects.

Sar's relationship with the Foundation spanned some three decades, longer than any institu-

tion or individual, said Gordon in his remarks. It began with the Foundation's emerging interest in poverty and its alleviation when **Victor Fuchs** asked Sar to evaluate the Area Redevelopment Act. Later **Paul Ylvisaker** commissioned him to evaluate the Great Society social innovations that had sprung from the Foundation's Grey Area program. The connection continued under **Mike Sviridoff** and such luminaries as **Stan Brezenoff**, **Basil Whiting**, **Bob Schrank**, **Lou Winnick**, **Susan Berresford**, and **Bill Grinker**. Still later, under **Frank Thomas** and **Susan Berresford**, he continued to inform the Foundation program decisions. "Sar could be at the same time the strongest and most vociferous critic of social programs and their staunchest supporter," all without animosity, said Gordon. "The central message of his many books was 'Keep the faith' - in government's ability to deliver on its promises, and in people's ability to use those programs to improve their condition."

Write!

This newsletter is a two-way street. One way is to read it. The other is to write us something-- news about your own activities, or reminiscences, or whatever else you want to ventilate (within the usual bounds).

If we don't hear more, and from more people, we will run dry.

Send material to LAFF, c/o Mary Camper-Titsingh, 531 Main St., Apt. 1110, Roosevelt Island, NY 10044. Thanks. --the Editor