



OCT. 14

*John S. Tuckey*, Frederick L. Hovde  
Distinguished Professor of English,  
Purdue University

### Mark Twain: The Youth Who Lived on in the Sage

"Mark Twain's later writings reflect his involvement in the process of aging and the quest for fulfillment. (In them we encounter) characters who combine the perspectives and experiential resources of old age with the outlook and the creative elan of youth . . . (as well as) patterns of symbolic transformation and regeneration."

Professor Tuckey is an award winning teacher as well as the recipient of Mark Twain research grants from the Purdue Research Foundation, the American Philosophical Society, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Among his principal publications is *The Devil's Race-Track: Mark Twain's Great Dark Writings*. Professor Tuckey is currently editing the still unpublished literary manuscripts of Mark Twain for the Mark Twain Papers Series of the University of California Press.

SEPT. 16

*Hamelin Hill*, Professor of English and American Studies, University of New Mexico

### The Many Faces of Mark Twain

"Mark Twain, we sometimes forget, was the greatest invention of Samuel Clemens — a fictional creature with many different guises and disguises. Among the most memorable masks are those of the clown, the Westerner, the cracker-barrel philosopher, and the cynic; each of these 'faces' projects a fictional stance and, at the same time, a part of the essential character of Mark Twain."

Professor Hill served in 1984-85 as the American Studies Scholar in Residence of the United States Information Agency. A former Fulbright Lecturer, he is currently Chairman of the Senior American Literature Fulbright Selection Committee. He is a member of the editorial boards of three journals and a past recipient of special awards from the American Humor Studies Association and the American Council of Learned Societies. Professor Hill has edited a number of Twain's works and has authored numerous books including *Mark Twain: God's Fool*.



OCT. 28

*Henry Nash Smith*, Professor of English, Emeritus, University of California at Berkeley

### How True Are Dreams? Fantasy as Refuge or Nightmare in Mark Twain's Later Work

"In Mark Twain's later writing, his preoccupation with dreaming expressed the same impulse to free himself from the constraints of civilization that had led him to use vernacular language in *Huckleberry Finn* as an alternative to the rhetoric of high culture. Just as Huck felt free and easy on the raft with Jim, in dreams a protagonist could enjoy a world without blemish. But Huck could discover no durable values to replace those of St. Petersburg, and the rose-tinted dreams ended either in a surrender to conventional society or the nightmare of being alone in an empty universe — a foreshadowing of the theme of 'absence' in twentieth-century literature."

Professor Smith is the dean both of American Studies and Mark Twain scholarship. A former Fulbright Lecturer, he is a past president of the Modern Languages Association and the recipient of numerous grants, prizes, and awards, including the Bancroft Prize in American History. Professor Smith is the editor of the Twain-Howells letters and the author, among other works, of *Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth* and *Mark Twain: The Development of a Writer*.



NOV. 11

*Leo Marx*, William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor of American Cultural History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

### Mark Twain, 'Classic' American Literature, and the Belief in Progress

"Although Mark Twain did his best to dissociate himself from the 'romantic' pastoralists of Emerson and Thoreau's time, his work displays many close affinities with theirs. As he became a more serious writer, for example, he developed a more skeptical view of the prevailing American belief in technological 'progress' and . . . his work took on several features of the 'pastoral' reaction to industrialization which characterized the work of other 'classic' American writers who came before and after him."

Professor Marx is a past president of the American Studies Association and currently serves as the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Council of Learned Societies. He is a former Guggenheim and Rockefeller Fellow, Fulbright Lecturer, and Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar. An author of numerous essays and reviews, he has also edited works by Hawthorne, Melville, Thoreau, Whitman, and Twain. Professor Marx' own chief work is *The Machine in the Garden: Technology and the Pastoral Ideal in America*.

## ABOUT AMERICAN STUDIES AT ELMIRA COLLEGE

On December 31, 1982, Elmira College acquired the gift of Quarry Farm, the near-by home of the Langdon family into which Samuel Clemens married and the site where he did his most productive writing over the course of twenty summers. The subsequent development of the Center for Mark Twain Studies at Quarry Farm has been accompanied by an expansion of the College's American Studies program.

A sequence of new courses is being inaugurated this year which will explore those definitive and recurring tensions in American culture and character which continue to enliven our national and grass-roots life as much in our own time of de-industrializing transition as they did in Twain's time of great industrializing transformation. Now, as then, we as a people celebrate the virtues of living close to nature while our love of technology propels us into an unknown future. Now, as then, we sing our American song of individualism with a passion for conformity.

The current Distinguished Academic Visitors series is one example of how the College's Twain legacy provides our students with a rich array of special opportunities to explore these and other paradoxes and problems attending the promise of American life. In addition to giving the public talk noted above, each Distinguished Visitor will also visit an American Studies class and meet informally with interested students and faculty.

For additional information about American Studies at Elmira College, write The Director, American Studies, Elmira College, Elmira, N.Y. 14901.

SEPT. 23

*James Cox*, Avalon Professor of the Humanities, Dartmouth College

### Mark Twain: The Outlaw in Literature

"My talk — and it will be a talk — will focus on Mark Twain's progress from being a real outlaw (a traitor and a deserter) . . . to his invention of a boy outlaw, a true fugitive, writing through a deviant language . . . to break the laws of literature . . . I will try to show how Mark Twain envisions . . . slavery as the very metaphor for civilization . . . and (how) the lie was his great means of shielding himself, his audience, and the world from the violence of civilized truth."

Professor Cox is a former Guggenheim Fellow and recipient of the Danforth Foundation's Harbinson Award for Distinguished Teaching. He serves as an editor and frequent contributor to many journals. He is also the editor of Penguin Books recently published *Life on the Mississippi* by Mark Twain. Professor Cox' principal work is *Mark Twain: The Fate of Humor*.

# THE TROUBLE BEGINS AT 8

*A series of Public Lectures in Celebration of Mark Twain's One Hundred Fiftieth Birthday*

All Talks begin promptly at 8 p.m. in the Emerson Auditorium of Elmira College