the principle of the right to credit should receive recognition, even if there were evidence of some conflict between that right and the needs of publishers.

In the present state of the common-law literary property and of statutory copyright, it is quite clear that authors do not have the right to require that their names be published in connection with their writings. In those cases in which a contract is involved—which is not normally the case in any formal sense when contributions are sent to scholarly periodicals—the contract can protect this right. When no formal contract is involved, the author appears to have no recourse, under the present state of the law, if his article is published without his name.

The right to credit is important, and if revision of our literary property laws to meet twentieth-century conditions is ever undertaken, this right should receive serious consideration.

Reference

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The Hall of Fame

Bertha L. Lyons, *Curator*
Hall of Fame, New York University

JOSIAH WILLARD GIBBS, a physicist and one of America's outstanding scientists, has just been honored by election to the Hall of Fame, and honored by a majority of lay persons, in no way connected with science. We say by a majority of lay persons, because the Electoral College of the Hall of Fame includes only nine scientists out of the total of 113 distinguished men and women from every walk of life who cast ballots in the election of 1950. In this election a majority vote was the requisite for inclusion in the Hall, and Gibbs received 64 votes. The votes recorded for the other candidates chosen were as follows:

William Crawford Gorgas	81 votes
Woodrow Wilson	77 "
Susan B. Anthony	72 "
Alexander Graham Bell	70 "
Theodore Roosevelt	70 "

The origins of the Hall of Fame are closely allied with the growth and development of New York University, which had bought a tract of land in the Bronx, now known as University Heights, for the establishment of an uptown campus. In 1896 the Gould Memorial Library, the Hall of Philosophy, and the Hall of Languages were planned. When the drawings for these buildings were submitted to the University Council, an architectural relief and foreground were suggested, which subsequently took the shape of the Colonnade, which now half encircles the three original buildings. This was a costly bit of architecture to a university not heavily endowed; hence Henry Mitchell MacCracken, then chancellor, had to make it functional, and this he did by making it an American citadel of fame. He immediately enlisted the interest of Helen Gould (later Mrs. Finley J. Shepard), and through her generosity the Hall of Fame was built; it was officially dedicated in 1901. It is not alone a monument to the architect, Stanford White, but it is today a national institution, for the cultivation of our traditions in a time when they are being attacked from within and without, by exalting those who founded or sustained our nation.

"Every American is a shareholder in the Hall of Fame" literally and figuratively, for, in the elections, any American citizen may propose the name of a man or woman who was a citizen of the United States, and who has been deceased twenty-five years or more. Nominations are called for on April 1 preceding an election year, and close on April 1 of the election year. Elections are held every five years.

New York University, through its senate, administers the affairs of the Hall of Fame, but only in the capacity of trustee for the nation. No one connected with the university has a voice in the elections, the choices being entirely in the hands of the Electoral College, which is made up of eminent men and women, from every state in the union and from every field of endeavor, who give their services to the university. The electors are permanent choices, made by Ralph W. Sockman, director of the Hall of Fame, and ratified by the University Senate. Since the elections take place only at five-year intervals, the Electoral College is constantly being reinforced by new members to replace those electors who pass away or who find it necessary to resign.

The nation really owes a vote of thanks to the men and women who, through the years, have served as electors, for their appraisal of the nation's great. We are constantly being asked by the public, "What is an elector's yardstick of fame or greatness?" At first blush, this would seem to be a fairly simple question, but when one sees some of the names hopefully submitted by the public for inclusion in the Colonnade, one wonders! A former elector, Henry van Dyke, once briefly defined fame as ". . . a durable good renown, earned by service, approved by the wise, and applauded by the common voice. . . ." Dr. van Dyke added, "The electors are not chosen to confer

fame, but only to recognize it. For this they have need of observation, judgment, patience, and an open mind."

In studying the votes of the more recent elections, and particularly those cast for Gibbs through the years, it is interesting to note that he received but nine votes in 1920, the first time his name was submitted. Again, in 1935, he received 55 votes, but in 1945 the number dropped to 36. Several other candidates, like Gibbs, men of great distinction, have had comparable fluctuations in the votes by the electors through the years. As with actors on the legitimate stage and on the radio, the difficulty lies in the somewhat ephemeral character of even a great reputation. The progress of one generation sometimes obscures or outdates the achievements of a former one—a consideration that does not hold as frequently in the case of authorship or of art, where the record is more obviously and permanently made. Certainly a scientist like Gibbs, or a physician like Beaumont or McDowell, has made his record, and is it not logical to expect an organization such as the American Medical Association or some other scientific body to herald the achievements of those within its own ranks? In these days of expanded public relations and noteworthy inventions, we are under obligation to many persons for devices of large usefulness, but where the scientist or the inventor happens to be a very modest individual, as in the case of Gibbs, his work is often obscure, especially to laymen.

In the past twenty years, the public has become quite vocal in the elections, and organized groups have enthusiastically endorsed their particular candidates. The electors of the Hall of Fame are performing a national duty, and in view of this, the university has had no hesitancy in making known to the public the names and addresses of the men and women serving as electors. Many expressions of opinion concerning candidates have been sent to the electors in recent years by individuals throughout the country. What effect these have had upon the electors, those who administer the elections of course have no means of knowing. An interesting case in point, however, was the candidacy of Thomas Paine in 1945. Through the years, Paine received the following votes: In 1920, when he was first considered, 32 votes; in 1925 his name was not on the ballot. In 1930, he was again proposed, and received 36 votes; in 1935 his popularity diminished to the point of only 15 votes; in 1940 he received 50 votes, and in 1945, the year of his election, he received 51. In 1945, while his name was being considered, a well-financed campaign was organized for his election, the details of which may be obtained by referring to a volume entitled *Public Relations in Action,* by Philip Lesly. Every device of press and radio was employed, but despite all this propaganda, he received only *one* vote more than he received in 1940. It might also be pointed out that early in 1945, before the electors voted, the three-fifths vote that was mandatory for a number of years, was changed by the senate to a majority. Had it not been for this change in the ruling, Thomas Paine, along with Walter Reed and Sidney Lanier, would not have been elected that year. These facts are mentioned to illustrate how the electors are affected by propaganda.

The university has never attempted to influence in any way the opinions of the respective electors—our position being strictly neutral. The public seems to feel, however, that the electors should be apprised of the merits of a particular candidate, and, since we are a national institution, we feel that all citizens must have an opportunity to be heard. Like a good jury, the electors of the Hall of Fame have consistently performed a difficult role judiciously. They must be of the opinion of Dr. van Dyke, who concluded his address on "Fame" with these words: "May no names be written on these walls [The Hall of Fame] except those that are lovely and of good report—names of men and women who have served humanity in their day and generation and deserved well of the Republic."

Technical Papers

A Simplified Silver Impregnation Method for Vaginal Smears[1]

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The vaginal smear method for the diagnosis of carcinoma of the uterus was introduced by Papanicolaou and Traut in 1943 (*1*). Since that time many published reports (*2*) indicate the usefulness of this method as an aid in the detection of uterine cancer. The almost universal adoption of the stains and method so carefully developed by Papanicolaou (*3*) has undoubtedly resulted from the desire of most workers to apply the originally described diagnostic criteria for malignancy. This adherence to the original staining method has permitted a standardization of technique and facilitated teaching of the cytological method, but it has tended to discourage the application of other histological methods.

Recognizing that the most important cytological criteria for malignancy were based upon nuclear characteristics, the authors concentrated their efforts upon the development of a technique that would readily expose the chromatin elements of the nucleus. A pre-

[1] This study has been supported by a grant from the Faculty Research Fund, University of Michigan.