February 1992

Letters to the Editor

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain

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Letters

Dear Katina:

Jim Deffenbaugh's presentation at the Charleston Conference had an amusing feature — the narrow focus of academic writing imposed by the pressures of gaining a PhD and eventual tenure. His mention of *Family Farming in Eastern Finland* reminded me of cherished titles I often cite in lectures in scholarly publishing to both university and publisher audiences. My favorites include *Innocent Ecstasy: How Christianity Gave America an Ethic of Sexual Pleasure* (Oxford); *The History and Social Significance of the Potato* (Cambridge); *The Silver Bullet: The Martini in American Civilization* (Greenwood Press), and perhaps the most micro-focused I've seen, 350 pages on *The Synchrony and Diachrony of the Balkan Infinitive* (Cambridge).

I'd love to hear similar waco-sounding titles from the readers of *ATG*.

Mark Sexton
Mark Sexton Associates
152 Corlies Ave.
Pelham, NY 10803

Update on Lyman (2/19/92)

The weather got warm and so, with characteristic never-say-dieness Lyman has called in the Western New York Rescue Team to move his frozen rare books to Buffalo, NY to a freezer so that they can be preserved until he can deal with them. He rented a truck and has all sorts of college types helping. AMAZING. Here is Lyman's address:

Lyman Newlin
(Book Trade Counsellor)
P.O. Box 278
Lewiston, NY 14092

From Your Editor

With 1992, *Against the Grain* has taken on a slightly different look. We have organized ourselves into sections.

And we have some new editors: **Glen Secor** from Yankee Book Peddler and newly out of law school has agreed to give us a continuing legal perspective. **Corrie Marsh** writes us from NOTISland in Chicago to say that she loves her new job. In the meantime, **Judy Webster** has joined *ATG* to write the Issues in Vendor-Library Relations column with **Barry Fast**. Our brand new fantastic Associate Editors include **Rosann Bazirjian** (Syracuse University) and **Mike Markwith** (Faxon).

And in 1992 we have begun a library "bestseller" type column. If bookstores can do it, so can we! This column will include information about most circulated titles from specific libraries, vendors, and publishers. **Julie Gammon** has agreed to be our editor

for the bestseller column. **Barry Fast** has also agreed to be book review editor of *Against the Grain*.

Last but not least, we are attempting to get an international flavor to *ATG* by including more information on what's going on abroad. **Fred Lynden** has agreed to be our international editor and this issue of *ATG* includes a contribution from **Liz Chapman** (University of Oxford, England) who spoke to us at the 1990 Charleston Conference.

And, not to worry, we still have our old standbys. **Sandy Paul** (standards); **Barbara Meyers** (scholarly publishing); **Joyce Ogburn** and **Roy Heinz** (technology), etc., etc.

As always, contributions, suggestions, etc., etc. are welcome!

1992 seems exciting. Happy New Year!

Against the Grain

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