BLAKE

N E W S

MLA Seminar

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NEWSLETTER BUSINESS (continued)

Some mail sent to Morton Paley in London seems to have been lost in forwarding this past June. If you wrote at that time and received no answer, please write again (to Berkeley).

With this issue, we raise our subscription rates by one dollar per year. The Blake Newsletter is probably the only thing in America that has not increased in price since 1967; we are sure that our readers will understand the necessity.

The Autumn Newsletter will include a checklist of publications on Blake for the academic year 1969-1970. Offprints of articles and news of out-of-the-way items would be very much appreciated.

NEWS

MLA Seminar

There will again be a seminar on Blake at this year's MLA meeting in New York. The subject will be "Some Problems in Interpreting Blake's Designs for L'Allegro and Il Penseroso."

John E. Grant will initiate the discussion; the chairman will be Morton Paley. Participants will find it convenient to bring with them a copy of Blake: The Mystic Genius by Adrian Van Sinderen (Syracuse, 1949), or John Milton, Poems in English, ed. Geoffrey Keynes (Bentley-Nurmi no. 314). The former has color reproductions of the pictures, the latter black-and-white ones. The pictures are also reproduced, much diminished, in E.J. Rose, "Blake's Illustrations for Paradise Lost, L'Allegro, and Il Penseroso: A Thematic Reading," Hartford Studies in Literature, II, I (Spring 1970), 40-67.

Some background reading which may also be of interest:

Marcia M. Pointon, Milton and English Art (Manchester, 1970).

John E. Grant, "The Haunted Stream at Sun-Set," Blake's

Visionary Forms Dramatic, eds. Erdman and Grant (Princeton, 1970); also briefer remarks by E.J. Rose in the concluding article of the same volume forthcoming in November.

Geoffrey Keynes, ed., The Engravings of William Blake: The Separate Plates (Dublin, 1956), for the two engraved states of the first design for L'Allegro.

The precise time and place of the seminar are not yet known; it will probably be held on the morning of December 28th or 29th. Those wishing to participate should write directly to Morton Paley, c/o the English Department at Berkeley, who will send out a notice giving the necessary information.