

Minutes of the Business Meeting

(1986)

1. The President, Douglas Kelly, thanked the University of Utrecht, the organizers of the Congress, and the staff of the De Bron Conference Center for making the 5th Triennial Congress a most pleasing occasion.

2. In the absence of the Treasurer, June McCash, who was ill at the time of the business meeting, the report on the Society's finances was presented by Joseph Snow. On July 17, 1986, the balance in the Society's International account was \$2,514.16. It was also reported that the organizers of the 3rd Triennial Congress in Liverpool and the 4th Triennial Congress in Toronto had made a profit after all expenses had been met and that a committee was to consider how this money should be spent. The committee would consist of the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Editor of *Encomia*, and the retiring Secretary, Glyn Burgess, who was holding these funds in a deposit account in Liverpool. A report would be made to the business meeting of the 6th Triennial Congress.

3. The Secretary, Glyn Burgess, reported that the selected proceedings of the Toronto Congress, edited by himself and Robert Taylor, had appeared under the title *The Spirit of the Court: Selected Proceedings of the Fourth Congress of the International Courtly Literature Society (Toronto, 1983)*, Cambridge: D.S. Brewer, 1985, 408 pp. The volume contains the text or summary of the three plenary papers by Emmanuèle Baumgartner, Dennis Green, and Brian Stock and thirty-eight of the conference papers, selected from just over seventy submitted. All members of the Society were encouraged to make sure that this volume and those relating to the congresses in Athens, Georgia, and Liverpool had been purchased by their institutional libraries. Since the Toronto Congress, four issues of *Encomia* had appeared: V (Fall 1983 for 1981), VI (Fall 1984, for 1982), VII (Spring 1985, for 1983) and VIII (Spring 1986 for 1984). In all, these issues contained over 3500 courtly items. During the period 1983 - 1986 there had been a slight decline in membership. The Secretary suggested that all members should ensure that colleagues and students working in the area of courtly literature were aware of the activities and scope of the ICLS. In particular it was to be hoped that the relatively small number of institutions subscribing to *Encomia* could be increased. A brochure had recently been prepared to introduce the Society to new members.

4. The Editor of *Encomia*, Stephanie Cain Van D'Elden, reported that volume VIII had appeared in reduced format. She thanked current bibliographers and asked for new bibliographers to offer their services. She also asked for items of news and suggestions to be sent to her. She indicated that the high cost of international postage rates was beginning to become a problem. It was pointed out from the floor that copies of reviews should be sent to publishers and that the organizers of national branch meetings should send reports to the editor of *Encomia*.

5. The following elections were made:

President: Douglas Kelly (University of Wisconsin)

Vice-President: Ernstpeter Ruhe (University of Wurzburg)

Secretary: Keith Busby (Universities of Utrecht and Leiden)

Treasurer: Joseph Snow (University of Georgia)

Editor of *Encomia*: Stephanie Cain Van D'Elden (University of Minnesota)

International Bibliographer: Wendy Pfeffer (University of Louisville)

6. No clear-cut offer had been made for the site of the 6th Triennial Congress. The question was left to the Executive Committee.

7. Under Any Other Business Donald Maddox stressed the importance of the new brochure and asked that it be widely distributed, especially at branch meetings. He also moved that German should be admitted as an official language of the Society and that any language appropriate to a given paper be accepted by organizers of future congresses. A French and German official title for the Society should be sought from the relevant branches. This motion was seconded and carried. It was also suggested from the floor that efforts be made to encourage more members from the French, German, and Italian branches to attend future congresses and that announcements and other conference material should be prepared in French and German.

Submitted by Glyn Burgess