In The Beginning...

The fourth of a series of vignettes on WU and its history. The commemoration of an anniversary is probably the most propitious time for a home-coming. Among those who returned to WU for the birthday bash in Bowles Plaza last Friday noon was, appropriately enough, an Eliot—linear descendant of a family identified with this University since its inception 125 years ago.

This scion of the Eliot clan, who good-naturedly elbowed his way through the wall-to-wall crowd, was, of course, Thomas H.—Chancellor of WU from 1962 to 1971. Like his forebearer (William Greenleaf Eliot), he had made his way to St. Louis from the Eastern seaboard. But for him the journey here was an easy one compared with the trip that the founding father Eliot first made in the autumn of 1834.

Charlotte Eliot, a daughter-in-law of the 19th-century William Greenleaf Eliot, recounted the scene in a biography she published in 1904. “Early in October Mr. Eliot left his home in Washington, D.C., for the West, reaching Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, after three days and nights of stage travel. There he stayed a month, preaching four Sundays, and then took a boat for Cincinnati, where Ephraim Peabody was the Unitarian minister. Thence to Louisville, where he remained over Sunday with Mr. Clarke (another pastor of the same faith); and after 4 days waiting for a boat, the river being very low, he came on to St. Louis, reaching that city after 14 days of sand-bar voyage.”

Her account does much to separate the man from the legend. Today, few read her book (a standard reference text is handier to use), but in

Edison Grant Endows Chair In Neurobiology

The Harry Edison Foundation of St. Louis has awarded a $600,000 grant to the WU School of Medicine, it has been announced by Irving Edison and Eric P. Newman, president-treasurer and secretary of the foundation, respectively.

The grant will endow a new chair, the Edison Professorship in Neurobiology in the School of Medicine.

Dr. W. Maxwell Cowan, an internationally recognized scientist, will occupy the new chair. He presently serves as director of the Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences and is head of the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology at the WU School of Medicine.

The Harry Edison Foundation was established in 1949 by Harry Edison and derives its income primarily from dividends from its holdings in stock of Edison Brothers Stores, Inc., of which he was one of the founders. A grant in 1967 to the WU School of Medicine established the Harry Edison Professorship of Surgery at the Jewish Hospital of St. Louis. That chair is now occupied by Dr. Gordon W. Philpott.

Chancellor William H. Danforth said the new grant will enable Cowan to maintain the excellence of his programs, many of which have received national recognition. “This grant again reflects the continuation of the humanitarian generosity of the Harry Edison Foundation and the entire Edison family and will benefit immeasurably the University, the St. Louis community, as well as the entire field of medicine. We are truly grateful,”

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New Music Circle To Premiere Roland Jordan’s “Maps”

The premiere of “Maps,” a composition for vocalists, instrumentalists and electronic tape by Roland Jordan, assistant professor of music at WU, will open the 19th season of the St. Louis New Music Circle at 8:30 p.m., Fri., Oct. 27, in Graham Chapel. The piece has been commissioned by the Department of Music as part of WU’s 125th Anniversary celebration during October.

Maria Tunicka, associate conductor of the Florida Symphony, will conduct the work and Jane Strickert, soprano, and Dennis Sheppard, tenor, will appear as soloists. All three studied music at WU.

Through musical and textual themes, “Maps” is divided into sections which express strong human emotions of fear and dejection, perception and appreciation of nature and love. Interwoven with electronic tape will be selections of early music by Landini, Bach and Lasso. The vocalists’ texts will include poetic works by e.e. cummings, Kenneth Patchen, and Dennis Sheppard, tenor, and Jane Strickert, soprano, and an electronic tape by Roland Jordan, assistant professor of music at WU.

The composition concludes with Jordan’s “Map to a Familiar Sleeve,” a work for soprano and piano set to a poem by St. Louis poet Carol Lynn Withington, which was performed in St. Louis in 1977.

“Maps” was composed specifically for the vaulted interior of the University’s Gothic-style chapel. The musicians will perform from various locations throughout the building as the song texts are projected onto a screen. Jordan’s work is intended to surround the audience with both architectural and musical space.

Instrumentalists performing will include members of the New Music Circle and others: Jacob Berg, flute; Robert Coleman, clarinet; Roland Pandolfi, horn; Aleksandr Ciechanski, cello; Rich O’Donnell, percussion; Sona Duckham, celeste; Maria Pinckney, harp, and John Philips, piano.

Audio and visual aspects of the concert will be handled by Thomas Hamilton and Jack Brown, both of WU.

The performance is also being featured as part of the College of Music Society’s national convention in St. Louis October 27-29. Admission for the concert is $3.50 for general public and $1.50 for students at the door.

Beginning (continued from page 1)

their haste inquirers after William Greenleaf Eliot miss much. For Charlotte, the wife of Henry Ware Eliot, one of 14 children (5 died in infancy) of Eliot and his wife, Abby Adams Cranch Eliot, wrote concisely and without sentimentality of her famous father-in-law.

From her and a friend of the Eliot family, James K. Hosmer, who prepared the introduction to Charlotte Eliot’s book, one learns that William Greenleaf Eliot, despite his fragile health, somehow found the strength not only to build a university, but also to accomplish a number of other astonishing feats.

For those who know William Greenleaf Eliot only from his photographs, it is enlightening to see him through the eyes of a discerning contemporary. Hosmer wrote: “Dr. Eliot was short of stature and of delicate frame. For many years his work was done in the midst of constant suffering. The contrast was almost pathetic between the smallness of his physical resources and the magnitude of the enterprises which he dared to undertake.”

Eliot himself described the handicapping ailments which plagued him. In his journal on March 18, 1850, he wrote: “By some singular affection which is a sort of paralysis of the muscles of the right arm, I am losing the faculty of writing. It has been coming on me for some time, and now I cannot write my name without difficulty, so that I must learn to write with my left hand.”

Nevertheless, Eliot at age 23 “took up his life-work as the first exponent of the Unitarian views west of the Mississippi.” He was for 39 years pastor of the Church of the Messiah in St. Louis. He was also “as early as 1843 one of four or five gentlemen who met together to establish the Academy of Science of St. Louis.” Hosmer added: “In particular, Dr. Eliot’s interest was great in education. The first free school west of the Mississippi was begun under his direction, and no one deserves more than he to be regarded as the father of the public school system in Missouri.” And as most members of the WU community know, this University also “came into existence through the efforts of the group of men of whom Dr. Eliot was the centre and inspiration.”

It was Eliot also who suggested the creation of the Western Sanitary Commission “to meet the exigency of the moment during the Civil War.” This organization was analogous to the American Red Cross which functions today.

Supported with funds from all over the country, most of it solicited by Eliot, this commission established 15 hospitals in and near St. Louis to care for the sick and wounded—both Union and Confederate troops. It also fitted out the first floating hospitals on the Mississippi, supervised the work of women nurses serving in the West, arranged for the burial and marking of the graves of those who died in the hospitals and erected homes for the discharged and wounded soldiers as well as for war refugees. In accomplishing all of this work, the commission distributed about four and one-quarter million dollars in money and stores during the Civil War.

Somehow, by preaching the utmost frugality, expenses of administration and service amounted to only one and one-half per cent of the value of the distributions of the commission. Charlotte Eliot wrote: “Whenever an emergency arose, and there was a sudden call for supplies, the members of the Commission worked until late at night, overseeing the packing of boxes. Dr. Eliot, who lived on the outskirts of the city, frequently remained until midnight, walking home lantern in hand.”

At the end of the war, a surplus of $40,000 was used to establish 20 Western Sanitary Commission Scholarships at WU.

Of Eliot and his many accomplishments, Hosmer observed succinctly: “Every important work to which he put his hand was carried through to success.”

(Dorothy Brockhoff)
Accountability Demanded of FBI, Webster Says

"A higher order of accountability" is demanded all over the country, William H. Webster, director of the FBI and WU alumnus and trustee, told a WU Founder's Day banquet Saturday at Stouffer's Riverfront Towers.

"The rhetoric and the secrecy are breaking down," he said. "Citizens, students and others are demanding that governments, universities and other institutions be more responsive to their needs."

The FBI is on "the cutting edge" of this new fact of life, he said. "The FBI no longer marches up to the Hill and demands so much money for its programs. The FBI must stand behind the budget it requests."

The priorities of the FBI today are organized crime, white collar crime and the growing business of counter intelligence, he said. "Terrorism is a growing concern," he added.

The FBI has arrested 37,000 persons in dealing with organized crime and has investigated 500 important cases of political corruption, he said.

In 1976, the Attorney General suggested guidelines for the conduct of the FBI, Webster said. "We are working to implement those guidelines. "We are also trying to get an FBI charter which will give us a positive statement of our mission," he said.

Webster and Sir Peter Medawar received honorary degrees at the banquet celebrating WU's 125th year. Sir Peter is the head of the Division of Surgical Sciences, Medical Research Council, Middlesex, England, and professor of experimental medicine at the Royal Institution, London. He won the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 1960.

Four alumni citations were given. Those cited for professional accomplishment and community services, were Florence S. Cromwell, professional consultant in occupational therapy; A. T. Cummins, retired partner, Price Waterhouse and Company; George Matsumoto, of George Matsumoto and Associates, architects and planners; and Dr. Fred C. Reynolds, professor emeritus of orthopedic surgery, WU School of Medicine.

Four faculty members, cited for their commitment to teaching, were C. William Emory, professor of marketing, the School of Business and Public Administration; Bernetta M. Jackson, associate professor of English, College of Arts and Sciences; William E. Koch, Jr., professor emeritus of oral diagnosis and radiology, School of Medicine; and William M. Sale, professor of classics, College of Arts and Sciences.

"The physical fitness program is again being offered through the Department of Sports and Recreation. Faculty, staff, graduate students and their spouses may still enroll in the program. The program is offered for an hour at 7:30 a.m. and 12 noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays until Dec. 15. The cost is $35. For information, call Ext. 5140."

"The 2nd AND 3rd Lectures in a series sponsored by WU's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences to commemorate the University's 125th Anniversary will be presented on Oct. 26. Daniel C. Drucker, dean, College of Engineering, University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign, will speak on "The Many Facets of Mechanical Engineering," at 2 p.m., Rebscheck, Rm. 215, and Robert W. Lucky, assistant director, Electronics and Computer Systems Research Laboratory, Bell Telephone Laboratories, will speak on "Telecommunications Research—Technological Possibilities and Social Implications," 4 p.m., Cupples II, Rm. 218.

The Murray Louis Dance Company performs in Edison Theatre at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, October 20-21.
Calendar
October 20-26

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20
10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Conference on Law and Liberty, Discussion will focus upon current work on the first complete account of the proceedings of the Parliament, 1559-1649. Hurst Lounge, Duncker Hall.

2 p.m. Department of Technology and Human Affairs Seminar, “Planning for the St. Louis County Community Development Block Grant,” Martin Braeske, asst. dir., Human Resources for Community Development, St. Louis County. 307 Urbauer.

8:30 p.m. School of Architecture Slide Lecture, “A Contemporary Architecture of the Past,” Uttam C. Jain, architect, Bombay, India. Steinberg Auditorium.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Conference on Law and Liberty, “Law, Liberty and the Petition of Right.” John G. A. Poocock, Johns Hopkins U., speaker (11 a.m.). Hurst Lounge, Duncker Hall.

8 p.m. School of Fine Arts Lecture, with Richard Hunt, sculptor, and Distinguished Visiting Professor of Art, Steinberg Auditorium.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23
11 a.m. Department of Civil Engineering Seminar, “Recent Research Results of Hyperbolic Cooling Tower Resistance to Dead Weight, Wind and Earthquake Loading,” Ing W. B. Kratzig, prof. of engineering, Ruhr-Universitat Bochum, W. Germany, 100 Cupples II.


2 p.m. Department of Chemical Engineering Lecture, “Reactor Stability and Multiplicity: Its Historical Development in the Discipline of Chemical Engineering,” Rutherford Aris, Regents’ Professor, U. of Minn., 100 Cupples II.


TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

2:30 p.m. School of Business 125th Anniversary Lecture, “Personal Financial Guideposts,” John W. Boyer, WU prof. of finance. Umrath Lounge.

8 p.m. School of Business 125th Anniversary Party, All students welcome. Umrath Lounge.

8 p.m. Meet the Writers Reading, with William Gass, WU prof. of philosophy. Women’s Bldg. Lounge.

8:30 p.m. School of Architecture Lecture, “The Aesthetics of Impersonance in Architecture,” Friedrich St. Florian, architect, Providence, Steinberg Aud.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25
11 a.m. Performing Arts Area Ragnette Lecture and Concert, with Dave Jasen and Trebor Tichenor. Edison Theatre.

4 p.m. Department of Physics Colloquium, “Mesons in Nuclei,” Mark Bolsterli, theoretical scientist, Los Alamos Scientific Lab. 201 Crow.

7 p.m. School of Fine Arts Lecture, with Isadore Seltzer, illustrator. Steinberg Aud.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26
12 noon. Very Interesting Women Series, with Billie Melbers and Yvonne Burks, WU Campus Police. Women’s Bldg. Lounge.


Performing Arts
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20
8 p.m. Edison Theatre Dance Series, Murray Louis Dance Company. Edison Theatre. Admission $4.80; $3.75 for WU faculty and staff and area students; $2 for WU students. Tickets available at Edison Theatre Box Office (Also Fri., Sat. and Sun., Oct. 27-29, 8 p.m., Edison.)

Films
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20
7:30 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, “Coming Home.” Brown Hall Theatre. Admission $1.50. (Also Sat., Oct. 21, same times; Brown, and Sun., Oct. 22, 8 p.m., Wohl Center.)


SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
8 p.m. Office of Student Activities American Cinema Series, “Suspicion” and “Gaslight,” Rebstock. Admission $1.50.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23
7:30 and 9:30 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, “Portnoy’s Complaint,” Brown Hall Theatre. Admission $1.50. (Also Tues., Oct. 24, same times, Brown.)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25
5:30 p.m. Fall Arts Film Festival Series, “In Search of Dracula” and “In Search of Ghosts,” Wohl Center Formal Lounge.

7:30 p.m. WU Filmboard Double Feature, “M” and “Metropolis.” (9:30 p.m.). Brown Hall Theatre. Admission $1.50 for either or both films. (Also Thurs. Oct. 26, same times, Brown.)

Music
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
4 p.m. Department of Music Graduate Organ and Harpsichord Recital, with Bonnie Harsted, soloist. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Pk.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23
4 p.m. Department of Music Recital, with performances by a number of students. Graham Chapel.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26
8 p.m. “Ragtime ’78” with Turk Murphy’s Jazz Band, Bob Darch, Steve Spracklen, Steve Radecke and dance. Edison Theatre. Admission $4.80; $3.75 for WU faculty and staff and area students; $2 for WU students. Admission for all four concerts is $11.25. Tickets available at Edison Theatre Box Office (Also Fri., Sat. and Sun., Oct. 27-29, 8 p.m., Edison.)

Exhibitions
“America’s Architectural Heritage,” a major photographic exhibit of examples of architecture in the Americas, from the 12th century to the mid-1970’s. Givens Hall, main level, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Mon.-Fri. Oct. 23-Nov. 18.