

New Jersey Mycological Assn.

NJMA News
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Dec. Meeting

The December meeting and Christmas party are scheduled for Sunday, December 14th. Members are asked to bring finger foods to share with others for the party. In consideration of those on salt or sugar free diets or with food allergies, please enclose a card with a list of ingredients used, your name, and the name of the dish. (It also makes it easier to locate a person with a particularly good recipe.) The club will provide paper plates, coffee and tea.

The program consists of winning slides entered in the photo contest. Nature photographer and lecturer Ed Hansbury, who is a new member of NJMA, will judge the slides and will provide commentary on them.

The nominating committee consisting of Bill Rokicki, Bernice Fatto and Anna Gerenday will present a slate of candidates to be voted upon as officers for 1981. Elsewhere in the newsletter is a proxy voting ballot for those who cannot attend the meeting.

Dues for 1981 will be accepted at the meeting. In spite of inflation skyrocketing prices, our dues will remain the same as last year - \$7.50 for an individual or \$10.00 for family membership. Make checks payable to NJMA.

The meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. at SCEEC in the auditorium.

SPECIAL LECTURE — DR. HOMOLA

Dr. Richard Homola of the University of Maine at Orono will be in the area for the holidays and will treat us to a special lecture on Sunday, December 28th at SCEEC. Jelly fungi will be the topic. He promises good slides and electron micrographs on the subject.

Dr. Homola has published two pamphlets on mushrooms of Maine and co-authored Appendix III of Hesler & Smith "North American Species of Lactarius". The lecture will be at SCEEC, 2:00 p.m., downstairs in classroom #3.

MEETING NOTES

Gertrude Espenscheid reminisced about her recent trip to Austria and Yugoslavia on the NAMA foray, August 28 to Sept. 17th. She showed slides of beautiful scenery, people, architecture, and of course, mushrooms, noting that she had lost several rolls of film and had to borrow slides from Toshiko Takaezu to supplement her own collection.

Among the 436 species recorded, were some rare fungi they had never seen in the U.S. One common species there was *Gyrodon lucidus*, which has never been found here, and a common bolete here *Strobilomyces floccopus* was considered rare on the foray.

Gertrude was impressed by the friendliness and hospitality offered in the various towns on the trip.

Foray Review

The NAMA National Foray in Tuxedo, North Carolina, September 18-21 was a great experience. Situated in the Great Smokies, near the borders of Tennessee and Kentucky, the location proved to be one of the best choices for collecting in the drought-ridden east. Although it had been dry in the area, the mountains had been having rain, and there was no shortage of fungi. Productive forays in local areas around Tuxedo and also trips to Pisgah forest lasted either half or all day.

Over 400 species were collected, including some rare ones such as the very pretty *Collybia iocephala*, surprisingly found in great quantity, the spectacular *Craterellus odoratus*, which has only been found in the southeastern U.S., and *Craterellus Hesleri*. Some interesting boletes also were collected. Although about 30 species of *Amanita* were collected, about 10 of them could not be identified at the foray.

The afternoon mycophagy and wild foods sessions handled by Larry Stickney and Ellen Weatherbee respectively seemed to be the most popular area frequented by the attendees. There is some question as to whether the overwhelming response was due to a sudden compelling interest in wild edibles, or in desperation due to the dearth of food at meals.

The foray included major evening lectures and small, informal lectures and workshops. Dr. David Jenkins spoke on mushroom folklore and mythology; Dr. Larry Grand, foray mycologist, discussed mycorrhiza; Dr. Ron Peterson explained the distribution of coral fungi and included slides of his trip to Tibet to study these fungi.

Besides mycophagy and wild food workshops, beginners mushroom identification workshops were held. There was a photography seminar, an informal *Lactarius* workshop using Smith's *Lactarius* monograph conducted by Nancy Smith Weber, and Kit Scates and Gary Lincoff covered writing good mushroom descriptions. Bill Cibula gave an interesting demonstration on chromatography with mushroom pigments and Larry Grand held a small session on identifying southern boletes.

TAXONOMY

The taxonomy group will meet on Saturday, December 13th at SCEEC, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. downstairs in classroom #3. A microscope will be available for those wishing to identify dried specimens. Call Dorothy if you plan to attend, [REDACTED]

N. Y. Class

Gary Lincoff will be teaching an advanced mushroom identification course, using slides, dried material and monograph keys. It is for advanced amateurs who are familiar with a microscope. The classes will be held at the New York Botanic Garden, Saturdays, December 6, 13, and 20, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00. There is a fee. For more information, call the Garden 212-220-8747-8.



Neal MacDonald, illustrator of the Mycophagy Corner, drew a cartoon for Gertrude. He said it was "'Tina' from a man's point of view." We had it reduced and printed above.

Bookcase

Library chairman Al Northup informs us that the library bookcase is brimming over with books, and that we are still in need of an additional bookcase. He would prefer one similar to our present one - with a glass front that can be fitted with a lock - but will accept anything suitable. Even a cabinet with shelving can be used, the main requirement being that it can be fitted with a lock.

Anyone willing to donate a bookcase, or fit a glass pannel on an open bookcase, please call Al at [REDACTED] or get in touch with one of the officers of the club.

Book Buys *by Ray Fatto*

Our next meeting on December 14th is your last chance before Christmas to get a new book on your favorite subject - MUSHROOMS! Make it a present either for yourself or a friend. Two books highly recommended for gift giving, even for someone not terribly serious about fungi, are Vincent Marteka's *Mushrooms: Wild and Edible*, with illustrations by our own Neal MacDonald, and Dr. Jenkins' *Mushrooms - A Separate Kingdom*, with water-color illustrations by Loni Parker.

Books available with member discount prices are grouped in two general categories:

For the Beginner and of General Interest

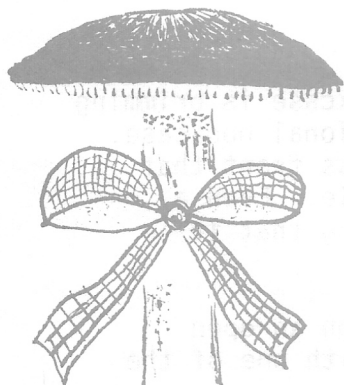
Arora	<i>Mushrooms Demystified</i>	9.60
Charles	<i>Introduction to Mushroom Hunting</i>	1.10
Glick	<i>The Mushroom Trailguide</i>	4.80
Groves	<i>Mushrooms of Canada</i>	12.50
Hard	<i>Mushrooms, Edible and Otherwise</i>	6.35
Hestler	<i>Mushrooms of the-Great Smokies</i>	6.80
Jenkins	<i>Mushrooms - A Separate Kingdom</i>	13.50
Krieger	<i>The Mushroom Handbook</i>	4.00
Largent	<i>Mushrooms I and II</i>	2.00 & 2.50
Marteka	<i>Mushrooms: Wild and Edible</i>	16.00
McIlvaine	<i>One Thousand American Fungi</i>	5.55
Smith	<i>The Mushroom Hunter's Fieldguide</i>	8.00

Tending to be More Technical and Specialized

Coker	<i>Boleti of North Carolina</i>	2.80
Coker	<i>Club and Coral Mushrooms of the U.S.</i>	4.00
Coker	<i>Gasteromycetes of the Eastern U.S.</i>	4.00
Graham	<i>Mushrooms of the Great Lakes</i>	4.00
Hesler & Smith	<i>North American Species of Lactarius</i>	22.50
Largent	<i>Mushrooms III and IV</i>	5.80 & 3.60
Smith	<i>How to Know the Gilled Mushrooms</i>	9.00
Smith & Thiers	<i>Boletes of Michigan</i>	16.00
Watling	<i>Literature Guide for Identifying Mushrooms</i>	5.40

Accountant Needed

In an effort to keep the membership dues from increasing, NJMA acquired a non-profit status with the State of New Jersey, which exempts us from paying state sales tax. We still have not attained federal non-profit status with the IRS, because we need an accountant to help process the forms. Federal non-profit status would exempt NJMA from paying federal taxes and also allow the club an additional discount on postage costs which account for a large part of the dues. If any accountant in the club would like to donate his or her services, please contact Jim Richards for the details.



AN ADDENDUM TO XYLARIA HYPOXYLON by Dr. Sam Ristich

Many other amateur mycologists besides Ed Bosman (former NJMA member and founder of Connecticut club) and some professional mycologists have been perplexed by grey *Xylaria* resembling *Clavaria* - and grey *Hypoxylon*, *Ustulina* and *Daldinia* resembling non-ascomycetous entities. All of these genera belong to the family *Xylariaceae*.

What Dr. Clark Rogerson said of *X. hypoxylon* applies to these genera, viz., the conidiophores producing the grey conidia are produced externally on the stroma - as the perithecia mature internally, the outer surface of *Daldinia*, some species of *Hypoxylon* such as *fragiforme* turn brick red, whereas the outer surface of *Xylaria* and *Ustulina* turn black. All species have black spores which are "ejected" from the perithecia through the ostioles. If you place these species, esp. *Daldinia*, on a card when the spores are dispersed, you will obtain a fascinating circular or oblong spore print!!

I hope my friend Gary Lincoff follows my suggestion and includes photographs of the conidial and perithecial stages of these genera in his new book. Such photographs will save embarrassment and provide an excellent educational service.



Phony Fungi

Along with margarine, imitation margarine, and non-dairy cream, the latest in the imitation food field has arrived - the imitation truffle. At a New York fancy foods show recently, the "trufflette" made its debut.

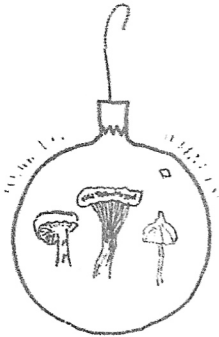
The artificially colored and flavored semblance of the true truffle was developed about 15 years ago by John Geldof, a Dutchman. The patented product has been on the market to hotels and restaurants for years to be used as an impressive garnish, and will now be available to the public in retail stores.

Marketed for those who would like to dazzle guests with "truffles", these simulated truffles can now be purchased for only \$19.95 for a 4½ ounce jar. The cost of real truffles approaches \$400 to \$500 per pound in the New York area. Expensive because this wild imported mushroom, until recently, could not be cultivated and, since it fruits beneath the ground level, it must be hunted with the aid of specially trained dogs and pigs to catch the scent.

The theory behind the promotion is that with the exorbitant price of truffles, most people would not know what truffles taste like. Made with egg yolk, food coloring, corn starch, sherry, salt, lactic acid and soybean meal, the trufflettes look like the real thing. According to one club member, Jim Richards, who had an opportunity to sample these fake fungi at the show, "They taste terrible!"

JAN. MEETING

The January 11th meeting will feature Dr. Clark Rogerson as guest speaker. His topic will be black spored mushrooms, such as Coprinus, Panaeolus, etc. Dr. Rogerson is from the New York Botanic Garden. The meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. at SCEEC, downstairs in classroom #3.



Gifts

Have a problem with holiday gifts? Some mushroom related items will be sold at the Dec. 14th meeting.

Besides mushroom publications, other books in the Dover Books nature series may be ordered at a discount through the club. Call Ray Fatto for the details, [REDACTED].

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Richard P. Barker [REDACTED]
- William F. Besser [REDACTED]
- Ralph Busco, Jr. [REDACTED]
- Frank & Joan Cosilito [REDACTED]
- Mrs. Ralph D'Antonio [REDACTED]
- Charles De Furie [REDACTED]
- Bruce Di Campli [REDACTED]
- Mrs. Jill De Grazia [REDACTED]
- William R. Dunne [REDACTED]
- Mrs. Joyce Friend [REDACTED]
- Ronald J. Gustafson [REDACTED]
- Ms. Daisy-Olivia Hein [REDACTED]
- Nancy G. Klag [REDACTED]
- Mrs. Carol C. Krieg [REDACTED]
- Dr. Hubert & Millie Ling [REDACTED]
- Mr. & Mrs. Raynond J. McCabe [REDACTED]
- Fred A. Metz [REDACTED]
- James G. Murray [REDACTED]
- Albert S. Johnston [REDACTED]
- Douglas K. Miller [REDACTED]
- Mr. & Mrs. C. R. Odermann [REDACTED]
- Gertrude J. Pask [REDACTED]
- John F. Rakszawski [REDACTED]
- William H. Sachs [REDACTED]



Mycophagist's Corner

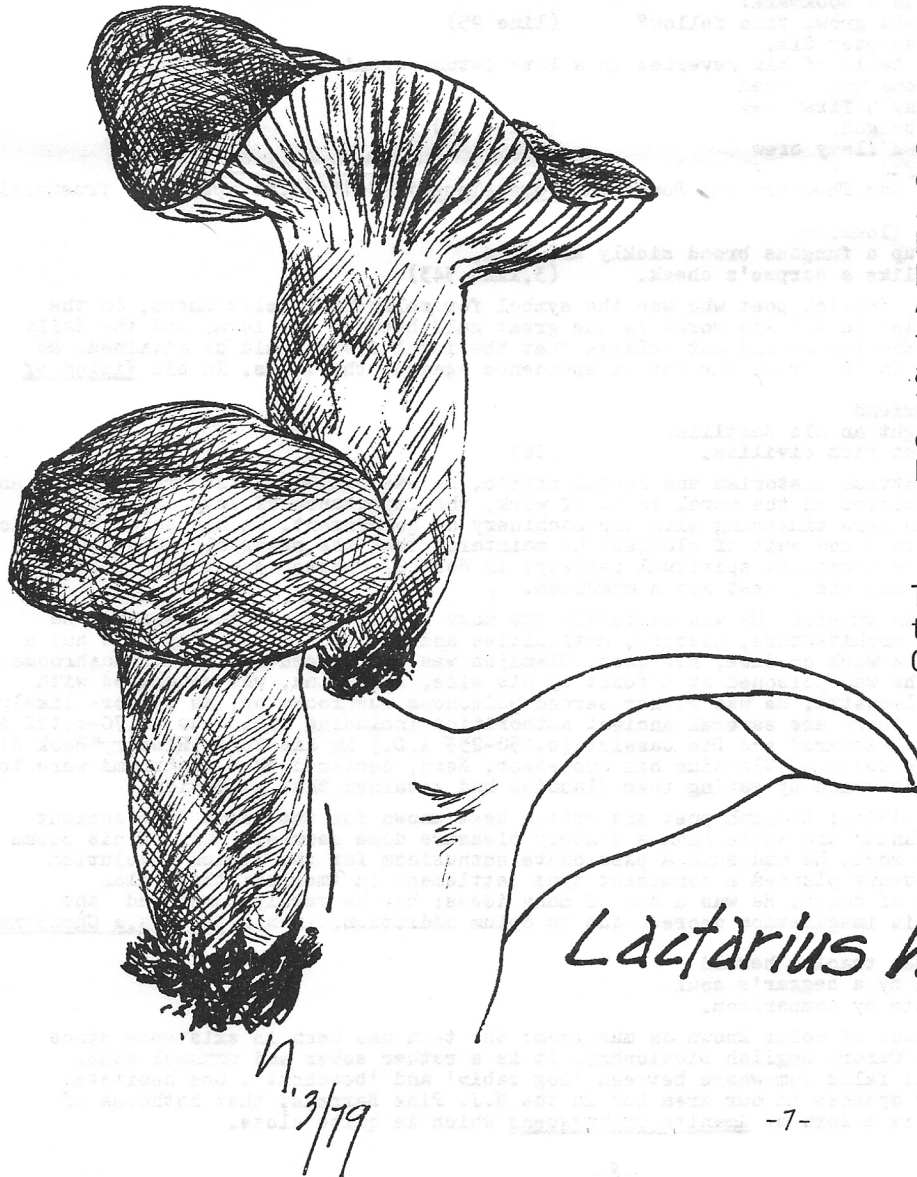
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Lactarius hygrophoroides Berk. and Curt. is called the distant-gilled *Lactarius*. As its common name describes, the most distinct feature of this species is the distantly spaced gills. The latex is white which remains unchanging and does not stain the gills brown. The latex is mild tasting. The cap color is variable; however, pale reddish is most commonly found.

L. hygrophoroides grows single, scattered on rich humus in woods of broad-leaved trees. It is common in the northeast and into the middle west, during July and August.

During the 1980 Fungus Fest at SCEEC, Greta Turchick sauteed a quantity of these mushrooms and the result was a delicately tasting mushroom treat. Perhaps the best advice with this species is to use young immature specimens, preferably buttons which are just expanding, because most of its popularity is in the delicate flavor, which is overcome as other chemical compounds develop during maturity. For this reason spices should be lightly used (see recipe). One should avoid old caps to avoid the danger that decomposition may have started. Never use caps where small pinholes indicate that the larva of insects are present.

Try the following method for cooking this species:



Mushrooms & Bacon

Put either whole or sliced caps (discard stems) in a casserole. Season lightly and layer alternately with bacon slices. Cover and bake in a moderate oven for 40-60 minutes or until both the bacon and the mushrooms are well-done. If much liquid collects, remove the cover in the later part of baking.

Thanks to Vic Gambino for this month's Mycophagy Corner.

Lactarius hygrophoroides

Mushrooms In Literature: A Miscellany by Dave Patterson

This report is basically a study of how the word mushroom has been used through the ages; for the most part it deals with the symbolic values ascribed to it by poets and writers. Some of these allusions are: (1) suddenness, quickness--due to the overnight appearance; mushroom people would be the nouveau riche, parvenus and upstarts; mushroom-witted would be quick witted. (2) intelligence; a mushroom is almost all head. (3) brevity; the life span is very short. (4) something of little value. (5) food--running the gamut from dangerous through bland to an epicurean delight. (6) supernatural beings--it is often the table for elves and fairies. (7) appearance-- it is trim and elegant. (8) to set a mood which is grim or cadaverous.

Bible. The; mushrooms are not mentioned in the Scriptures. A few interpreters have suggested that the poisonous paku'ot of 2Kings 4:39-40 refer to a mushroom. However the majority believe that the reference is to a gourd; all true gourds secrete colocyntin, which in some species can make them unwholesome or even poisonous.

Blake, William; poet, artist, engraver and visionary. All his works show a strange but powerful beauty; his highly developed imagination was combined with an ever present spiritual awareness. In an age of rational philosophers he defied reason and glorified intuition and imagination. His best known poems are "The Lamb" (Little lamb who made thee?) and "The Tiger" (Tiger tiger burning bright in the forest of the night). His Auguries of Innocence is a collection of proverbs in couplet form and contain the lines:

The poison of the honey-bee
Is the artist's jealousy
The prince's robes and beggar's rags
Are toadstools on the miser's bags (line 52)
A truth that's told with bad intent
Beats all the lies you can invent.

Browning, Robert (1812-1889); English poet and the idol of the later Victorians. His courtship and marriage to the poet Elizabeth Barrett has been told in the stage play "Barretts of Wimpole Street". Browning's best known poems include: "My Last Duchess", "Liloquy in a Spanish Cloister" and "The Bishop Orders his Tomb". In his poem about a pedant, Sibrandus Schafnaburgensis we find a dried mushroom used, perhaps, as a bookmark:

Did he guess how toadstools grow, this fellow? (line 95)
Here's one stuck in his Chapter Six.

In his poem By the Fireside he tells of his reveries in a late Autumn evening:

By the rose-flesh mushrooms undivulged
last evening--nay in today's first dew
Yon sudden coral nipple bulged, (verse 13)
Where a freak fawn-colored flaky crew
of toadstools peep indulged.

In a poem about that fantastic man, Theophrastus Bombastus Paracelsus (1493-1541), he speaks of frustration:

As in the Autumn woods
Where tall trees used to flourish,
From their roots spring up a fungous brood sickly and pale,
Chill mushrooms colored like a corpse's cheek. (3, line 543)

Byron, Lord G.G.B. (1788-1824); English poet who was the symbol for melancholy, Weltschmerz, in the romantic age. The central problem in all his works is the great gulf between the ideal and the daily reality of existence.; unlike Shelley he did not believe that the ideal dream could be attained. He died of a fever while fighting in the Greek War for Independence against the Turks. In his Vision of Judgment are the lines:

Satan met his ancient friend
With more hauteur, as might an old Castilian
Poor noble meet a mushroom rich civilian. (36)

Carlyle, Thomas (1795-1881); Scottish historian and social critic. He was called the scourging conscience of 19th century England. He insisted on the moral value of work, the importance of duty and the need for a spiritual rebirth not the mere tinkering with the machinery of government. In his autobiographical Sartor Resartus (the tailor with a new suit of clothes) he maintains that the material world is only the temporary clothing of a more permanent spiritual reality; in Book 2, chapter 3 are the lines:

Nature alone is antique, and the oldest art a mushroom.

Claudius (10 B.C.-54 A.D.), Roman emperor. He was certainly the most learned of all the Caesars. He was particularly interested in architecture, history, antiquities and linguistics and may have had a mathematical mind for he wrote a work on dice, now lost. Claudius was extravagantly fond of mushrooms. There seems little doubt that he was poisoned at a feast by his wife, Agrippina, who conspired with the famous dealer in poisons, Locustra. He was either served poisonous mushrooms or, as is more likely, mushrooms stuffed with poison. There are several ancient authorities including Suetonius (c.70-c.122 A.D.) in his "The Lives of the Twelve Caesars" and Dio Cassius (c.150-235 A.D.) in his "Roman History" Book 61. It has been said that after the death of Claudius his successor, Nero, declared that mushrooms were to be known as the food of the gods since by eating them Claudius had attained that elevation.

Coleridge, Samuel Taylor (1772-1834); English poet and critic best known for the poems "The Ancient Mariner" and "Kubla Khan" (In Kanadu did Kubla Khan a stately pleasure dome decree). Many of his poems evoke a magical and mysterious mood. He had such a passionate enthusiasm for the French Revolution that he and the poet Robert Southey planned a communist type settlement in America; their plan never materialized due to lack of money. He was a man of many ideas; but he rarely completed the stately pleasure domes which his imagination decreed due to opium addiction. In his Zapolya, a Christmas Tale Act 1, Scene 1, Line 300:

The longest line that ever tracing herald
found or feigned, placed by a beggar's soul
Hath but a mushroom's date by comparison.

Color, mushroom; There is a shade of color known as mushroom; the term has been in existence since at least 1884 according to the Oxford English Dictionary. It is a rather sober and unusual tone, a mixture of gray and brown; it falls somewhere between 'log cabin' and 'beechnut'. One hesitates to attribute this color to any species in our area but in the N.J. Pine Barrens, that hothouse of mycological teratology, there is a form of Amanita brunnescens which is quite close.

Cowper, William (1731-1800); English poet who broke with tradition and led the way to a new style which was utterly unpretentious; it was a refreshing change from the pomposity and artificiality of his contemporaries. He had a deep feeling for nature and an enthusiasm for humanity. In his Task Book, 1, The Sofa, line 532:

There the turf smells fresh, and rich in odoriferous herbs and fungous fruits of earth
regales the sense with luxury of unexpected sweets.

What happens to Conversation in old age, line 54:

So withered stumps disgrace the sylvan scene,
No longer fruitful and no longer green,
The sapless wood divested of the bark,
Grows fungous and takes fire at every spark.

Crane, Stephen (1871-1900); the novelist, born in Newark, N.J., flashed like a meteor across the literary scene of the 1890's. He is best known for "The Red Badge of Courage" which is the study of a raw army recruit in action and for "Maggie: A Girl of the Streets" which gives an accurate picture of life in the New York slums. He probably would not have joined the New Jersey Mycological Club for in his last book of poems entitled War is Kind and starting with "A little ink more or less" contains these lines:

Show me some bastard mushroom
Sprung from a pollution of blood.
It is better.

Dickens, Charles (1812-1870); The most popular English novelist of the 19th century. He had little formal education but his books are an education in themselves. "The Pickwick Papers" deals with a group of amiable eccentrics. "Oliver Twist" is an indictment of orphanages. "Nicholas Nickleby" describes the brutal country schools. "A Tale of Two Cities" was the French Revolution and Sidney Carton was as real as Robespierre or Danton. "David Copperfield" expresses Dickens' hatred of debtors prisons--his father, the prototype for Mr. Micawber, had been in and out of them. In 1842 he lectured with great success in the U.S.A. but his satirical treatment of the frontier in "Martin Chuzzlewit" aroused a storm of disapproval from Americans. In chapter 2 of The Pickwick Papers Mr. Pickwick runs into a stranger who doesn't believe in a complete sentence; seated at dinner he thanks the stranger for the invitation, who replies:

Great pleasure-not presume to dictate, but broiled fowl and mushrooms-capital thing!

Dickinson, Emily (1830-1886); American poet who spent almost her entire life in the same house and yard. Only 7 of her nearly 3,000 poems were published during her lifetime. The greatness of her mind was not realized until after her death and the fact that she was a poet came as a surprise even to her closest friends. Her mind was quick, her humor elfin and her poetry full of surprises. In Poem #1298 note the clever, though ungrammatical, use of 'stop'; it is the way a child would say it and it is also a perfect anagram with 'spot':

The mushroom is the elf of plants
At evening it is not-
At morning in a truffled hut
It stop upon a spot.

Poem #1697 begins:

They talk as slow as legends grow
No mushroom is their mind
But foliage of sterility
Too stolid for the wind-

Donne, John (1631-1700); English poet who gained fame as an eloquent preacher. Consider these lines from his "Devotions": "No man is an Island, intire of it selfe; every man is a peece of the Continent, a part of the maine---any mans death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankinde; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls. It tolls for thee." The first line of his poem "Song" is also well known: "Goe, and catche a falling starre". In his Sermons, #93, Eternity he says:

Methusalem, with all his hundreds of years,
Was but a mushroom of a night's growth.

Dryden, John (1631-1700); English poet, critic, satirist and translator, the foremost man of letters in England during the Restoration. His poem "Annus Mirabilis" treats of the events of the wonderful year 1666--the Great Fire of London, the Plague and the Dutch War. He adapts the Biblical narrative in 2 Samuel chapters 13-18 of Absalom's rebellion against King David to the political fight for a successor to King Charles 2 in his satire "Absalom and Architopol." The translation of the Sixth Satire of Juvenal alludes to the death of the Roman emperor Claudius:

What woman will not use the Poys'ning Trade
When Caesar's Wife the Precedent has made
Let Agrippina's Mushroom be forgot (line 812)
Giv'n to a Slav'ring old, unuseful Sot.

Emerson, Ralph Waldo (1803-1882); American essayist, lecturer and poet; best known for his doctrine of self-reliance and as the greatest exponent of New England Transcendentalism. This doctrine is a mixture of ideas from the German philosophers as interpreted by Coleridge and Carlyle, from Plato and Neo-Platonism, from Oriental religions and from mysticism. Essentially it holds that intuition is superior to knowledge derived from the senses. Nature was their bible and several communes were founded. In Emerson's work The Adirondacs are the lines:

Not less the ambitious botanist sought plant,
Orchis and gentian, fern and long-whip scirpus
Rosy polygonum, lake-margins pride
Hypnum and hydnum, mushrooms, sponge and moss (line 144)
Or harebell nodding in the gorge of falls.

Ford, John (1586-c.1639); English dramatist and the most important writer of tragedies during the reign of Charles 1. The subject material of his plays provide an insight into what was popular at that time. The plots are generally melodramas with heroines caught in a conflict between true love and unhappy, enforced marriages; the endings are always tragic. In The Broken Heart are these lines:

I am a mushroom--
on whom the dew of heaven drops now and then. (1;3)

St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622); A bishop of Geneva and a Doctor of the Church. His books brought religion down from the high theological airs of the time; he founded the Order of the Visitation for those "with strong souls in weak bodies." To King Henry 4th ("Paris is worth a mass"; "A chicken in every pot") who offered him a rich parish, he replied, "Sire, I am married; my wife is a poor woman, but I cannot leave her for a richer one." In his Introduction to the Devout Life, 33, he says:

I have the same opinion of dances that physicians have of mushrooms; the best of them are good for nothing.

Haiku; a type of Japanese poetry that gained full perfection in the 17th century; it is intended to express and evoke emotion. It may be grave or gay, deep or shallow, religious, satirical, sad, humorous or charming--but it should always record a high moment and concentrate an essence. Perhaps the best loved of all the haiku masters is Issa (1762-1826):

Hito	wo	toru	kinoko	hatashite	utsukushi
people		kill		of course	
		accusative case	mushroom		pretty

An English rendition which maintains about the same number of syllables might be:

Death it can bring
That kind of mushroom; why of course
it's a pretty thing

OR
Lo! the mushrooms which kill people--
They are beautiful, as I thought

Hansel and Gretel; In the opera by Humperdinck there is a riddle; the answer to it is usually given as Amanita muscaria. This answer is incorrect and has nothing to do with mushrooms. At the opening of Act 2 Gretel is weaving a crown of wild roses and begins to sing:

Ein Männlein steht im Walde ganz still und stumm es hat von lauter Purpur ein Mäntlein um, Sagt, wer mag das Männlein sein, das da steht im Wald allein mit dem purpurrot Mäntlein?	A little man stands in the forest quite still wrapped in a cloak of bright crimson, Say who can the manikin be, standing there alone in the forest with the crimson cloak?
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As Gretel continues to sing note that the black cap rules out the possibility of a mushroom; The little man stands on one leg in the forest on his head a little black bonnet
Sagt, wer mag das Männlein sein
das da steht auf einem Bein
mit dem kleinen schwarzen Käppelein?
Say, who can the little man be
standing there on one leg
with his little black bonnet?

Humperdinck does not give the answer--but he does provide a clue by referring to what Gretel is doing. Actually these 2 stanzas are from an old German folk tune, one of 4 which the composer used in the opera. The name of the tune is "Ein Männlein steht im Walde" and may be found in the collection: Deutschland im Volkslied by Gustav Kneip. The third stanza gives the answer to the riddle:

Ein Kind antwortet: Das Männlein dort auf einem Bein mit seinem roten Mäntlein und seinem schwarzen Käppelein kann nur die Hagebutte sein.	A child answers: the little man there on one leg with the crimson cloak and his little black bonnet can only be the rose hip (fruit of the rose).
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Hawthorne, Nathaniel (1804-1864); American novelist and short story writer best known for "The Scarlet Letter" and "The House of the Seven Gables". He was fascinated by the Puritans and their idea of sin, and this led him into moral themes. He often used complex symbols--the scarlet letter which Hester wears is not only a public sign of her adultery and a token of her humility as a confessed sinner; it is also her badge of pride in her naturalness and in her defiance of her neighbor's bigotry. In his American Note-Book Vol.2, October 8, 1841 are these lines:

A little while ago mushrooms or toadstools were very numerous along the wood-paths, and by the road sides, especially after rain. Some were of spotless white, some yellow, some scarlet. They are always mysteries, and objects of interest, to me, springing as they do, so suddenly from no root or seed, and growing nobody can tell why. I think, too, they are rather a pretty object-- little fairy tables, centre tables, standing on one leg. But their growth appears to be checked now; and they are of a brown hue and decayed.

Herrick, Robert (1591-1674); English pastoral poet; he saw the picturesque in country life as no one else before him had seen it. Herrick summed up his themes in this verse from the "Hesperides":

I sing of brooks, of blossoms, birds and bowers,
Of April, May, of June and July flowers,
I sing of May-poles, hock-carts, wassils, wakes
Of bridegrooms, brides and their bridal cakes.

He advises young ladies to take heed of time :
Gather ye rosebuds while you may,
Old time is still a-flying;
And that same flower that smiles today
To-morrow will be dying.

In Oberon's Feast are these lines:

Shapcot! To thee the Fairy State
I with discretion, dedicate.
Because thou prizest things that are
Curious, and un-familiar.
Take first the feast; these dishes gone;
We'll see the Fairy-Court anon,
A little mushroom table spread----

Humbleness: In the Massachusetts Historical Society Proceedings, 65 (1932-36) 177 appears the phrase:
After this he was as humble as a mushroom.

Keats, John (1795-1821); English poet who died in Rome of tuberculosis at age 26. He was a romantic; at times sensual, then melancholy, or sometimes nostalgic for far-off times or enchanted worlds. The message of his poetry was the worship of beauty; his "Ode on a Grecian Urn" closes with: "Beauty is truth, truth beauty". In Endymion which opens with "A thing of beauty is a joy forever" are the lines:

For wine we left our heath,
and yellow brooms, and cold mushrooms (4:234)
For wine we follow Bacchus through the earth.

And in 1, line 215:

Are not our lowing heifers
Sleeker than night-swollen mushrooms?

Koran, The; Mushrooms, toadstools and fungi are not mentioned in the Koran, the sacred book of Islam. The classical term for mushroom is futr (فطر); it is interesting that this term also refers to creation, bringing into existence for the first time, and may refer to the sudden appearance of mushrooms from "nothing". The slang term for mushrooms in Arabic is 'ushsh al-ghurab which translates into English as crow's-nest; hence something that is wild and at the same time is an ill-omen.

Lawrence, D.H. (1885-1930); his famous book "Lady Chatterley's Lover" is not very shocking today. The novel nicely sums up, however, his attitude toward the human male. Clifford Chatterley, symbolically paralyzed, is an over refined intellectual; Michaelis, a Bohemian playwright and amateur Casanova, has rejected bourgeois and aristocratic morals but is capable only of thin and artificial sensuality. The third man, the gamekeeper Mellors, is the Lawrentian man 'par excellence', the natural man. He has no Puritanical inhibitions and does not intellectualize love but feels it through his blood.

In his poem How Beastly the Bourgeois is Lawrence does not mince words:

How beastly the bourgeois is
especially the male of the species.
Nicely groomed like a mushroom
standing there so sleek and erect and eyeable-
and like a fungus living on the remains of a bygone life
sucking his life out of the dead leaves of greater life than his own.
And even so, he's stale, he's been there too long
Touch him, and you'll find he's all gone inside
just like an old mushroom, all wormy inside, and hollow
under a smooth skin and an upright appearance.

Manu, Code of; Manu is Sanskrit for man and is cognate with the German word, mann. In the Hindu legends he is the first man, ancestor of the world and chief figure in the flood story. Warned of the flood by a fish he built a ship and when the waters rose he was towed by the fish to the northern mountains. When the deluge ceased, a daughter was miraculously born to him and the pair became the ancestors of the human race. Later he was the reputed author of the renowned law book, the code of Manu, where in 6,c.100 is the text:

Let an ascetic eat no honey, no flesh, no mushrooms, nor anything grown on plowed ground.

Marlowe, Christopher (1564-1593); English dramatist and poet, the greatest Elizabethan playwright after Shakespeare. He was involved in OO7 type operations, including intelligence gathering about the Spanish Armada attack in 1588, and his murder was somehow associated with them. His poetry is of a high order and "The Passionate Shepherd to his Love" is well known. In The Jew of Malta 4:6

'Tis a strange thing--- he lives upon pickled grasshoppers and sauced mushrums.

In Edward the Second, 1:4

'Tis treason to be up against the king
So shall we have the people on our side
which for his father's sake lean to the king
But cannot brook a night-grown mushrump
Such a one as my lord Cromwell is.

Martial (Marcus Valerius Martialis c.A.D. 40- c.104); Roman writer of epigrams. Though born in Spain he went to Rome in 64 where he was aided by his countrymen, the philosopher Seneca, the poet Lucan and the orator Quintilian. He depicts every class of Roman life--emperor, courtier, peddler, beggar, lawyer, philosopher, innkeeper, jockey, fop, slave, parasite and debauchee. The sum of his philosophy is this: to live one's own life heartily from day to day without looking forward or back and to be one's own self without trying to be that which nature did not intend. In his chosen field Martial has never been equaled. Many of the best epigrams in the modern languages are translations or adaptations from his writings. Epigram #22, ascribed to Martial, shows his style--note the play on boleti and leti:

In Macrinum

Defungi fungis homines, Macrine, negabas:
boleti leti causa fuere tui.

Against Macrinus

You used to deny, Macrinus, that men could become
defunct through fungi:
mushrooms have made room for your heirs.

In Book 12, epigram #48:

If you serve me mushrooms and boar as your usual fare, and don't imagine that these are what I pray for, I am willing to come; if you believe I am becoming wealthy, and you want to be written down my heir for 5 Lucrine oysters, good-bye.

Mencken, H.L. (1880-1956); American editor and satirist. He soon abandoned creative writing for ideological warfare and participated actively in all the controversies that rocked America in the 20's--prohibition, censorship and evolution. (He is, of course, the newspaperman in "Inherit the Wind", an exciting re-creation of the Scopes' trial) His criticism was directed against the middle class (the booboisie) in general and the low level of academic scholarship in particular.

In his American Language Mencken tells us that those who repair umbrellas on street corners are called mush-fakers or mush-makers; an umbrella has been known as a mushroom since at least 1826 according to Eric Partridge. In the book "Tramping with Tramps" by Josiah Flynt Willard, 1899, we are told in 2:3 that the mush-faker or umbrella peddler was one of the last 2 remaining 'gaga' that always worked. It allowed the tramp to enter public places or gain access to homes so they could be 'cased'.

Mucor phycomycetes; this fungus has been put with the Eumycota, Class Phycomycetes. It has been stated that this substance is one of the secret poisons used by Hindu poisoners. When the spores are administered in warm water they are said to attach themselves to the throat where they develop and grow; within a few weeks the respiratory organs are attacked and the victim is rapidly carried off as if by a fatal disease.

Mushrooms, derivation of the term; mushrooms may have been first cultivated in beds of moss. An old French word for moss is moussé which may in turn have derived from late Latin, *mussirio*. The Middle English term was *muscheron*.

Mushroom City- a slang term for San Francisco (American Thesaurus of Slang by Lester Berrey)

Mushroomopolis- a slang term for Kansas City (*ibid.*); the last 2 terms probably refer to the rapid growth, at one time, of these cities and probably do not refer to the fungus.

Ovid (43 B.C.-17 A.D.); the last great poet of the Golden Age of Latin literature. The establishment of the Roman empire had produced a revival of national and imperial feeling; this period is akin to the era after the Persian Wars in Greece, the Elizabethan age in England and the beginning of the 19th century in Europe which idealized the past. Ovid's famous work "The Metamorphosis", a collection of Greek and Roman myths, are stories about heroes who underwent some sort of divine transformation. The influence of this book on Western literature has been enormous. In The Metamorphosis, book 7;393:

At last on snaky wings she coasted down
To Pieria's spring, where, in the earliest days
So legend had it, men were born from mushrooms.

Pausanias; Greek traveler and geographer who was active around 150 A.D. and was the author of: Descriptions of Greece in 10 books which gave an account of the cities of Greece. Little is known of his life; however Sir James Frazer has said, "without him the ruins of Greece would for the most part be a labyrinth without a clue, a riddle without an answer." In book 2;16,3 he tells us one version of how the famous city of Mycenae got its name. This city, in the northeastern Peloponnese, also is important because it is the name given to the last phase of prehistoric civilization in Greece (1400-1100 B.C.) It is best known as the name of Agamemnon, Clytemnestra, and their children, Orestes and Electra.

I have also heard the following account. He (Perseus) was thirsty, and the thought occurred to him to pick up a mushroom (*myces*) from the ground. Drinking with joy the water that flowed from it, he gave to the place the name of Mycenae.

Plautus, Titus Maccius (c. 250 B.C.-c.184 B.C.); 21 plays ascribed to him have survived, and the influence upon modern literature is immense. To name a few: the first English comedy 'Ralph Roister Doister' (1552) is based upon Plautus' Miles Gloriosus (Braggart Soldier), as is the character of Falstaff and Ben Jonson's Captain Bobadil. Shakespeare's 'Comedy of Errors' is based upon Plautus' 'Menaechmi'. Giraudoux's 1929 success 'Amphitryon 38' is based on the 'Amphitruo' of Plautus. His style is breezy, light and events move along rapidly. These 2 quotations give some idea of what audiences of 2,200 years ago might enjoy: from the Trinummis 4:2:852,

Pol hic quidem fungino generest:
capite se totum tegit.

Gad! he must belong to the genus mushroom:
he covers himself altogether with his head.

from the Bacchides, line 821,

Terrai odium ambulat, iam nil sapit
nec sentit, tantist quantist fungus
putidus

He ambles along encumbering the earth, absolutely
witless and senseless already, worth about as
much as a mushroom- a rotten one.

Pope, Alexander (1688-1744); greatest poet of Neo-Classicism in 18th century England. A severe illness in childhood left him a crippled hunchback, only 4'-6" tall. His real talent lay in satiric verse, sharpened to the stiletto's point. His "Rape of the Lock" starts off with a clever trifle and then expands on the foibles of fashionable society. The "Dunciad" (Epic of Dunces) is a satire on all sorts of dunces, usually pedants and the pretentious. His "Essay on Man" a sort of pseudophilosophy contains the couplet: "Know then thyself, presume not God to scan; the proper study of mankind is man". He has given the English language more familiar quotations than any other poet except Shakespeare and is unsurpassed for coining just the right phrase to distill a doctrine into an epigram. In a minor poem, Tom Southern's Birth-Day Dinner are the lines:

Resign'd to live, prepar'd to die,
With not one sin but poetry,
This day Tom's fair account has run
(Without a blot) to eighty one,
Kind Boyle before his poet lays
A table with a cloth of bays
And Ireland, mother of sweet singers

Presents her harp still to his fingers
The feast his towering genius marks
In yonder wildgoose and the larks!
The mushrooms show his wit was sudden!
And for his judgment lo a pudden!
Roast beef, tho' old, proclaims him stout,

Schobert, Johann (1730 to 40-1767); this fine composer of concertos and sonatas is no stranger to fans of WNYC-FM and WNCN-FM. He was at one time the organist at Versailles and considered by many as the best harpsichordist of his day. His style prefigured that of Mozart; indeed, the 8 year old Wolfgang was introduced to Schobert in 1763 and, according to Papa Leopold, the child prodigy was profoundly impressed. The sister of Goethe, Cornélie, said of his music: "Toute autre musique ne me plait presque plus"--no other music pleases me more.

Schobert was very fond of mushrooms. Late in August he and a group of friends were picking mushrooms in Pré-Saint-Gervais, a village near Paris. They took their collection to a restaurant and asked that they be prepared and served. The cuisinier du cabaret examined them and said that they were not edible and refused to cook them. Miffed at this the party left and went to another restaurant in the bois de Boulogne and again asked that the mushrooms be prepared.; the maître d'hôtel examined them "et refuse également de leur apprêter les champignons." Schobert was now quite angry especially since a doctor in their party said the mushrooms were edible. They all went to Schobert's home where the mushrooms were served in a soup; Schobert, his wife, their children (except one), a servant and the doctor all died of mushroom poisoning.

Seneca (c.4 B.C.- 65 A.D.); Roman philosopher, born in Spain but educated in Rome. He was called the wisest man of his day by Dio Cassius and he was certainly the best philosopher of the Silver Age of Latin Literature (18 A.D.-180 A.D.). His practical Stoic philosophy is contained chiefly in the "Epistulae Morales" (Moral Letters) which are wonders of philosophical clarity, reminding one of Schopenhauer. He was implicated in an unsuccessful plot to kill Nero and was ordered to commit suicide (along with the poet Lucan) by the emperor. Seneca's conduct seemed to be diametrically opposed to

his teachings; while denouncing tyranny, he was the teacher of a tyrant(Nero); he spoke against those who associated with the powerful, but did not remain aloof from the palace; he had nothing good to say about flatterers, yet fawned upon Messalina and Claudius; he found fault with the rich, yet acquired a fortune of 300,000,000 sesterces; he censured extravagance in others, yet 500 tables of citrus wood with legs of ivory. An excuse for the revolt of Boadicea, the British warrior queen, was the immediate calling in of a loan of 40,000,000 sesterces by Seneca (he had hopes of a high interest rate). This contrast between his words and actions again remind one of Schopenhauer; the German philosopher preached a kind of asceticism and negation of the will yet dined at good restaurants. When asked about this disparity he replied, " I liken myself unto a signpost which points the way but doesn't go there."

In Epistle 95,25 Seneca calls mushrooms a voluptuous poison:

Quid? Tu illos boletos, voluptarium venenum,
nihil occulti operis luducas facere, etiam
si praesentanei non fuerent?

What? Do you imagine that those mushrooms,
the voluptuous poison, work no ill results in
secret, even though they have no immediate effect?

In Epistle 108,15:

And later, when I returned to the duties of a citizen, I did indeed keep a few of these good resolutions. That is why I have forsaken oysters and mushrooms forever; since they are not really food but are relishes to bully the sated stomach into further eating, as is the fancy of gourmands and those who stuff themselves beyond the power of digestion.

In Natural Questions 4B,13:10

But good gods, how easy it is to quench a healthy thirst! Yet what can gullets feel, when they have been deadened and hardened by scalding food? Just as nothing is cold enough for them, nothing is hot enough. They greedily swallow down hot mushrooms dipped in their own sauce and almost smoking, only to extinguish them with snowed drinks.

In Epistle 77,18

You are afraid of death; but how can you scorn it in the midst of a mushroom supper? You wish to live; well, do you know how to live? You are afraid to die; but come now: is this life of yours anything but death? Gaius Caesar was passing along the Via Latina, when a man stepped out from the ranks of the prisoners, his gray beard hanging down to his breast, and begged to be put to death. "What!" said Caesar, "are you now alive?" That is the answer which should be given to men to whom death would come as a relief.

Shakespeare, William (1564-1616); English dramatist and poet who is generally considered to be the greatest author in any language in the history of the world. The word mushroom is only mentioned once in his plays--The Tempest Act 5, scene 1; however it is indeed a very famous passage for this soliloquy by Prospero is thought by many commentators to be Shakespeares own farewell to the stage-- and to the magic that he had mastered. The Bard did not write another complete play after The Tempest and retired voluntarily to his home in Stratford still at the height of his mental powers. The complete soliloquy is too long to be quoted in it's entirety:

Ye elves of hills, brooks, standing lakes and groves,
And ye that on the sands with printless foot
Do chase the ebbing Neptune, and do fly him
When he comes back; you demi-puppets that
By moonshine do the green-sour ringlets make
Whereof the ewe not bites; and you whose pastime
Is to make midnight mushrooms; that rejoice
To hear the solemn curfew;-----

But this rough magic I here abjure;
and when I have required some heavenly
music (which even now I do), To work
mine end upon their senses that
This airy charm is for, I'll break my
staff, Bury it certain fathoms in the
earth ----I'll drown my book.

In Troilus and Cressida Act.2, scene1, line 22 occurs:

Toadstool! learn me the proclamation.

Shelley, Percy Bysshe (1792-1822); Although dead before 30, he created poetic masterpieces; thinking of himself not as a poet but as a reformer, Shelley wanted to free mankind--to purify life of it's misery and evil. He had an unshakeable faith in the perfectibility of man and his poetry reflects it. His "Prometheus Unbound" symbolizes the struggle of mankind to overcome the evil powers from within itself and society. In his long notes to "Queen Mab" he attacks as immoral the political, social and religious institutions of the day, including marriage, and followed this doctrine by leaving his wife for Mary Godwin (who later wrote "Frankenstein"). In "Hellas" he praises the war for Greek independence as one chapter in the eternal struggle of the human spirit to free itself from degradation. Shelley's command of the sound effects of his verse is revealed in this poem entitled, The Sensitive Plant:

A Sensitive Plant in the garden grew,
And the young winds fed it with silver dew,
And it opened its fan-like leaves to the light,
And closed them beneath the kisses of night.

And the Spring arose on the garden fair,
Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere;
And each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast
Rose from the dreams of its Wintry rest.

According to Krieger in "The Mushroom Handbook" lines 236-243 in Part 3 refer to Cobrinus comatus; this can only be speculation, since there is no annotation.

And agarics and fungi, with mildew and mould
Started like mist from the wet ground cold;
Pale, fleshy, as if the decaying dead
With a spirit of growth had been animated!

Their mass rotted off them flake by flake,
Till the thick stalk stuck like a murderer's stake,
Where rags of loose flesh yet tremble on high,
Infecting the winds that wander by.

In Queen Mab 9, line 32:

Yon monarch, in his solitary pomp,
Was but the mushroom of a summer day.

Sinclair, Upton (1878-1968); American author, best known for his novels advocating social reform. His 1906 work, "The Jungle", a dramatic expose of the meat packing industry created a sensation and led to the pure food laws--this led Sinclair to remark, "I aimed for the public's heart but only hit them in the stomach." In "Boston" he indicted American society for murder in the Sacco and Vanzetti case; "The Brass Check" (symbol of prostitution) attacked the press for serving only the powerful interests and for their low standards; coal mines were exposed in "King Coal" and he probed the oil scandals in the Harding administration in "Oil". In 1934 he ran for governor in California under the EPIC plan (End Poverty in California) and was defeated in a hard fought campaign. He invested the profits from "The Jungle" in a socialist colony in Englewood, New Jersey, which failed. The Goose Step

(1923) claimed that American universities were financed, and thereby controlled, by the large corporations; the graduates were only narrowly and superficially trained for service in the corporate and bureaucratic structure; chapter 68 is entitled 'The Larger Mushrooms'; chapter 69 'The Little Toadstools:!

---there is a constantly increasing swarm of young people who want the social prestige which a college education gives. They have an opportunity to treat themselves to four years of pleasant idleness on papa's money and they avail themselves of that opportunity. So all over the country spring up mushroom universities, swelling to unwieldy size, and making frantic efforts to accumulate traditions and reputations. (note; names will be deleted) Let us begin with the University of - the dominant institution of the prairie county. This place contents itself with a small board of big insiders. Mr.-, president of one of the largest banks in the state; Mr.-, a banker; Mr.-, a banker; Mr.-, the largest retail merchant; and Mr.-, wealthy rancher and insurance man. All these gentlemen know money; they know nothing whatsoever about education, yet they guide the thinking of eight thousand students.

Spenser, Edmund (c. 1552-1599); born in London, he became the first great English poet since Chaucer, who had died in 1400. The English language had changed so much since Chaucer, especially in the accents, that poets had to learn to write verse all over again. Spenser was the first master who could play off the grammatical and acoustical qualities of the new Modern English. The Shepheardes Calendar consists of 12 pastoral poems, one for each month of the year; for December, we find the lines:

Where I was wont to seeke the honey Bee
Working her formall rowmes in Waxen frame,
The grieslie todestool growne there mought I see
And loathed Paddocks lording on the same. (a paddock is a frog; a → u; inhabitant of a puddle)

Swift, Jonathan (1667-1745); writer, poet, Dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin and one of the greatest satirists in world literature; he was friendly with Alexander Pope. His "Gullivers Travels" is universally read and in it Swift is constantly raising the question of whether the achievements of civilization - technology, institutions and the refinement of manners - are only a complex and decadent form of barbarism. In chapter 3, Voyage to Laputa, Swift made the amazing guess that Mars has 2 moons (they were actually not discovered until 1877). His most powerful satire on the plight of the Irish is "A Modest Proposal" in which he suggests that Ireland's over population be cured by the sale of babies as delicacies for dinner tables of English gentlemen. His platonic love affair with Esther Johnson (Stella) produced a series of remarkable letters, "Journal to Stella" a brilliant picture of a brilliant age. He was buried in the cathedral at midnight on October 22, 1745, in the same coffin as Stella, with this epitaph written by himself, "Hic depositum est corpus Jonathan Swift, S.T.P., hujus ecclesiae cathedralis decani; ubi saeva indignatio cor ulterius lacerare nequit. Abi, viator, et imitare, si poteris, strenuum pro virili libertatis vindicem." "The body of Jonathan Swift, Doctor of Divinity, Dean of this Cathedral Church, is buried here, where fierce indignation can lacerate his heart no more. Go, traveller, and imitate if you can, one who strove his utmost to champion liberty." In 1835, when the crypt was inundated, their coffin was removed and necropsies performed (the second on Swift). One of the surgeons involved was Sir William Wilde, father of Oscar, who presented a detailed report replete with accurate drawings of the craniums of Swift and Stella. The entire affair was considered an outrage. However, to put the best possible light on the affair, the doctors were trying to determine if Swift had a pathology, for he had made many misanthropic remarks, the most famous being, "I hate the whole damn human race, though I dearly love John and Mary." One is tempted to believe that Swift would have smiled at this final bit of irony for, lest we forget, Lemuel Gulliver was a surgeon. In his poem, To Mr. Congreve, line 100:

These beds of dung where schoolboys sprout up beaus
Far sooner than the nobler mushroom grows

These are the lords of the poetick school
Who preach the saucy pedantry of rules.

Sun and Moon, creation of; the Admiralty Islands are a group of about 40 islands lying north of New Guinea at 7° - 3° S. latitude and 146° - 148° E. longitude in the Bismarck archipelago. As late as the early 1900's they were cannibals. Their story of the creation has this element: when the sea had dried, man and woman appeared; they first planted trees and created food plants. Then they made two mushrooms. The man threw his into the sky creating the moon, while the woman tossed the other upward creating the sun.

Talmud, The; one usually finds the combination kemehim u-fitriyyot (truffles and mushrooms) in rabbinic literature. Although both grow in the soil one does not recite over them the blessing for vegetables but the blessing "by whose word everything was created." The Berakoth 40b in the Babylonian Talmud tells us that the reason for this is "they do not draw their nourishment from the ground but from the air." Mushrooms are exempt from tithes (Ma'aserat deals with tithes of agricultural products--such as that due the Levites in Numbers 18:21) because they do not grow by being sown, or, because the earth extrudes them--see Jerusalem Talmud Ma'as 1:1,48d. In the Ta'anit (Fast) 23a, the Babylonian Talmud, we are told that after rain had fallen in abundance and the heavens were free from clouds, "the people went into the fields and brought home mushrooms and truffles."

Tierra del Fuego; an archipelago at the southern tip of South America near Cape Horn. It was discovered by Magellan in 1520 and called by him the "Land of Fire" either from the volcanic flames or from the fires lit by the natives along the shore. Darwin visited Port Famine one of the islands on June 1, 1834 and recounts the following story in chapter 11 of: The Voyage of the Beagle,

There is one vegetable production deserving notice from its importance as an article of food to the Fuegians. It is a globular, bright yellow fungus, which grows in vast numbers on the beech-trees. When young it is elastic and turgid, with a smooth surface; but when mature, it shrinks, becomes tougher, and has its entire surface deeply pitted or honey-combed. This fungus belongs to a new and curious genus (*Cyttaria darwinii*; This genus is closely allied to Bulgaria). --- In Tierra del Fuego the fungus in its tough and mature state is collected in large quantities by the women and children, and is eaten uncooked. ---With the exception of a few berries, chiefly of a dwarf arbutus, the natives eat no vegetable food besides this fungus. --- at the present time, I believe, Tierra del Fuego is the only country in the world where a cryptogamic plant affords a staple article of food.

Tennyson, Alfred (1809-1892); most influential English poet during the Victorian age; He was the poet laureate for 42 years and, taking his duties seriously, produced works like "The Charge of the Light Brigade" which expressed his country's appreciation for heroic action. He explored other ideas: people who live apart from society, surviving on aesthetic pleasures, are destroyed when they attempt to enter society, as in "The Lady of Shallot"; "Maud" shows the destruction of an individual's personality brought on by the evils of a totally materialistic society. In a poem entitled Alfred Tennyson by Richard LeGallienne are the following lines:

Great is advertisement! tis almost fate;
But, little mushroom-men, of puff-ball fame
Ah, do you dream that to be mistaken great
And to be really great are just the same.

Virgil (or Vergil) (70-19B.C.) ;"the Roman Homer" who composed 'The Aeneid', the national epic of Rome recounting the wanderings of the hero Aeneas from the fall of Troy to the founding of Rome. He wrote an extensive poetic work on agriculture in 4 books treating crops, trees, cattle and bees which is entitled, The Georgics; from 1,392 we are told,

And even maidens spinning at their looms,
can sense the storm, when oil starts sputtering
in the burning lamp
and a moldy fungus gathers on the wick.

Yeats, William Butler (1865-1939); Irish dramatist, essayist and, according to T.S.Eliot, the greatest poet of our time. He and Lady Gregory founded the famed Abbey Theatre in 1904. His works fall into 4 periods: (1) a romantic period lasting until about 1908 with the subject matter consisting of Irish fairy tales, Celtic myths and love poetry (2) a modern period lasting up until about 1917 when he was chiefly under the influence of the American poet Ezra Pound (3) In 1917, the year of his marriage to a medium who had visions, he changed directions again. This new type of mythology might be called a mixture of astrology and Oswald Spengler's "Decline of the West"; it concerns the 28 phases of the moon, relating them to types of personality as seen through huge cycles (4) the period of 1928 until his death death with might be called truly modern poetry--which seems to be rather cold. The central theme appears to be that creation and destruction go hand in hand. In a poem printed in 1887 and entitled A Dawn Song are the following lines:

From the waves the sun hath reeled,
Proudly in his saffron walking;
Sleep in some far other field
Go his poppies now a-hawking;
From the hills of earth have pealed
Murmurs of her children talking-
My companions two and two,
Gathering mushrooms in the dew
Wake, ma cushla, sleepy-headed
Trembles as a bell of glass
All heaven's floor, with vapors bedded-
And along this mountain pass,
With their mushrooms lightly threaded
On their swaying blades of grass,
Lads and lasses, two and two,
Gathering mushrooms in the dew.

Proxy Ballot

For those unable to attend the December meeting, the following is a proxy ballot. Mail it to Bill Rokicki, It must be received by Dec. 14th.

I would like to cast my vote for the following NJMA officers for 1981:

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary: _____

Treasurer: _____

Signature

...the following ...

...the following ...

...the following ...

...the following ...

...the following ...

...the following ...

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c/o Jim Richards, President

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