



# The Decree

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N.C. WESLEYAN COLLEGE, ROCKY MOUNT, N.C.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 1979

## WILLIAMS AND FLINT VISIT WESLEYAN

by Smead Jolley

Wesleyan will host two poets during March, Jonathan Williams and Roland Flint. Both poets have previously read their poems here during the 1977-78 academic year. Williams will arrive first, and will lecture to the Friends of the Library on Monday, March 5th, in the library at 8:00 in the evening. The subject of the lecture will be The Jargon Society, the publishing company Williams originated in 1951 and has run single-handedly since then. On Tuesday morning at 11:00 o'clock he will read a selection of his poems in the Audio-Visual room. Roland Flint will be on campus March 26th and 27th, and available for conferences with student poets. He will also be attending and speaking at some classes. He will read his poems at 8:30 on Monday evening the 26th in the Browsing Room of the library.

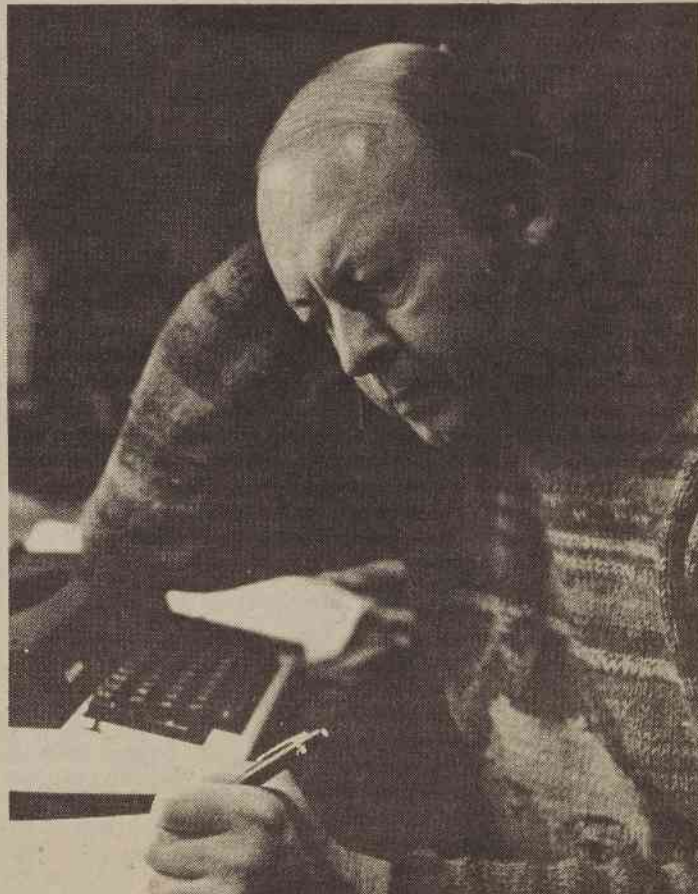
Both poets will read from new books. Williams will be celebrating his 50th birthday in March with the publication of two books of poetry: The

Elite Elate Poems, from his own Jargon Press; and Shankum Naggum, published for the occasion of his visit by the Friends of the Library at Wesleyan. These books will be for sale at the reading and will be available thereafter at the college bookstore. Roland Flint's second book of poems, Say It, was published in January by the Dryad Press. Copies should be available from the college bookstore. The Friends of the Library will be publishing "Muncie," a poem from Say It, in broadside form, and this will be available free at Mr. Flint's reading.

Williams is a native of Highlands, North Carolina, and now divides his time between Highlands and England. He has published the work of many of the leading poets of the twentieth century, as well as having many volumes of his own poetry published. Williams attended Princeton University for two years and studied painting and design in Washington and Chicago before discovering

the educational opportunity afforded him nearer home by Black Mountain College, where he studied, off and on, between 1951 and 1956. In 1977 he received the North Carolina Award in the Fine Arts for "his many and various contributions as poet, publisher, essayist, editor, designer and lecturer to the cultural life of North Carolina and the country at large."

Originally from North Dakota, Roland Flint now lives in Washington, D.C. where he teaches courses in literature and writing at Georgetown University. In 1970 he received a Discovery Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. In 1972 he received Georgetown University's Edward B. Bunn Award "for faculty excellence." The Corcoran Gallery awarded him its first Poetry Award (to a poet in the Washington area) "for achievement and promise." Two books of his poems are available from Dryad Press: And Morning (1975) and Say It (1979).



Jonathan Williams



## A very strange society

"A very strange society" is the phrase the novelist Allen Drury used to describe the Republic of South Africa. The second annual North Carolina Wesleyan Spring Symposium will examine some of the aspects of this, the most racially segregated society in the world today.

The Symposium's keynote speaker will be Leonard M. Thompson, Professor of African History at Yale University and one of the world's most distinguished authorities on South Africa. Professor Thompson will address the college community twice. His keynote speech will be entitled "Afrikaner Nationalism." His second address will involve an assessment of South Africa's future. Professor Thompson lived in South Africa for twenty-five years, and has written or edited numerous books and articles, among

them The Oxford History of South Africa and Survival in Two Worlds: Moshoeshoe of Lesotho.

The Afrikaners, the subject of Thompson's keynote address, are the dominant white ethnic group in South Africa. Their system of race segregation -- called Apartheid -- reserves 87 percent of South Africa's land for whites, even though whites make up barely 20 percent of the population. White wages are more than ten times higher than black, and approximately ten times more black babies die in infancy than white.

The continued application of Apartheid laws has, according to some observers, brought South Africa to the brink of race war. Some 290 blacks were killed by police during riots in 1976. Then, in 1977, world attention was again focused in South Africa

following the death after a police beating, of the black leader Stephen Biko.

Another thrust of the Symposium will be an examination of United States policy toward South Africa. John East, Professor of Political Science at East Carolina and influential in Republican Party politics, and Christopher Nteta, a black South African now living in Boston, will discuss this issue.

Two films, "Last Grave at Dimbaza" and "The Afrikaner Experience," will complete the Symposium schedule.

Those students who want Convocation Credit for this term must attend the Keynote Address, the discussion of United States policy, and at least one of the showings of "Last Grave at Dimbaza." All other Symposium events will receive regular Convocation credit.

### SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

Monday, March 19  
10:30 am - +Keynote Address: "Afrikaner Nationalism" Leonard M. Thompson, Yale University, Everett Gymnasium  
2:30 pm - "South Africa: What of the Future?" Professor Thompson, Room 105

8:00 pm - ++Film: "Last Grave at Dimbaza" Room 105 Tuesday, March 20  
9:30 am - ++Film: "Last Grave at Dimbaza", Room 105  
11:00 am - ++Film: "Last Grave at Dimbaza" Room 105  
1:00 pm - Film: "The Afrikaner Experience" Room 105  
2:30 pm - + "United States

Policy toward South Africa: a Discussion", John East, East Carolina University, Christopher Nteta, Boston State College  
+ Required for Convocation Credit for Spring Term  
++ Students seeking Convocation Credit for Spring Term must attend at least one showing, and are advised not to wait until the last one unless necessary.

**FEBRUARY 12, 1979**  
**WESLEYAN'S OFFICIAL**  
**SNOW DAY**