News / Nouvelles

Spenser at Kalamazoo

Special sessions on Spenser will be held at the Thirteenth Conference on Medieval Studies, 4-7 May 1978, Kalamazoo, Michigan. Address inquiries to: David Richardson, Department of English, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

Clifford Leech

On July 26, 1977, Clifford Edmund John Leech died in Toronto after a brief illness. He was born in London on January 19, 1909, before meritocracy eased the path of straitened talent. He was educated at Clapham College and Queen Mary College; held posts at University College, Swansea, and at the University of Durham before coming to the University of Toronto, from which he retired after serving as Chairman of the Department of English and as Acting Director of the newly-formed Graduate Centre for the Study of Drama. From 1941-1945 he was seconded to the British Council in the Middle East. He was a visitor and consultant at major universities on four continents, and his honours included doctorates from institutions in France and Canada, and the friendship and respect of students and colleagues. A 1976 checklist of his publications — incomplete — includes fifteen books or monographs; eight editions; 110 articles or contributions to books, and eight pages listing reviews or review-articles. Most of these deal with English Renaissance drama, but pieces on De Quincey, O'Neill, Charlie Chaplin, and a collaborative translation from the Turkish suggest the range of his interests. As General Editor of the first seventeen volumes of the *Revels Plays* he set a standard of care and learning which has changed

both the tasks and expectations of scholars. The current entry in **Who's Who** lists his recreation as "getting angry." The chief occasions of his anger were sham and meanness in academic life, and scholarly writing that — like this notice — provided the details without the spirit.

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