



2007

Editorial Statement

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Recommended Citation

(2007) "Editorial Statement," *The Bridge*: Vol. 30 : No. 1 , Article 3.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/thebridge/vol30/iss1/3>

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Editorial Statement

Two articles in this issue of *The Bridge* were written by recipients of grants from the Edith and Arnold Bodtker Fund for Research and Internship awarded and administered by the Danish American Heritage Society. (For a recent update on the Bodtker Fund and all its recipients see the report by DAHS board president James D. Iversen in the February 2007 issue of the society's *Newsletter*). In the first of these articles, Anders Rasmussen explores the large and complicated issue of ethnicity and Scandinavian immigrants during the American Civil War. The other recipient, Torben Tvorup Christensen, uses one Danish immigrant family to test the assimilation model developed by Elliott Barkan, one of the nation's leading immigration historians

Thorvald Hansen, surely the dean of Danish-American historians, recounts the efforts of several emigrant individuals and groups to establish utopian societies in the United States.

Laura Petersen Balogh introduces us to Karl Dane, a Danish-born movie actor whose meteoric rise as a celebrity in Hollywood's silent film era was followed by an equally stunning fall from fame that contributed to his tragic death.

J. Christian Bay (1871-1962) and Christian Petersen (1885-1961) are two Danish immigrants whose contributions to history, literature and art live on long after their deaths. In 1950 they collaborated for an article in *Julegranen* and now, more than half a century later, we are happy to publish James D. Iversen's translation of Bay's poignant story of an immigrant family during wartime along with its two illustrations by Petersen.

The books under review in this issue cover a wide range of topics. We thank our reviewers for sharing their time and expertise with us.

This issue marks the 30th year of publication for *The Bridge*. For the convenience of our readers and researchers interested in the Danish American experience, an index of all issues is now available on our website at <www.danishamericanheritagesociety.org>