

# BANCROFTIANA

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## *Thomas W. Streeter*

AMONG RECENT DISTINGUISHED VISITORS to the Library, none was more warmly welcomed than Thomas Winthrop Streeter, long-time Friend and honorary member of the Friends' Council. Having travelled to San Francisco to receive the California Historical Society's fourth annual Henry R. Wagner Memorial Award at a dinner honoring the publication of his multi-volume *Bib-*



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*liography of Texas*, Mr. Streeter visited the Berkeley campus on September 28th. His stay in the Library was necessarily too brief, but we are pleased to report his favorable impression of our treasures and of the security measures for their preservation.

A fine scholar and meticulous bibliographer, as well as possessor of one of the outstanding private collections of Americana, Mr. Streeter was particularly interested in our holdings and methods of cataloging imprints, such as those of Texas and various

Mexican states, and early lithographs of California. He also viewed the special exhibition in the Reading Room, including items reflecting his own long friendship with the bibliographer of the "Spanish Southwest"—Henry Raup Wagner.

Following the Library tour, Dr. Hammond was host at a Faculty Club luncheon for Mr. Streeter, Dr. James D. Hart, Assistant Director Robert Becker, Dr. J. S. Holliday, Mr. Dale L. Morgan and Dr. John Barr Tompkins. Later in the afternoon Mr. Streeter had an opportunity to meet other members of the faculty and of the Berkeley community at a reception given him by Chancellor Edward W. Strong at University House. The day's activities closed as Dr. Hammond officiated at a small campus dinner for Mr. Streeter and some of his old California friends.

## *Hammond's Fruitful Sabbatical*

BANCROFT'S DIRECTOR, Dr. George P. Hammond, returned early in July from a year's sabbatical leave, most of which he spent together with his wife, in Spanish archives and libraries.

For the first two months of his leave, however, he remained in Berkeley, preparing Volume VIII of the Larkin Papers, and sent it to the University Press for publication. The volume is expected to be ready for distribution before Christmas. With a brief-case full of data on specific "calls" for the Bancroft Library, he then set out on a motor trip across the United States, stopping wherever duty required—Los Angeles, El Paso, Austin, Anadarko (Oklahoma), Fort Smith and neighboring towns in Arkansas, Bloom-

ton (Indiana), and various places in New England.

Dr. and Mrs. Hammond spent a delightful six weeks in Deerfield, Massachusetts, in the Spruyt cottage, where they renewed their friendship with Mrs. Antoinette Spruyt, an enthusiastic friend who played an important role in the presentation of the papers of her grandfather, General Henry M. Naglee, to the Bancroft Library by his daughter, Mrs. Marie R. Robins. Here in the heart of the Berkshire country Dr. Hammond worked on a book for the Coronado Historical series, entitled "From Coronado to Oñate." It is a new study of the several expeditions to New Mexico before its permanent occupation by Don Juan de Oñate in 1598. The book will be published by the University of New Mexico Press.

The Hammonds then enjoyed a leisurely voyage on the *Westerdam* of the Holland-America Line from New York to Rotterdam. In November they obtained a Volkswagen at the factory, and immediately started for "sunny" Spain. There they were greeted by rain—heavy rains—which continued all year. The result: Spain this year has harvested one of its best crops in a generation. Even the province of Extremadura, birthplace of Cortés and Pizarro, proverbially dry and barren, was as lush as a garden.

In Madrid, during most of the winter, the Director worked in the great libraries and archives of the capital—Biblioteca Nacional, Museo Naval, Real Academia de la Historia, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, and others—and in the spring, he spent several weeks in the Archives of the Indies in Seville. There he was greeted most warmly by the Director, Dr. José de la Peña, who had many fond memories of his visit to the Berkeley Campus of the University in October, 1961. While in Seville, the two Bancrofters witnessed the celebrated *Semana Santa*, and made a tour with Dr. Peña of the Columbus country—La Rábida, Palos, and other places where the discoverer of America lived and made preparation for his pioneer voyage of 1492.

Toward the end of their European trip, the Hammonds motored to Paris, flew to London for conferences at the Public Record Office, returned to the Continent for a tour

of southern Germany, including Munich and Salzburg, and into Austria as far as Vienna before continuing to Denmark and Holland—and home again by sea. While in Germany they took special pleasure in visiting The Palatinate, ancestral home of Charles M. Weber, founder of Stockton, California. Weber came to the Golden State in 1841. His granddaughter, Mrs. Helen Weber Kennedy, is a member of the Friends' Council, and an enthusiastic supporter of the Library.

Dr. Hammond's current trip to Spain was his third in the past forty years, and the best, he says. Spain today is taking giant strides for the betterment of her people, is making vast improvements for the tourist industry, and is surging forward in the modern technological revolution.

### *Bigler's Chronicle*

JUST OFF the University of California Press is a delightful new book on the Gold Rush, well written and illustrated, neatly printed, and small enough to slip into one's pocket for reading at a moment of leisure. For Erwin G. Gudde, the author, it marks another of many studies of California history. This one is particularly significant in its analysis of the discovery of gold, its comparison of the remarks of all the important writers on the beginning of this miracle, and its mature reflection on their contributions.

Dr. Gudde dedicates the book "To Dale L. Morgan, Fellow Historian of the American West." Both of these men, Mr. Morgan, a member of the staff, and Dr. Gudde, an assiduous reader, are the leading scholars in this field.

### *Thanks to Dr. Hart*

THE BANCROFT LIBRARY owes a debt of gratitude to the University's former Vice-Chancellor, James D. Hart, who served as Acting Director while Dr. Hammond was on sabbatical leave of absence in Spain.

It was a good year, which marked the fruition of a number of projects and the initiation of others. Among the highlights were the establishment of the Bancroft Library Publications Fund, creation of two

Bancroft Library Fellowships, dedication of the Silvestre Terrazas Collection, and the acquisition of many significant collections.

Though June 30th was the last day of Dr. Hart's term of office in Bancroft, before flying to Yugoslavia to represent the University at a conference at Dubrovnik, his long-time interest in the Library still continues, and we shall always count him a member of "the family."

### *Class of 1912*

DURING COMMENCEMENT WEEK this year, Bancroft Library played host to the Class of '12, and we may say with some pride that all had a wonderful time. It seemed both fitting and proper to salute this distinguished group on its 50th anniversary, not only because the Library is deeply indebted to many of its members for their long and loyal support, but also because, with help from Miss May Dornin of the University Archives, we were in a position to present a mirror of the past, which, as a small notice in the exhibit proclaimed, "was for their amusement and amazement."

Special thanks go to Newton B. Drury, former Director of the U. S. National Park Service, and Amos Elliott, retired industrialist and rancher, for their splendid cooperation in making the exhibit a success. Through their efforts we were able to draw upon the valued mementos of such distinguished class members as San Francisco attorney Herman Phleger and former U. C. baseball coach Clint Evans.

One of the pictures in the exhibit was a group portrait of the Band of 1912, a member of which was identified as Earl Warren. Since the Chief Justice was an honored guest at the reunion of his class, we were anxious to get his verification, and found to our regret that the person in the picture was not, as a matter of fact, Earl Warren, but one of his classmates. The Chief Justice told us that it was not unknown, in those days, for an indigent but enterprising student to gain free admission to an athletic event by borrowing a uniform and an instrument (whether he could play it or not) and marching in with the band.

Some two hundred members of the Class

of '12 came to see the exhibit. It is safe to say they enjoyed it almost as much as the Library staff did. Pictures of the Junior Prom and Senior Ball startled a number of the guests, especially the ladies, who found it hard to realize that they once wore such strange-looking gowns.

Among the pictures were a series of the California Varsity Football Team of 1912 taken through the years up to 1950. Each photograph attempted to duplicate the subjects and their positions in the previous pictures, and it was surprising that the most recent group portrait was remarkably like the first. All were struck by the enormous vigor and abundant youth displayed by this, one of the most accomplished classes to be graduated from the University. We look forward to meeting them again in 1972 under similar circumstances.

### *Report on Terrazas Fund Drive*

THE GLOW OF SATISFACTION that came with the dedication of the Terrazas Collection on May 6th still pervades the Bancroft Library. The audience at this event, the Friends' fifteenth annual meeting, overflowed the Library's quarters. Among the guests were Miss Margaret Terrazas, chief representative of the family, and eleven other members of the Terrazas clan, all of whom were delighted that the papers of their father and grandfather, Don Silvestre Terrazas, would be preserved as a memorial to him and maintained for the use of historical research at the University of California.

The Terrazas papers represent the first great collection on the Mexican revolution of 1910 to become generally available in this country to the scholarly world.

To meet the cost of its purchase, the Friends pledged a total of \$16,000.00, of which \$6,000 has been paid from members' annual contributions, \$5,000 to be paid in June, 1963, and another 5,000 in June, 1964. The remainder of the \$70,000 has been pledged by private individuals and by the Regents of the University.

To date the Friends, in response to a special appeal for donations to this fund, have

received \$3,018.00, a sum that fell far short of expectations, to our great regret. *Bancroftiana* readers are reminded that year-end gifts will be much appreciated, and that they may give securities or other gifts of value as well as cash, all of which would serve a very worthy purpose and qualify as year-end tax deductions.

## California Newspapers

HELEN HARDING BRETNOR, a member of Bancroft's staff since 1942, is the editor of *A History of California Newspapers, 1846-1858*, just released by The Talisman Press of Georgetown (formerly of Los Gatos), California. Written originally by Edward C. Kemble, a California pioneer of 1846, and first published in the *Sacramento Union* of December 25, 1858, this history preserves the story of California's early newspapers obtained while the material was still available. None knew this history better than Kemble, who had been a part of that profession since January, 1847. Mrs. Bretnor has enriched this edition of Kemble's history by an Index of some 500 newspapers and nearly 1,000 newspapermen of that period.

## Officers of the Friends

AT A LUNCHEON MEETING of the Friends' Council held on October 9 at Jack's Restaurant in San Francisco, officers for the new year were elected. O. Cort Majors of San Francisco, Class of '21 and a former president of the California Alumni Association, was chosen chairman; Perc S. Brown of Orinda, vice-chairman; Malcolm W. Moss of Berkeley, treasurer, and George P. Hammond, also of Berkeley, secretary. The Council meets every two months, except for the summer season. If members have matters to bring to its attention, they are invited to send such items c/o The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley 4.

## R. R. Retires

AFTER EIGHT YEARS as secretary of the Bancroft Library, and a total of twenty years with the University, Mrs. Ruth Rodriguez

has retired and is now on her way to Europe via the Panama Canal. She plans to visit England, Portugal, Denmark, Turkey, and any other spots between that catch her fancy.

R. R., as she was popularly known, had a talent for organization, attention to detail, and a knowledge of protocol gained in the President's Office before she came to Bancroft, that gave importance to her work. And she had a flair for writing, editorial skill, and a familiarity with foreign languages that were helpful in the preparation of many Bancroft publications.

## Annual Reports

IN SPITE OF the useful purposes they serve, annual reports have a way of getting lost, and of swiftly becoming out of date. They must be prepared after the year's work is done, and the task sandwiched in between the on-rushing duties of the new year. By that time the staff is deeply absorbed in other projects—rearranging work space, meeting visitors, and processing new collections—yet, withal, they must record the highlights of the past year's events. For those of you who would like to have a copy of the Library story, as told in its annual report, for 1961-62, we will be pleased to send it if you will drop us a postcard. We also have a few copies of the 1960-61 report for those who would like to have one.

## A Farquhar Gift

AT THE LAST MEETING of the Council, Mr. Francis P. Farquhar announced that he had something nice for the Library. That something nice, among other things, turned out to be a magnificent copy of George H. Goddard's *Map of the State of California . . . San Francisco, 1857*, which makes an extremely important addition to our cartographic collection. Carl I. Wheat described it as ". . . not only well constructed from the technical standpoint, but it was by far the most accurate and complete map of California and of its gold regions which had as yet been published. Hundreds of towns, diggings, bars, flats and other settlements are set forth in a profusion which renders detailed discussion impracticable."