

BANCROFTIANA

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Annual Meeting, 1965

CALIFORNIA HALL, one of the older and still one of the handsomest buildings on the Berkeley campus, was the scene on May 23 of the 18th annual meeting of the Friends of the Bancroft Library. It was a memorable afternoon, full of surprises, for it was the last meeting that George Hammond would attend as Director of the Bancroft Library.

The meeting was called to order by O. Cort Majors, and the members were welcomed by Director Hammond, who announced the magnificent gift to the Library of the papers of Captain Charles M. Weber, the founder of the city of Stockton.

Dr. Hammond then introduced Dr. Ray A. Billington, an outstanding scholar and historian of the American West. Dr. Billington's address, "Frederick Jackson Turner, the Making of a Historian," showed how proximity of great collections of source material can influence the direction and result of a scholar's research. Billington pointed out that the great Draper Collection at the Wisconsin Historical Society had its effect on Turner and brought about his ideas on the significance of the frontier in American history—ideas that are still of great importance. Because of these collections and libraries, of which the Bancroft is a notable example, the future of historical scholarship is immeasurably strengthened, for, as Dr. Billington said, it is from exposure to such a collection that future scholars will receive their inspiration and form their concepts and ideas.

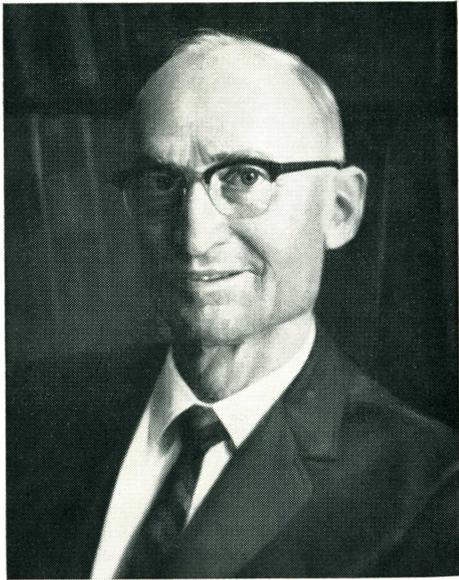
Following the Billington address, Mr. Majors stated that the remainder of the program would honor George Hammond, retiring as Director of the Library. He then introduced Dr. J. S. Holliday, former Assistant



Dr. Billington chats with Professor Charles L. Camp, paleontologist and noted historian of the West.

Director, who presented as a gift to the Library from a group of the Director's friends a beautiful portrait of Hammond, recently painted by Maynard Dixon Stewart, one of the Bay Area's outstanding artists. Mr. Robert Becker, present Assistant Director, received the painting on behalf of the Library, and announced the establishment of a new tradition: that each future Director, upon his retirement, be memorialized by a portrait to be added to the Library's collection.

Mrs. Richard Y. Dakin then presented to Director Hammond a copy of the 1965 Friends' keepsake, *G. P. H.—An Informal Record*, essays by friends who have known Hammond and the Library for many years, and the Director replied with remarks that are printed in this issue of *Bancroftiana*. Donald Coney, University Librarian, spoke on the continuity of tradition from the time of



Maynard Dixon Stewart's portrait of George P. Hammond, presented to Library at Annual Meeting

Hubert Howe Bancroft to the present in the wide range of interest in subject and area. And Acting Chancellor Martin Meyerson expressed the enduring interest of the Berkeley administration in the Bancroft Library. He congratulated Director Hammond on such a successful tenure as shown by the flourishing state of the Library, and then announced the appointment of a new Director, Professor A. Hunter Dupree of the Department of History. Professor Dupree, administrator and scholar, is well acquainted with the Library, its strengths and its needs.

Following a brief farewell by Director Hammond, the meeting was adjourned to the Library itself, for refreshments, and an opportunity to view the impressive exhibit consisting of representative materials acquired in the Hammond era, the program for which was printed by Lawton and Alfred Kennedy.

Friends' Finances

BECAUSE OF AN OVER-FULL PROGRAM, the customary reading of the Treasurer's Report at the Annual Meeting was postponed by Chairman O. Cort Majors, who promised to

include a summary of it in this issue of *Bancroftiana*.

Mr. De Witt Alexander, our Treasurer, reported that with approximately 1,000 members and generous contributors, our bank balance now is \$12,300.00. Total expenses for the year were \$22,466.00, of which \$14,472.00 covered the printing of *Bancroftiana*, the 1964 and 1965 keepsakes, and various notices and brochures.

There are no unpaid current liabilities as of June 30, 1965. However, The Friends, as an organization, is a party to the option for purchase of the Honeyman Collection, and there remains a balance of a little less than \$30,000 to be subscribed to complete this \$550,000 acquisition.

Bancroft's New Director Dr. A. Hunter Dupree

IN ANNOUNCING the appointment of Professor Dupree as the new Director of Bancroft Library, Acting Chancellor Martin Meyerson noted Professor Dupree's interest in the place of science and technology in American civilization, and that his two major lines of inquiry have concerned themselves with the relation of science and government, and with the development of evolutionary thought in 19th century America.

Both of these inquiries, the Chancellor stated, "... have led him to cut across the conventional subdivisions of American history, involving him in political, social, and intellectual history in every period from Columbus to the present. The field of Western history, congenial to him as a native Texan who grew up close to Coronado's route across the Llano Estacado, has figured in chapters of both of his works, and several doctoral dissertations directed by him have contributed to the field. Morgan Sherwood's, *Exploration of Alaska, 1865-1900*, just published by the Yale University Press, is a clear indication that Professor Dupree's students have taken up again at least one subject in which the most important predecessor history is the classic work of H. H. Bancroft himself."

Dr. Dupree's own published works in-

clude: *Asa Gray, 1810-1888*, Cambridge, 1959; *Science and the Emergence of Modern America, 1765-1916*, Chicago, 1963; and *Science in the Federal Government; a History of Policies and Activities to 1940*, Cambridge, 1957.

Election of Council Members

EACH YEAR four members are elected to the Council, the Friends' governing board, for four-year terms. Those whose terms expire this year are Mrs. Richard Y. Dakin, Gerald H. Hagar, Warren R. Howell, and Donald H. McLaughlin. At the Annual Meeting, Chairman O. Cort Majors read the report of the nominating committee—LeRoy E. Krusi, chairman—which proposed the re-election of Mrs. Dakin and Messrs. Hagar and McLaughlin, and nominated Dr. Albert Shumate, former president of the California Historical Society, in the place of Mr. Howell, who has served two terms and was thus ineligible for re-election. The recommendation was approved and the four will serve until 1969.

Captain Charles M. Weber Papers

A GIFT to the Bancroft Library of one of California's great family archives, the Charles M. Weber Papers, was announced to the Friends at the Annual Meeting on May 23 as one of the high moments of that memorable affair. Captain Weber's only granddaughter, Mrs. Gerald D. Kennedy of Stockton and San Francisco, some time ago decided, with the approval of her four daughters, Mrs. John E. Cahill, Mrs. Harold W. Cookson, Mrs. Jerry C. Cole, and Mrs. St. George Holden, that the meticulously preserved family papers would be best cared for in the Bancroft Library; here, students of California and Stockton history will now reap the full benefit of this decision.

Charles M. Weber, who was born in Germany in 1814 and came to the United States in 1836, traveled overland to California in

1841 as a member of the celebrated Bartleson Company. He soon settled at Pueblo de San José, where he became one of the prominent members of the community and was granted Mexican citizenship in 1844. He acquired the first large land grant on the San Joaquin, El Campo de los Franceses, and there founded the city of Stockton in the late summer of 1847. Ever afterward, to the time of his death in 1881, the Captain was identified with the growth and welfare of Stockton, and his papers afford an unrivaled inside view of the growth of this interior metropolis.

The Friends will shortly publish a general account of the Weber collection by George P. Hammond and Dale L. Morgan, *Captain Charles M. Weber, Pioneer of the San Joaquin, and Founder of Stockton*, to be printed in Lawton Kennedy's handsome style and available to the membership at a special discount—a book that does full justice to the Captain's papers, maps, books, pictures, and memorabilia. Fuller details of this event will be supplied hereafter.

John Marsh, Pioneer

BY THE GENEROUS ACT of Mrs. George D. Lyman and her daughter, Mrs. David Potter, who made a special pilgrimage to the Library on May 27, the Bancroft Library has broadened the scope of its John Marsh Family Papers by the addition of various manuscripts acquired by Dr. Lyman during and after the time he prepared his celebrated biography of *John Marsh, Pioneer* in 1930. The Lyman collection includes such valued items as four journals for 1817-1818 written while Marsh was a Student at Danvers, Lancaster Academy, and Andover, in Massachusetts; drafts of eight letters written between 1846 and 1855, including five of Marsh's "Agricola" communications to the *California Star*; and several letters written to him between 1841 and 1846. The main body of the papers of the celebrated "doctor" who came to California in 1835 and later settled near Mount Diablo came to the Library several years ago, also by gift.

The visit of the sparkling and vivacious Dorothy Lyman, with her engaging daughter, had a grievous sequel forty-eight hours

later, when an automobile accident in Belmont cut short a life we had hoped would extend far beyond its finally allotted 77 years.

Thomas W. Streeter

"THERE WERE GIANTS in those days," and one of the giants passed from the scene in Morristown, New Jersey, on June 12, 1965, when Thomas Winthrop Streeter died of a heart ailment at the age of 81. Friend and disciple of Henry R. Wagner as collector and bibliographer, friend and rival of William Robertson Coe and Everett D. Graff among the great modern collectors of Western Americana, Tom Streeter last visited us at Bancroft in September, 1962, at the time he was given the California Historical Society's Henry R. Wagner Memorial Award in recognition of the completion of his remarkable five-volume *Bibliography of Texas, 1795-1845*.

Gentle and winning in his manner, Tom had a deep devotion to scholarship, and at various times was an officer of the New York Historical Society, the American Antiquarian Society, the Bibliographical Society of America, the Fellows of the Pierpont Morgan Library—and of our own Friends of the Bancroft Library. He was also a fellow of the California Historical Society and a member of the Walpole Society and the Massachusetts Historical Society. Alas, Tom, where shall we turn now when we have a problem needing an answer, or a "find" needing exultation by someone who cares from the heart?

GPH: an Informal Record

THE CLOSELY-GUARDED SECRET of what would be the Friends' Keepsake for 1965 was released on May 23, when at the Annual Meeting of the Friends Susanna Bryant Dakin rose to make formal presentation to Bancroft's retiring Director of:—*GPH: An Informal Record of George P. Hammond and His Era in the Bancroft Library*. This remarkable 119-page work resulted from the collaboration of numerous friends and colleagues, with contributions by O. Cort Majors, Dale L. Morgan, Agapito Rey, Charles L. Camp, Robert H. Becker, Robert E. Burke,



Mrs. Dakin presenting the Surprise Keepsake

Warren R. Howell, Susanna Bryant Dakin, J. S. Holliday, and France V. Scholes. In addition, it contains a bibliography of "George P. Hammond's Publications" by Francis P. Farquhar, and the text of "GPH's First Appearance in Print: *Impressions of Spain*," originally published in the North Dakota University *Quarterly Journal* in 1923.

Printed in Lawton Kennedy's superb style, the book *GPH* is not only a thorough exploration of the life and work of the energetic gentleman who has served as Bancroft's Director from 1946 to 1965, but an unusually informative survey of the Bancroft Library—where it has come from, where it is going, and what makes it tick, not to mention some of the treasures it contains, magnetic in their attraction to scholars all over the world. The book has now been distributed to the membership, and a limited supply is available for new Friends of the Library and its long-time "boss."

GPH to the Friends

To gratify those who could not be present at the 1965 Annual Meeting, we print Dr. Hammond's remarks made after the presentation by Susanna Bryant Dakin of the book *GPH*.

MRS. DAKIN, MR. CHAIRMAN,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

Thank you and the group of friends who planned and wrote and printed this book. At the moment I am more moved than I can easily express. Thoughts of so many events surge into my mind. Perhaps I really

should sit down and devote the next half hour or so to finding out what is in this beautiful book. That something special was afoot, I realized, since a few of you talked to me a year or more ago about a bibliography of my writings to be published at the time of my retirement. The title page, however, indicates that this book is at least as much about the Bancroft Library as about me. That is a subject dear to my heart, as all of the Friends are aware, after so many years of close association, of planning and working for our common interests.

This is a very special occasion since it is the last Annual Meeting that it will be my privilege to attend as Director, and I am overwhelmed by all that you have done today. It has been a great pleasure to preside over such an institution as Bancroft; a pleasure made doubly great by the way so many of you have put shoulder to the wheel to help lighten the burdens of the day.

When I came to the Bancroft Library in 1946, the staff was very limited, and the library itself sorely cramped for space. A new wing of the General Library was then on the drawing boards, and it was planned that Bancroft should have more adequate quarters there. This move, "down from the Attic," came in February, 1950. Paradoxically, after the growth, the expansion that we have experienced this score of years, facts of which we on the staff may be more conscious than you, we are in a sense where we were in 1946, with severe space limitations and a need for more staff. Again, the University Administration is giving serious thought to Bancroft's future, if plans have not yet crystallized far enough to be sent to the drawing boards. The bursting growth of Bancroft, in which we have all shared and in which we have taken so much satisfaction, necessarily confronts the University with what, after all, is a welcome problem, whatever the attendant discomforts.

Bancroft is a most challenging institution. The greatest challenge is to maintain its stature as one of the great libraries of the world. That means growth, activity, progress. There will never be a time when we can rest on our laurels. Unless a library can continue to grow, it will become second-rate; it will become dated. It must fall behind in

the race with other institutions, and its own students and faculty will suffer accordingly.

Professor Paul H. Buck, historian and librarian of Harvard, has said that it takes a first-class library to make a great University; and that only such a library can satisfy or nurture a great faculty. Perhaps we could also observe that it takes great institutions, with imaginative and tenacious leadership, to make great libraries. The Bancroft Library will always be dependent in large measure for its stature on the level of excellence maintained by the University of California itself.

In such a context, I would like to express to the University Administration—the Regents, the President, the Chancellor and his assistants, the Faculty, and the University Librarian, Mr. Coney—my gratitude for responding to my requests for Bancroft these nineteen years past, for increasing the staff, for providing better quarters and greater funds for books, manuscripts, maps, and other library materials.

To the Bancroft staff, with whom I have worked from day to day over these years, I would like to voice a special word of thanks for their enterprise and activity in helping to develop and maintain smooth and efficient routines—in cataloguing, in service operations of every sort, handling everything from microfilm to the rarities of the centuries, and trying to satisfy, if not always with complete success, the requests of our patrons.

To the Council of the Friends, busy men and women not only from the Bay Area but from more distant parts of the State, I wish to pay special tribute. Selflessly you have devoted your talents to promote the usefulness of the Bancroft Library, given freely of your wisdom, encouraged and inspired both the staff and the patrons of the Library; and always you have shown remarkable zeal in aiding the Library to acquire new collections, whenever these have come to our notice.

To the Friends as a whole, the Bancroft Library owes a debt greater than I can adequately express. You are the public relations arm of the Bancroft Library, and in considerable measure of the University Library itself. You spread abroad understanding of the Library and its aims, opening the way

for further growth; and your financial contributions make possible much that we could otherwise only dream about. I hope that there will ever be a strong and vital Friends' organization to champion the interests and ideals of the Bancroft Library; and that similar groups will spring up on the campus to support other divisions of the University.

During most of next year I shall be in Spain, teaching at the University of Madrid under a Fulbright grant. But wherever I may be, the Bancroft Library will be a part of my very existence. The nineteen years spent here have been the most exciting and most gratifying of my career. In a time of stirring growth and constant activity, the Library has been a stimulating place in which to work. Here is my home, and I shall always be returning to it.

On leaving for Spain, I take great satisfaction in reflecting that the Bancroft Library has been entrusted to such capable hands. Professor Dupree, the new Director, is a friend of long standing. For nearly ten years, we have had adjacent offices, have attended historical conferences and programs together, and visited in one another's homes. He and his wife are a charming pair, able, resourceful, friendly, or, in the Spanish phrase, *muy simpático*. I envy them the opportunities that will unfold during the coming years in moulding Bancroft's future, and wish them a lot of pleasure in their work. I am sure that the Friends will welcome them heartily. My sincere congratulations to Dr. Dupree on his appointment as Director; and my congratulations to the University as well. He faces a big job; but he is a man unafraid of such a task. You, I know, will give him your hearty and full support.

And so I say, not "Goodbye," but merely "Hasta la Vista."

Charter Day, 1874-1965

ONE OF BANCROFT LIBRARY'S newest responsibilities is the administration of the University Archives, and with it, the preparation of an annual exhibit to commemorate Charter Day. This year's exhibit, March 22-29, arranged by James R. K. Kantor, the University Archivist and former member of the Bancroft's Reference Staff, reflects not only

recent activities on campus but those of former years.

Highlights of 90 years of Charter Day celebrations are the first observance on March 23, 1874, at which Junior Class member, Josiah Royce, delivered the prize oration on "The Modern Novel as a Mode of Conveying Instruction and Accomplishing Reform." (How exciting!) There are photographs of Theodore Roosevelt's appearance in the Greek Theatre in 1911, and of David Prescott Barrows' inauguration as the University's ninth president in 1920.

World leaders have participated in many Charter Day celebrations, among them Secretary of State George C. Marshall, who spoke in 1948, and President John F. Kennedy, who addressed an audience of 92,000 in Memorial Stadium in 1962. President Kennedy placed his signature at the top of his typed speech and presented the text, in its loose-leaf Airforce notebook, to the University. Pages from this typescript show JFK's manuscript changes—and his nearly illegible handwriting—with his wry humor: the phrase "I am forced to confront an uncomfortable truth and one that may be generally incompatible for some of you: that the New Frontier may well owe more to Berkeley than to Harvard."

The University Archives, as well as the Bancroft Library as a whole, has a concern not only with the happenings of the years gone by, but also with present events which, after all, become part of history in a very short time.

Detective Story

LIBRARIANS tend to know a little bit about a lot of things; we cannot have the intensive knowledge of a specific topic which our patrons have, but we try. Recently, while examining a collection of uncatalogued manuscripts thought to be from the Spanish mission churches in Sonora, Mexico, one of the scholars using our Library came across an unidentified mission census of Indian families. He pointed out to us that this kind of document was more likely Californian than Sonoran; that the priests in the latter area were in a sense "circuit riders," who did not have an opportunity to prepare such a record.

The document consists of 109 leaves, with a title which may be translated as: "General Census of this Mission with Ages as of the Last Day of December, 1803, . . ." It is unsigned and has been compiled by several hands, with the families arranged alphabetically by the first name of the husband, and the age, baptismal registry number, and baptismal sponsor given for each individual, *e.g.*:

AGE	NAME	BAPTISM NUMBER	SPONSOR
47	Juan Nepomuceno Barcelo	116	Martin Reyes

Since baptisms were numbered serially in the registers of the California missions, a relationship could be established between each number and the date when it was used, a relationship confirmed in our register by 26 names for which information was presented on the date of baptism and the age of the person at that time. Moreover, since the progress of conversion, as well as the birth rate, varied from one mission to another, the registry numbers used at one mission during a given year would obviously never be exactly the same as those used at another.

Thus, in 1780, when Silverio María Garcés' baptism was the 686th listed, there was only one mission in California to use that number—Mission San Antonio de Padua, located near the present King City. The supposition that our census belonged to this mission was confirmed by other evidence. The number 116 used for Juan Nepomuceno Barcelo's baptism would date it as an entry for 1773, and our records of the military escort at the mission during that year include the name of a soldier, Martin Reyes, who acted as sponsor for Barcelo.

Further corroboration came from other records, including a burial entry from Mission San Antonio for one of the men noted many times in the census as sponsor of baptisms. So we were able to establish the fact that our document is part of the records of the Mission San Antonio between 1803 and 1835.

Documents such as this—unidentified and orphaned—often have value only as period pieces or curiosities. However, interested scholars and a devoted staff can sometime transform such a curiosity into a valuable tool for research.

The Wimmer Nugget

IN CONNECTION WITH HIS WORK on Henry Bigler and the discovery of gold, Dr. Erwin G. Gudde has examined again the evidence concerning the first piece of gold picked up in the tailrace of Sutter's mill on January 24, 1848. It is the so-called Wimmer Nugget, acquired a few years ago by the Bancroft Library.

As widely as the two principal witnesses, James Marshall and Peter Wimmer, might disagree in other respects, states Dr. Gudde—they both agree on these essential facts: it was Marshall who picked it up; it was Mrs. Wimmer who boiled it in soap suds to test it; the weight of the nugget given by Wimmer as six-penny-weights, eleven grams, is close to Marshall's estimate of "about fifty cents" (in silver); the nugget was given to Marshall by Mrs. Wimmer. The only point where the two witnesses differ concerning the nugget is this: Marshall claimed in 1857 that Mrs. Wimmer had given away this and other gold dust entrusted to her when she bought some merchandise in May or June, 1848; Wimmer claimed in 1855 that his wife had kept and preserved this historical piece of precious metal.

Whatever readers may prefer to believe, Dr. Gudde thinks that the Wimmer Nugget preserved in the Bancroft Library should be recognized as the first gold picked up in 1848 until proof to the contrary is presented.

Younger Every Year

FRIENDS who drop in from time to time to see what's new at Bancroft (unable to wait for BANCROFTIANA) all too often share the dismayed look of the graying staff at seeing how *young* today's college students look, as compared with the seasoned characters of yesteryear. Of late this dismay has bordered upon absolute panic, so we are happy to report that many of those thronging through Bancroft's door these days have some way to go. In fact, a large majority are 4th graders coming in groups from the whole Bay Area to see the Drake Plate and the Wimmer Nugget. The Committee on Admissions will not be concerned with them for a while yet.

Williams Papers

THROUGH THE GENEROSITY of Miss Gwladys L. Williams, former Bancroft staff member, and her brother, Mr. E. T. Williams of Berkeley, the Library has received the papers of their late father, Edward Thomas Williams, Agassiz Professor of Oriental Languages and Literature at the University of California, Berkeley, from 1918 until 1927. Consisting of twelve boxes, the collection covers a wide geographical range, reflecting the very catholic career of Dr. Williams during the 90 years of his lifetime.

Born in Columbus, Ohio, in 1854, Williams graduated from Bethany College in 1875, and was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by his Alma Mater in 1915. For a period of nine years beginning in 1887, he was a Protestant missionary in China, and in 1896 was appointed to the staff of the U.S. Consul General at Shanghai. During the following two decades he served as Consul General at Tientsin, later Secretary of the U.S. Legation at Peking, and from 1914 to 1918 held the post of Chief of the Division of Far Eastern Affairs in the State Department. Even after his official retirement from the State Department in 1918 and his acceptance of the Agassiz Professorship (the oldest endowed chair at Berkeley), Williams was twice called back to official service—in 1919 as a technical delegate to the Versailles Peace Conference, and in 1921-22 as adviser to Secretary of State Charles Evans Hughes during the Washington Conference on Limitation of Armaments and Pacific and Far Eastern Problems.

Dr. Williams was twice decorated by the Chinese Government, in 1918 and again in 1936. Upon his academic retirement in 1927, he presented to the University his Oriental collection which now forms a part of the East Asiatic Library. His death occurred at Berkeley in January, 1944.

Included in the Williams Papers are literary manuscripts, notebooks, scrapbooks, photograph albums, copies of official documents, and personal correspondence relating both to his activities and to his publications, including *China Yesterday and Today* (1923) and *A Short History of China* (1928). Supplementing the extensive collection of papers

of the first Agassiz Professor, John Fryer, also in the Bancroft Library, the Williams Papers will provide a rich source of information relative to United States activities in China during the last years of the Manchu dynasty and the first years of the Republic.

Looking Forward— The Machine Age

OBSERVING the apparently irresistible march of technological progress, and aware of the vast number of man's troubles that have been eased or eliminated by the Machine, we have concluded that perhaps in this direction lie the ultimate answers to our own most vexing problems—insufficient staff and inadequate space. After consulting the papers of Mr. Rube Goldberg, recently given to the library, we have come upon a solution which may warrant consideration.

We visualize first a rapid scanning device, coupled with permanent memory tape, in order to reduce the old-fashioned, bulky research materials—books, maps, and manuscripts—to mathematical symbols condensed on a few hundred reels of magnetic tape, doing away with the necessity for book stacks and work space for the staff. The latter would by then be redundant anyway.

Computers might next be programmed to perform the research and writing in Bancroft, eliminating the need of space for visiting scholars.

Nor is there any reason to stop there.

The computers would be connected to printers that would fix on memory tape the products of the research once done by humans; the tapes would be fed back automatically into the Machine; and we would have an almost completely self-sustaining Bancroft Library. We would need only one white-coated technician to press the ON button at 8:00 A.M. and the OFF button at 5:00 P.M. When a self-operated, button-pressing device is perfected, the cycle would be complete.

Of course, those reels of tape will pile up in time, presenting another storage problem. But let us have faith in technological progress to find solutions here too.