Cause for Celebration

On the last day of February, 1966, O. Cort Majors and Mrs. Richard Y. Dakin called upon Chancellor Roger Heyns to present the University of California with the great Honeyman Collection. Funding was under­taken and completed by The Friends' Honey­man Collection Committee, giving cause for such a celebration as is depicted on the cover in a rare “letter sheet” from Gold Rush days. The following, self-explanatory letter (un­illustrated) will be read at the March meet­ing of the Regents:

Dear Chancellor Heyns:

It is with a real sense of achievement that The Friends of the Bancroft Library an­nounce acquisition of The Robert B. Honey­man, Jr., Collection of Early Californian and Western American Pictorial Material, for the Bancroft Library situated on the Berkeley campus of the University of California. The response to our drive for more than half a million dollars has been state-wide. During a three-year period of planning and fund-raising by The Friends' Honeyman Collection Committee, contributions of time, thought and money have come from city and country in California, even from farther away.

We wish to express gratitude, above all, to the University of California Regents—for their initial, “brave” gift of $50,000, and to the several individuals, separated geographic­ally but united in generosity, who subscribed from $5,000 to $50,000 to make our task easier. More than one hundred lesser gifts are included in the total purchase price of $522,000. A pamphlet is enclosed, to indicate the scope and importance of The Honeyman Collection.

From the beginning, there was urgency in our task, because such a valuable treasure trove never can be assembled again, for any purchase price. Also, representatives of two great universities (Texas and Yale) approached Mr. Honeyman—anxious to acquire his collection. Feeling that the University of California, specifically the Bancroft Library, was the logical depository, Mr. Honeyman agreed to a price in line with two appraisals that we contracted for. (Texas and Yale) gave us an option for a five-year period. We appreciate his generosity, and constant cooperation.

The Honeyman Collection of pictorial ma­terial will have many uses in this visual age. To facilitate the public in services which staff members of the Bancroft Library excel, cata­loging has been completed by Joseph Arm­strong Baird, Jr. A publication is being planned, depicting and describing the Li­brary’s most recent acquisition; and master­pieces of The Honeyman Collection are dis­played in the Reading Room and elsewhere in the Bancroft Library.

Most sincerely,
O. Cort Majors
Co-Chairman
Allan Sproул
Co-Chairman
Susanna Bryant Dakin
Vice-Chairman

Council of The Friends

After several years of effective service as Council Chairman, as well as Co-Chairman of the Honeyman Collection Committee, O. Cort Majors has resigned in order to work full-time out of the Chancellor’s Office on funding the University’s new Art Center on the Berkeley campus. A short time ago, he retired from a successful business career with Fibreboard Paper Products Corporation; and returned to the campus where he had shone in youth as a member of UC’s “Wonder Team.” Besides being a football hero, Cort was one of Dr. Bolton’s western history stud­ents. His interest in the Bancroft Library dates back to the 1920s. Good luck, Cort, in your new career. We know that you remain a faithful Friend, if no longer an officer. As Vice-Chairman, Joseph Bransten became Acting-Chairman at the time of Cort’s resign­ation, early in the year. How fortunate we are, to have a Council full of officer-material. No “antileadership vaccine” seems to have been applied, around here.

Two other valued members have been lost to us lately — Regent Gerald Hagar by death, after many years of brilliant and devoted service to the University where he received his Law training; after graduation in 1920 from the University of Michigan; and Val­entine Brookes, by resignation after yeoman­service during the Honeyman campaign. We hope that Val will return to the Council, at some less pressured time in his life. After consultation with the 1966 Nominating Committee, and a vote by mail, Acting-Chairman Bransten has appointed the following distinguished individuals to serve our three unexpired terms—Mrs. Dixon Wecter, Dr. J. S. Holliday, and Mr. Harold Gilliam.

The name of the noted scholar, teacher and writer, Dixon Wecter, is known to us all. Elizabeth is a good deal younger than her late husband. Since his sudden, tragic death in 1950, she has filled several professional jobs very creditably. She has written book reviews for the Saturday Review, through the years; and prepared Dixon’s final book, Sam Clem­mens of Hannibal, for publication (it was fin­ished in essentials but not in details like indexing, etc. cetera). She worked full-time for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in a capacity that included editing the Museum Quarterly, and writing interpretive notes for varied art exhibitions. Most recently, she has served as Public Relations Officer for the newly-founded Athenian School in Diablo. Her talents are varied, and she will be a valu­able new Council member.

“Jim” Holliday is an old friend. Assistant Director in the Hammond Era, he left the Bancroft Library a few years ago to teach and write. Recently, he became an Associate Professor at San Francisco State College, and an Associate Editor of that noteworthy new magazine, American West. Two Holliday books are near publication—one on the Gold Rush called A Pocketful of Rocks, and the other, not quite at the “telling” stage.

Harold Gilliam is a native Californian whose special interest in the Bay Area was aroused during his student days on the Berkeley campus of UC. He is most widely known for San Francisco Bay, a unique “pro­file” of the beautiful body of water on which he gazes every day from his Telegraph Hill apartment. This book was published by Doubleday & Company. Frequently he writes feature articles for the San Francisco Chron­icle (a colleague of our Council member, Mrs. Joseph Henry Jackson, who is Chil­dren’s Book Editor).

Welcome, all three.

The Nominating Committee, including Francis Farquhar as Chairman, Susanna Da­kin and Charlotte Jackson, are preparing a slate of officers to be presented for election at the Annual Meeting of The Friends of the Bancroft Library. During the February Council Meeting (luncheon upstairs at “Jack’s,” as usual), the date was set for Sun­day, May 15; and the Speaker selected.

Francis Farquhar, author of the best-selling History of the Sierra Nevada recently pub­lished by the University of California Press, will recount some of his experiences as a young man—learning of explorations of the Sierra Nevada from old-timers who them­selves had known the region as a vast, mys­terious wilderness. An extensive exhibit will feature superb, mountain-­eering photographs by Mrs. (Marjory) Farquhar, as well as pic­torial and documentary materials from the Library’s holdings. These will be chosen and arranged by members of the staff. Chancel­lor and Mrs. Heyns have been invited to be our honored guests that afternoon. Encircle May 15 on your calendars. Details as to time, parking, et cetera, will be mailed later.

What The Friends have done

All men live by dreams, but perhaps none more so than those who guide the develop­
The Friends’ gift in 1955 of the 1833 edition of the Book of Commandments and in 1956 of the Constitution of the State of Deseret (1849) were keystones in the Library’s collection of Mormon literature, and made it one of the most important centers for the study of Mormon history outside the official Church repositories.

The Friends often have made gifts which added to collections already established, and greatly increased their value and interest. Such gifts were the Newton Miller Gold Rush letters from the years 1849 to 1862; the Frémont family letters, which joined the Library’s collection of Frémont papers in 1962; the Louis Nusbaumer journal of the famous Death Valley emigrant party of 1849; the document containing the signature of Sir Francis Drake, now displayed with the Drake Plate; the Portolá Documents, presenting a vivid picture of the difficulties of the first expedition for settlement of Alta California, almost all unknown and unpublished; and the Howell-Zeitlin Collection, including such important items as the Rivera y Moncada journals, previously unknown letters by Fathers Junipero Serra and Eusebio Kino, and many others, for the purchase of which The Friends continually express their admiration and appreciation.

Another type of gift in which The Friends have taken a lead is quite different from what Hubert Howe Bancroft collected, although with its magnificent atlas of drawings by Charles Bodmer, all in full color. No library built since 1950 would have turned any library into a very important collection of pictures. Here, too, the gifts of The Friends have been enlarged to uniform size, magnificently printed and mounted on a convenient and protective backing. The skill with which these pictures were selected, photographed and printed, and the fact that they are here brought together and made easily available, is a service for which students and scholars greatly increased their value and interest.

Another very rare and important book, toward whose purchase The Friends contributed heavily, was Libra Astronomico of Carlos de Sigüenza y Góngora, printed in Mexico in 1691. Written as a reply to an attack by Father Eusebio Kino, this work deals not only with astronomy, but is a spirited defense of the culture and intellectual achievements of Mexico, of Mexican scientists and of the author. It pictures vividly the growing enlightenment of the age which also saw the expansion of Mexican settlement into a large part of what are now the western United States.

Of the Making of Pictures, too, There is no End

As a result of the recent merging of two San Francisco newspapers, the Bancroft Library has received a magnificent gift—an estimated 500,000 film negatives and prints of pictures from the San Francisco News-Call Bulletin. Virtually every aspect of life in San Francisco and the Bay Area is covered by this remarkable collection. Public officials, educators, society leaders, sportsmen, laborers, military personages, appear singly and in convention; police and courtroom activities are covered in all their raw reality. Intercollegiate and prep-school sports constitute a significant segment of the collection, and artists and their activities are featured.

The Wyland Stanley Collection, purchased for the Library by the Friends in 1961, is one of the most important collections for students of the West. It is a service for which students and scholars frequently express their admiration and appreciation.

The Zelda Mackay Collection, purchased in 1961, is one of the most important collections for students of the West. It is a service for which students and scholars continually express their admiration and appreciation.

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made each year to advance the interests of the Bancroft Library. It has not been possible under this program for The Friends to both interested members and the general public. The $15 price placed upon the book is below cost; but under the terms of the benefaction, members are to be permitted to purchase the volume at a thirty per cent discount ($10.50) provided they do so by June 1, 1966, and order from The Friends direct. Seven hundred copies have been printed for sale, of which a proportion has been allocated to the antiquarian book dealers who for sale, of which a proportion has been allocated to the antiquarian book dealers who have staunchly supported the Bancroft Library down through the years. Possibly the edition should have been larger—this is one of the things we are going to find out by experience, to govern us in the future. It now appears that the sale will be a resounding success, the book completely sold out by June, first-come, first-served. In such an event, the way will have been opened for other general publications by The Friends. It is exciting Christmas Americana. For some years ago Mrs. Roehm, long a Berkeley resident, brought into the Library an amazing Cathlin archive, preserved over the years in family attics. This collection consists of several hundred letters by the father, mother, brothers, and sisters of George Catlin, along with many by the artist himself, all of which had passed into the keeping of George's youngest brother, Francis, their very existence undreamed of by Catlin biographers. Struck with the wealth of new material and by Mrs. Roehm's informed yet unsentimental viewpoint on her family, Dr. Hammond urged her to make a book out of such a treasure trove.

Since then, over a period of more than six years, we have observed Mrs. Roehm working on this book, improving it draft by draft, and emerging at last with a truly exciting piece of Americana. It has a foreword by Dale L. Morgan, who served the author in an advisory capacity. When the book appears in April, the event will be signalized by an exhibition in the Bancroft showcases of many of the outstanding manuscripts in the Catlin collection generously presented to the Library by the author.

**LL. D. for GPH**

Winging back from his post as Fullbright Professor at the University of Madrid, Dr. George P. Hammond will in the Greek Theatre on Charter Day, March 25th, to receive an honorary degree from the University's Regents. The LL.D. will be granted to the Bancroft's retired Director in ceremonies at which the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, Arthur J. Goldberg, will be principal speaker and also will receive an honorary degree. Friends of the Bancroft are gratified by this signal honor being shown the man who, from 1946 to 1965, guided the Library in its period of greatest expansion. Both Dr. and Mrs. Hammond will find a warm welcome from the staff and other close associates, during the two-week visit in Berkeley from March 23 to April 7.

**Staff Activities**

Since 1903, publication of an annual "Lake-side Classic" by the Lakeside Press (R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company) of Chicago has been exciting Christmas Americana. For some forty years M. M. Qualfe edited this annual publication, and during that period a central theme was the opening and development of the West. After five years devoted to the centennial observance of the Civil War, the Lakeside Press again has taken up with its old love, and the classic issued last Christmas was Harriet E. Bishop McConkey's *Dakota War Wopps*, concerned with the Sioux uprising in Minnesota in 1862, which inaugurated the Sioux Wars that came to a final end at Wounded Knee in 1890. The editor of this new edition of Mrs. McConkey's book (first published in 1894), is Dale L. Morgan, who has been a member of the staff for the last twelve years. Last year Morgan also will edit the 1966 classic, a Hawaiian title of general interest.

By way of keeping up with Morgan, we might note that last year he spread the great name of Bancroft abroad in the land by (1) writing in collaboration with Charles Kelly a totally revised edition of the latter's Old Greenwood (first published in 1936); (2) addressing the North American Fur Trade Conference at St. Paul on November 3, an address to be published in the May issue of *American West*; (3) receiving from the New York Westerners at their November meeting that group's annual Buffalo award, which single out Morgan's *The West of William H. Ashley*, 1822-1838, as the most notable work of Western Americana published in 1964; (4) serving (with Allan Nevins, Herman R. Friis and Robert W. Johannsen), as a member of the advisory committee on a project for the Highway of John Charles Frémont, a project sponsored by the University of Illinois under the general editorship of Donald Jackson. Some of our man's activities inside the Library, meanwhile, are reported in other columns.

A talent for bringing home the bacon is one we hope the Bancroft staff will never lose. Lately we have been taking pride in Mary Ellen Jones, who since April, 1964, has been one of the Library's energetic manuscript cataloguers. A native of the "Lincoln land," Springfield, Illinois, Mary Ellen was exposed to history early. In the course of World War II, while her family moved hither and yon about the country, she discovered the fascination of rural cemeteries, how much was revealed of towns and townsfolk by what the tombstones said. After that, she headed for the cemetery on first reaching any new land, "often being shown the man who, from 1946 to 1965, guided the Library in its period of greatest expansion. Both Dr. and Mrs. Hammond will find a warm welcome from the staff and other close associates, during the two-week visit in Berkeley from March 23 to April 7."

Changes in Leadership

In the middle of January last, Dr. A. Hunter Dupree, appointed in July, 1965, to succeed Dr. George Hammond as Director of Bancroft Library, announced to the Council of The Friends that Chancellor Heyns had approved his request to return to full time teaching and research. Dr. Dupree is well known as the author of the definitive biography of Asa Gray, the famous American botanist. He has begun to develop the study of the history of science in America and its tremendous impact upon our civilization, and his research already has produced two important works: *Science and the Emergence of Modern America, 1765-1915*, and *Science in the Federal Government, A History of Politics and Activities to 1940*. It is to be expected that he will continue to contribute to a major degree in the interpretation of our recent past. We wish him well in the advancement of his chosen career.

During the time required to find a new Director, Chancellor Heyns has requested that Donald Coney, the University Librarian, serve as Acting Director, beginning February 15, 1966. Robert H. Becker, Assistant Director, will be responsible for all normal Bancroft operations, including relations with The Friends. Susanna Dakin will serve as Secretary to The Friends, traditionally an office of the Director of the Bancroft Library. **IN THE MIDDLE OF January last, Dr. A. Hunter Dupree, appointed in July, 1965, to succeed Dr. George Hammond as Director of Bancroft Library, announced to the Council of The Friends that Chancellor Heyns had approved his request to return to full time teaching and research. Dr. Dupree is well known as the author of the definitive biography of Asa Gray, the famous American botanist. He has begun to develop the study of the history of science in America and its tremendous impact upon our civilization, and his research already has produced two important works: *Science and the Emergence of Modern America, 1765-1915*, and *Science in the Federal Government, A History of Politics and Activities to 1940*. It is to be expected that he will continue to contribute to a major degree in the interpretation of our recent past. We wish him well in the advancement of his chosen career.

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Endowed was she, with the “dear gift of life.”
Eternity, for Freda, did not mean endless death.
It meant endless life. Or, better yet, it meant both:
life as the light and death as the shadow
that pursues it without ceasing. The rest of us
can say we know this, before the final testing;
but for Freda it became a plain and ever-present,
beautiful fact. Only a distinguished spirit could
see it as she did. We know that by nature she was
always generous and wise, beyond any call of duty
to be so. Now her own nature has simply joined
with all nature in celebrating things as they are.

In recent years and months, during the difficult
days and nights when she had accepted the fact of
her mortality, Freda realized that death rims life
with the beauty of transiency. It is because beauty
is always passing—clouds moving, waters flowing,
leaves scattering, youth aging—that it so pierces
our hearts. The valley of life is shadowed with death
but we separately can say “This is my valley
and I will live at peace in it.” Freda Kennedy
lived in rare peace and goodwill toward her fellow men.
Does such a spirit ever die? Or will it influence
chosen friends and members of the family,
even through the generations?

"She worked with quiet patience encompassing in her grasp the varied concerns of her
responsible life as mother, companion, and the keeper of the records.

"She went forth to greet each new face with a subtle expectancy that invaded the heart,
causing the stranger to shed his strangeness and to find himself warmed by the fires of her
spirit."

So wrote the Reverend Howard Thurman in tribute to his friend Freda. Tributes and
heart-felt expressions of sympathy to Lawton and Alfred Kennedy, have been many and
varied. This small family radiated harmony and excellence. One member cannot be thought
of without the others and the loss of Freda from the triumvirate is grievous.

Friends are contributing amounts, large and small, to the Freda Kennedy Memorial
Fund. By the expressed wish of her family, the total will go into the Bancroft Library Pub-
llication Fund. This was originated by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Y. Dakin in memory of their
daughter Sara Hathaway (1939-1961), a promising young writer. It will grow through such
generous gifts as the Kennedy Memorial Fund into an ever greater source of important and
enduring bookmaking.