Annual Meeting of The Friends, 1966

On May fifteenth, The Friends of the Bancroft Library gathered together in California Hall on the Berkeley campus to hold their nineteenth annual meeting. Dr. Albert Shumate, Acting Chairman of The Council, welcomed the SRO audience, particularly Chancellor and Mrs. Roger Heyns, the honored guests. Quoting Chancellor Heyns' benison for The Friends: "It is a fact of academic life that a great university relies very heavily on the intelligence, understanding and support of different segments of society, and by all odds is most dependent, I think, upon people like yourselves. This kind of support is, of course, partly financial, but probably more important than anything else, it is support for the intellectual enterprise and a willingness and desire to continue to participate in the academic life. You are, by your support for the Bancroft Library, not only aiding a great library, but you are aiding a great university in its effort to continue to be great."

Speaker of the Day, Francis Peloubet Farquhar, was then introduced by Dr. Shumate. Mr. Farquhar is known to all of you as a founder and first Chairman of The Friends, beloved scholar of the Sierra, a man to match his mountains. He spoke of the Sierra Nevada, an hour's polished presentation delivered without notes nor pause. To remind readers of Bancroftiana of the University's recent publication of Mr. Farquhar's History of the Sierra Nevada would indeed be redundant. And he is the '66 recipient of the Wagner award, highest the California Historical Society has to offer.

After the meeting a reception was held at Bancroft Library, where Chancellor and Mrs. Heyns held court. Everyone received the delightful “Keepsake,” Charles Camp's Desert Rats, designed and printed by the Kennedys, father and son; and viewed a stunning exhibition, prepared by the staff members, of Bancroft pictorial and documentary material dealing with the Sierra Nevada. The exhibit was based on chapter headings of the Farquhar History, augmented by Mrs. Farquhar's superb photographs of the mountains. As in the past, the exhibit was a “one night stand,” because of lack of exhibition space within the Bancroft Library. The staff works so hard and effectively to display rarities, yet so few people are able to see and study these annual exhibitions. Qué lástima!

Chancellor Roger Heyns, Council members Francis P. Farquhar, Donald McLaughlin, J. S. Holliday talking to Harold Gilliam.

1965-1966

The last issue of Bancroftiana described some of the year's major happenings: the completion of the fund-raising drive for the acquisition of the Robert B. Honeyman, Jr., Collection of Pictorial Western Americana; the publication of Captain Charles M. Weber; the resignation of Professor A. Hunter
Dupree as Director of the Bancroft Library; and the awarding of the L.L.D. degree to Director Emeritus George Hammond at the Charter Day Ceremony.

Dr. and Mrs. Hammond flew over to Berkeley from Spain to receive the degree, returning to Madrid where Dr. Hammond will continue for another year as Fulbright Professor at the University. The Friends and the Library were particularly gratified at this recognition of the man who has been in such large part responsible for growth and development of Bancroft over the past two decades.

Moreover, it is pleasant to report that the Hammond tradition of energetic acquisition, devoted friends, and sheer good fortune, are continuing. Gifts and special purchases for the year will total more than $350,000. The final appraisals are continuing. Gifts and special purchases for the year will total more than $350,000 when the final appraisals are made.

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Moreover, it is pleasant to report that the Hammond tradition of energetic acquisition, devoted friends, and sheer good fortune, are continuing. Gifts and special purchases for the year will total more than $350,000 when the final appraisals are made. Additionally, a recent gift of similar materials is that of Todd Stein, who has given to the Library a collection of magic lantern glass slides, painted by the renowned artist, George Catlin, whose papers were given to the Library by Mrs. Marjorie Catlin Roehm, a Catlin descendant and author of The Letters of George Catlin and His Family.

The Friends, too, continue to benefit from the Hammond years. Their first venture into commercial publishing, Captain Charles M. Weber, proved to be a smashing success. The subscription generously provided by Mrs. Helen Weber Hammond will constitute a fund for further publications of quality.

All in all, 1955/1956 was a good year. George Hammond built strong and well, and we confidently expect many good years to come.

Robert Becker, Assistant Director.

The Weber Book
All the Friends — even, perhaps, those who did not reserve a copy in time — will be gratified to hear that our first general publication, Captain Charles M. Weber, Pioneer of the San Joaquin and Founder of Stockton, California, prepared for the Library by George P. Hammond and Dale L. Morgan, was sold out shortly after publication this summer. Copies may now be obtained only as they turn up in antiquarian stores.

Printed in Lawton Kennedy’s characteristically handsome style, and with a colored frontispiece depicting Stockton as painted in 1849 by W. H. Cressy, the book describes Captain Weber’s papers, maps, books, pictures, and memorabilia. It is prefaced by a long biographical sketch of the Captain and his family, which illuminates the whole, and is graced by reproductions of many daguerreotypes of early Stockton scenes, besides two maps unknown to exist before coming to light in the Weber family collection. In his preface, Dr. Hammond describes the gift of the Weber papers by the Captain’s granddaughter, Mrs. Helen W. Kennedy, as one of the outstanding events in the history of the Bancroft Library; and those who even browse through the volume will understand why.

In view of the signal reception accorded this venture, the Friends may find it possible to embark upon further publications that will exhibit the majestic sweep of the Library’s holdings.

The Wheat Legacy
On a blue and gold day at the end of June, such a day as he had loved through all his years as a Californian, Carl I. Wheat’s friends said farewell to all that was mortal of him. He must now live in their memories, in his books, in the cultural forces he stired into being, and in his papers, which by the decision of his family will be preserved in the Bancroft Library.

Carl Irving Wheat was born in Northampton, Mass., on December 5, 1824, and as an only child moved with his parents to California six years later. In 1902 the family located at Garvanza, near Pasadena, and here Carl was reared. He graduated from Pomona College in 1915, subsequently went to France with the American Ambulance Service, and toward the end of World War I was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Air Service of the U.S. Army. After returning home in the summer of 1919 he married Helen Millspaugh, then went to Harvard to complete the studies which made him a Bachelor of Laws in 1920.

Returning to California, Carl inaugurated a long and successful law career, begun in Los Angeles, and later pursued in San Francisco and Washington, D. C. He served early as chief counsel of the Railroad Commission of California, became public utilities counsel for the City of Los Angeles, and still later was special telephone counsel for the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, to say nothing of his private practice.

Carl’s interest in California historically and geographically was triggered in his childhood by his father, but accelerated only after his coming to the Bay Area in 1922. Here he fell in with Henry R. Wagner, Francis Farquhar, Charles L. Camp, and other kindred spirits who had just resuscitated the California Historical Society and soon he was contributing to the Society’s Quarterly, eventually becoming its editor. (Hereafter, before going off to Washington, D.C., he transformed the annual publication of the Historical Society of Southern California into a quarterly, editing this journal for two years.) With a lively interest in people, immensely gregarious, fun-loving, and with a profound feeling for organization, Carl made an extraordinary impression on the society in which he moved. He was a prime force, when not the actual founder, in such institutions as the Roxburgh and Zamorano clubs and E Clampus Vitus; and in his two-year term as Chairman of the Council of The Friends of the Bancroft Library, he did much to give forward impulsion to the library. It is impossible to cite here all his cultural and civic contributions.

His true life work, historically, turned out to be his twenty-five-year struggle to organize knowledge about the maps of the American West. Carl made a brilliant beginning in 1922, when he published his Maps of the California Gold Region. He followed this up in 1954 with a work in which Dale L. Morgan collaborated, Jedediah Smith and his Maps of the American West, and with a “preliminary study,” Mapping the American West, 1540-1857. He then plunged into his master-work, the five-volume Mapping the Transmississippi West, 1540-1861, which was published at intervals from 1957 to 1963. This definitive study of Western mapping was completed under almost unimaginable difficulties, for Carl was assailed by a first stroke in the summer of 1966, and by a succession of others involving progressive paralysis. It was after a fifth stroke that he died at his home in Menlo Park on June 23, unlettered and undefeated.

Dale Morgan, Associate Research Specialist, Bancroft Library.

California—Special Issue
Recently, during the sorting of a small group of printed ephemera from the T. W. Norris Collection a special issue of the Californian for October 24, 1856, was discovered. A single leaf printed on both sides, at first glance it appeared to be incomplete; however, comparison with another copy of this issue in the Library showed this was not the case. Although the regular edition was four pages in length, the Norris copy consists of pages one and four only, containing the report of the Public Reception held at Portsmouth Square, 5th October, 1856, in honor of Commodore Robert F. Stockton, Commander of the Pacific Squadron and Governor General of California. Regular issues of California’s first newspaper are rare, let alone such a special issue.

Election of Council Officers
Albert Shumate will serve as Chairman of the Council for the coming year. A lifelong San Franciscan, a doctor specializing in dermatology, Dr. Shumate is a graduate of the University of San Francisco. His interest in history and its bypaths has been steadfast. A listing of his activities in the field, both past and current, assumes formidable proportions: President of the California Historical Society, Honorary Member of the Society of California Pioneers, Grand Historian of the Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West, President of the state organization of E Clampus Vitus (this exalted role is properly titled “Sublime Noble Grand
Humbug”), Vice-President of the Conference of California Historical Societies, etc. In 1965, Spain awarded Dr. Shumate the Knight Commander Order of Isabella the Catholic, for his historical work.

Mrs. David Potter is Vice-Chairman of The Council for the coming year. "Betty" Potter was born in San Francisco and attended Miss Burke’s School and Stanford. Her interest in history is a heritage from her father, Dr. George Lyman, collector and author in the field of Californiana. Dr. Lyman’s books are well remembered—John Marsh, Pioneer; Ralston’s Ring, and The Saga of the Comstock Lode. Mrs. Potter’s collection of “letter sheets,” inherited from her father, is inspiration for a project now in the works. This is an informed study of the elegant precursors of postcards, with sixty reproductions—based primarily on her collection, California Historical Society and Bancroft Library material. Dr. Joseph Baird has compiled the volume, David Magee is publisher, and the Grabhorn-Hoyen Press is printer. The book is dedicated to the memory of her husband, Autumn publica­tion is anticipated. Mrs. Potter is a collector in her own right, lithographs of old San Francisco being her special interest. She is also a member of the Board of the California Historical Society and effective Chairman of the CHS Exhibitions Committee the past several years.

Mrs. Richard Y. Dakin will serve as Secretary of the Council. Susanna B. Dakin is a southern Californian whose transplantation to the Bay Area fifteen years ago has measurably enriched the north. Her charming modesty and manner belie her stalwart scholarship as an historian. Mrs. Dakin’s once-stated goal was to write a book to match the birth of each of her children, but her published works are now so numerous that grandchildren need be used in the tally. They include several books based totally or partially on Bancroft material: The Lives of William Hartnell, Rose, or Rose Thorn? and the Adventures of N and L. She is also the author of A Scotch Paisano, The Perennial Adventure, Place of Many Waters, FPF, (the Published Writings of Francis P. Farquhar); editor of Shark Point, High Point, and of a series of “Christmas in California” publica­tions by the California Historical Society. Her championship of the Bancroft Library was best demonstrated by hard work on the acquisition of the Honeymoon Collection for the Bancroft, succeeded in 1965. Mrs. Dakin was named a Fellow of the California Historical Society the preceding year, an honor usually reserved for those much older, and male. Her interests range far beyond the field of history, however. She is an Honorary Trustee of Scripps College, a member of the Board of the California Arboretum Foundation; a pioneer in the founding of the Pasadena Art Museum, the Red Cross Arts and Skills Corps in Pasadena, Marin Country Day School in Corte Madera, and the Asian Art Society in San Francisco.

De Witt Alexander will serve as Treasurer. Mr. Alexander is a native of Berkeley and, now retired, has returned here to live. An interest in the fields of history and of education is his by heritage. His father was a professor of physics at the University of California, and his grandfather, the well-known historian of Hawaii, William D. Alexander is a graduate of Punahou School in Honolulu which he admits to attending barefoot till age of fourteen. He then attended Yale, shod. A Certified Public Accountant by profession, he maintains that much of his life has been an attempt to live down three missionary ancestors. He is a member of the California Historical Society, and of the Hawaiian Mission Children’s Society, an historical organization which shares quarters and library with the Hawaiian Historical Society.

New Council Members

Ansel Adams, a native San Franciscan, now lives in Carmel. Perhaps it will surprise readers of Bancroftiana to learn that his first professional field was music—the piano—he was both teacher and performer. In 1932 Mr. Adams entered the field of photography, and his superb work is known to us all. He is the author of five portfolios and fifteen books. He also directs the Ansel Adams Yosemite Photographic Workshop, and is particularly active in the field of conservation. He is a member of the Sierra Club, a contributor to several of the Club’s beautiful and prize-winning publica­tions. In 1961 Mr. Adams received a Doctorate in Fine Arts from the University of California, and he is presently at work on a photographic portrait of the University to be published in conjunction with the Centennial Celebration in 1968.

Richard Griffith, a southern Californian by birth, was educated at Princeton, entered the Foreign Service to serve in Spain, and in recent years has led a San Francisco life of multifaceted interests. Mr. Griffith is now a stockbroker by profession, a sailor by dedication (as of this writing he is in Denmark competing in the International Folkboat Races), and a “Californiac” by avocation. He is a member of the California Historical Society and has served on that society’s board. His collection of rare books and of oils and water colors in the field of Californiana enhances his bachelor “digs” on Russian Hill.

Elizabeth Wecter
Council Member.

Honeymoon Afield

It is gratifying to report to the Friends that the Honeymoon Collection is attracting its full share of attention, not alone through the exhibits which have been established within the Library, but through the “grapevine” as well. Quite aside from the immediate local demand for copies of items from this great assemblage, we are receiving a significant number of requests for illustrations from well beyond the Bay Area. Since last July, calls have come from among many others, these patrons:

The Division of Military History of the Smithsonian Institution, which wanted a copy of the Simpson watercolor of Captain Jack’s Cave, a site connected with the Modoc War, of which Simpson was an English artist-reporter.

Scott-Foreman Company, Chicago publishers of school texts, was provided with a copy of the 1867 Ritz lithograph of early Salt Lake City for use in an eleventh grade United States history class.

J. Jobe, Director of Edita, S.A., in Lausanne, Switzerland, is in the course of preparing a deluxe volume on Roman America, and was provided with color reproductions of six of the paintings made by Europeans in the West which are in the Honeymoon Collection.

American Heritage Junior Library asked to reproduce Nahl’s “Incident on the Chagres,” which hangs in the Main Reading Room.

The Urban Renewal and Planning Division of the Alaska State Housing Authority in Anchorage, wrote for and received a copy of the Koyukan sketch map of Sitka which is part of the Langdorff Collection.

Time-Life Books, in preparing a history of the West Coast States, sent for Miss Grace Brynoln, Picture Editor, to the Bancroft to review many of the fine lithographs that form so vital a part of this collection. Several prints were copied for this project.

Henry Dreyfuss, the noted industrial designer, has had reproductions made of a number of Southern California communities from which photographic blow-ups will be prepared, in mural proportions, for decoration of the United California Bank offices in that area.

Walt Disney Productions has undertaken to prepare a documentary on the history of Alaska. One of their research teams spent two days examining resources here and found, in Honeymoon, a number of illustrations which will be used in their stop-motion film technique whereby a still picture is made to appear as though it actually had motion in it.

The Denver Art Museum has borrowed the fine Nahl-Wenderoth colored lithograph of “A Miner Prospecting” as a highlight for its current exhibition on the “Western Frontier.”

We have in recent months, provided two small groups of lithographs to the Federal Records Center in San Francisco for special displays in their newly created lobby. These have attracted a great deal of attention and favorable comments from conferences attending the recent Symposium on Archives and Records Control sponsored by the Center.

It is clear that with every such request, the fame of the Honeymoon Collection is enhanced, and we may expect those of this Collection to pay huge dividends in goodwill in the years to come. And as the work of organizing the Collection proceeds, more and more of its component parts will become even easier of access than is the case at the moment.

John Barr Tompkins, Head, Public Services Division, Bancroft Library.

Rube Goldberg

Rube Goldberg, recognized by his fellow artists as the dean of American cartoonists, has delighted millions of comic strip fans
for over half a century with his incredible, wild inventions and with a wide variety of comic features satirizing American habits and foibles. Indeed, the phrase, "a Rube Goldberg invention," has become a part of our vocabulary, as has the expression for a well-meaning fool which originated with one of his most famous characters, Boob McNutt.

Born and brought up in San Francisco, Goldberg long desired to become a cartoonist, but because of parental insistence on a practical career, he studied engineering at the University of California. Graduating in 1903, he worked for the City Engineer in San Francisco, designing water mains and sewers, but six months convinced him engineering was not his forte. He got a job in the art department of the San Francisco Chronicle drawing humorous spots for the sports page and, after a year, went to the Evening Mail and gradually worked into the wholly humorous cartoons, creating the features which brought him national fame—Foolish Questions, Boob McNutt, Life's Little Jokes, Lala, and even Scylla, The Dill Pickle Blue and Gold; the materials generated by student and faculty activities are also sought—class albums from the 1870s and even the 1930s, providing a continuity of record unmatched by many institutions. In fact, the archives are now deposited in the Archives. Files of the Regents, President, Comptroller, along with those of the Committee on Music and Drama, the College of Agriculture, and the University of California at Berkeley. She received her A.B. degree, with a concentration in American History and Spanish, in June of this year. We can only hope that she will enjoy working in the Bancroft Library as its staff and public enjoy having her here.

Other members of the staff continue to be busy with their many interests. In November, 1963, Miss Irene Morgan, who fills the position left vacant by Mr. F. Lynden's resignation, Miss Morgan is a native of San Francisco and a graduate of San Francisco College for Women, where she took a degree in European History and Spanish. She received her Master's degree in Library Science from this University in June, 1964, coming to the Bancraft Library as a cataloger in August of that year. Now that she is greeting them at the reference desk, the Library's patrons and Friends will be able to share with the staff the pleasure of knowing her better. Miss Morgan is an ardent sailor, hiker and mountain climber.

Miss Ellen Jones, of the Manuscripts Division staff, whose photographs have frequently won awards and been published, had two pictures chosen for exhibition in the Eleventh Art Annual in Walnut Creek.

Since the middle of June, persons telephoning the Library have been greeted by the cheerful voice of our efficient new secretary, Miss Andrea Nakagawa. Although born in Chicago, Miss Nakagawa has lived in California since she was three months old, and attended both Modesto Junior College and the University of California at Berkeley. She received her A.B. degree, with a concentration in American History and Spanish, in June of this year. We can only hope that she will enjoy working in the Bancroft Library as its staff and public enjoy having her here.

Another newcomer to the Public Services staff, although not to the Library, is Miss Irene Moran, who fills the position left vacant by Mr. F. Lynden's resignation. Miss Moran is a native of San Francisco and a graduate of San Francisco College for Women, where she took a degree in European History and Spanish. She received her Master's degree in Library Science from this University in June, 1964, coming to the Bancraft Library as a cataloger in August of that year. Now that she is greeting them at the reference desk, the Library's patrons and Friends will be able to share with the staff the pleasure of knowing her better. Miss Moran is an ardent sailor, hiker and mountain climber.

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Along with official administrative records, both manuscript and printed, the materials generated by student and faculty activities are also sought—class albums from the 1870s and 1880s, before photographs were printed in the Blue and Gold; publications including the Daily Californian, Occident, and even such fugitive titles as Scylla, The Dill Pickle and The Razzberry Press. A large file of FSM items fits in nicely with the broadsides collected at the time of the “Peace Strikes” of the 1930s, providing a continuity of record unmatched by many institutions. In fact, the
The results of his many years of recording San Francisco are not yet indexed, but two large volumes are ready for examination, and in a very short time, the balance of the prints will be available for use.

John Barr Tompkins

High Treasure

by Lindley Bynum

Lindley Bynum became known as a scholar although his only "degree" was a high school diploma. Midway in an unclassifiable career he called himself "literary junkman." Only a few days before dying (September 20, 1965), he was polishing a poem like a jewel stone—hoping to finish a book of poetry. Yet no one had realized that this was an interrupted ambition, deep and enduring.

His home, after early retirement, was on a Napa County hill top. Here Lindley Bynum was revered as a judge of wines, also as author of California Wines: How to Enjoy Them. Here he had planned to spend sunset years with Joseph Henry Jackson as a neighboring vineyardist and boon companion. But death took Joe, suddenly—and illness clouded the time that Lindley spent with his devoted wife, Josephine, in the home that they built with a vine-growing valley view.

"Death Takes Eminent Scholar" was a headline in the St. Helena Star, followed by an informed tribute by feature-writer Lucy Brown, beginning: "The loss of Lindley Bynum...will be felt by fellow-scholars and friends all over California, the state whose history, literature and folklore he did so much to collect and preserve during his distinguished association with both the Huntington Library and the University of California."

He was born in southern California October 26, 1885, of parents from Santa Rosa and Lake County who moved to Los Angeles in 1887, then on to Monrovia in 1910. Here, the red-haired Bynum boy taught himself to play the guitar and sing ribald songs in English and Spanish. "Pinkie" (invariably his nickname) was in demand at parties during his high school and college years until a head injury from a high dive kept him from Stanford graduation and military service with his classmates during World
George P. Hammond
Drawing by Peter Van Valkenburgh, 1950


Edwin H. Carpenter in Oregon Historical Quarterly commented: "In spite of the fact that the work was issued for members of a group, it is to be hoped that it will have a wide distribution, to carry this message [of the retiring director's diversity] to those who have come into contact with Dr. Hammond in only part of his career or who—unfortunately—have not encountered him at all."

In Colorado Magazine Benjamin Draper declared: "The dozen tributes add up to an appraisal, account, and enumeration. The short essays place George Hammond in the scholarly world today and project his stature for future times. ... Would that all such well merited tributes and thoughts that have been uttered on similar occasions were as bright, readable, and as complete a record of the careers of distinguished men. The way of historians in our tomorrows would be rosier for it."

Donald C. Cutter wrote in Idaho Yesterday, "Elegantly printed by Lawton and Alfred Kennedy, this is a fitting tribute to a nearly irreplaceable man." He was echoed by Robert D. Monroe in Pacific Northwest Quarterly: "Good fortune is nearly everywhere apparent in Keepsake 13—it was designed and printed by Lawton and Alfred Kennedy, and its illustrations are pleasing—"..." even if the Lady is fickle, evidence of her caprice is not to be found in this work of homage. Let her favors not soon be withdrawn from the Bancroft Library after George P. Hammond's imaginative and sometimes daring stewardship has ended; let his successors know that 'poco en honor aumenta/El hombre que se contenta/Con hacer lo que otros haces'—unless they be G. P. H. and his friends."

The editors of Mid-America thought the book “a worthy tribute to a great scholar, set in beautiful design and print,” and Eleanor B. Adams in New Mexico Historical Review found the Keepsake “another well-deserved tribute to a man at once very simple and extremely complex in character,” a dedicated scholar and a very human being... beautifully designed and printed."

Manuel Servin, writing in The Americas, noted that the book “consists of thirteen penetrating essays and articles by George Peter Hammond's friends and colleagues—not by former students seeking another publication. ... Their essays are ... valuable both in their judgment of Hammond and his work, and in the delineation of the course on which the library should continue... many a prospective university librarian and most future college instructors could learn and profit from reading this account of an exemplary scholar, teacher, administrator, and modest man.”

In California Historical Society Quarterly Donald W. Rowland, himself "an Old Bancroft in a modest way," viewed the book as "an interesting commentary upon a great historical collection and the work of its very capable director during recent decades. The tone of the volume is not at any time in doubt—it belongs to that category of publications which 'point with pride to work well done.' T. A. Larson in Annals of Wyoming dwelt upon the retiring director's rare scholarly attainments, and went on to say: 'Withal, Dr. Hammond is a quiet, patient, modest, affable gentleman. May he enjoy his retirement and, freed from administrative
duties, find it possible to carry out the writing he has planned for himself.”

Criticisms of the book have been few, mainly along the lines of Earl Pomeroy’s in Southern California Quarterly: “The whole tells much about the retiring director (especially about his resourcefulness and industry), the Library, and the Friends, whose power in raising money has run much beyond the dues that they pay. It does not tell all that one might like to know, even along lines that would not be inappropriate in a volume prepared for presentation—there is nothing specific, for instance, on Hammond’s teaching and his students, and no description of his writings, aside from the formal list of titles. . . . Nor is there anything like a profile of the Library as it has developed under his administration, any systematic indication of how much his interest in editing documents of the borderlands has influenced the direction of its collecting. But the book is more than conventional eulogy and should interest not only his friends (and the Friends) but others who depend on this great and again fast-growing library.”