

BANCROFTIANA

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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 LL.D. degree to Director Emeritus George Hammond at the Charter Day ceremony.

Dr. and Mrs. Hammond flew over to Berkeley from Spain in order 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 \$250,000 when the final appraisals are made including an instalment on the Honeyman Collection; the San Francisco *News-Call Bulletin* pictures, described in the last *Bancroftiana*; a superb collection of early Tahitian imprints from the estate of the late Thomas W. Streeter, whose generosity was inspired by an earlier gift of similar materials from Mr. George L. Harding; and a magnificent collection of magic lantern glass slides, painted by the renowned Indian 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 subvention generously provided by Mrs. Helen Weber Kennedy will constitute a fund for further publications of quality.

All in all, 1965/1966 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 book 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 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 stirred 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, 1892, 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 Mills-paugh, 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. (Thereafter, before going off to Washington, 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 Roxburghe 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 lifework, 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 1942, 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 1956, 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, undefeated and undefeatable.

DALE MORGAN,
Associate Research Specialist,
Bancroft Library.

Californian—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, 1846, 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, 1846, 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 Dr. and Mrs. Lyman. Autumn publication is anticipated. Mrs. Potter is a collector in her own right, lithographs of old San Francisco being her especial 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 immeasurably 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 C*. 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" publica-

tions by the California Historical Society. Her championship of the Bancroft Library was best demonstrated by hard work on the acquisition of the Honeyman Collection for the Bancroft, concluded successfully 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. Mr. 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, 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 publica-

tions. 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 stock broker 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.

Honeyman Afield

IT IS GRATIFYING to report to the Friends that the Honeyman 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-Foresman 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. Jobé, Director of Edita, S.A., in Lausanne, Switzerland, is in the course of preparing a deluxe volume on Romantic America, and was provided with color reproductions of six of the paintings made by Europeans in the West which are in the Honeyman 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 Kovikin sketch map of Sitka which is part of the Langsdorff Collection.

Time-Life Books, in preparing a history of the West Coast States, sent Miss Grace Brynolson, 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 Honeyman, 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 comment from conferees attending the recent Symposia on Archives and Records Control sponsored by the Center.

It is clear that with every such request, the fame of the Honeyman Collection is enhanced, and we may expect an ever-increasing demand for reproductions from it, from individuals as well as institutions. Since any given illustration has many uses, 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



Illustration from the Goldberg collection —
"Peace Today"

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 1904, 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 *Bulletin*. Like all young ambitious newspapermen he felt the pull of New York and, in 1907, went East. He became sports illustrator for the *Evening Mail* and gradually worked into the wholly humorous cartoons, creating the features which brought him national fame—Foolish Questions, Boob McNutt, Mike & Ike, Life's Little Jokes, Lala Palooza, besides Professor Lucifer Gorgonzola Butts and his zany inventions. Leaving the paper in 1921, he syndicated his cartoons and

at the same time began writing short stories and articles and composing song lyrics. In 1938 he began a new career, that of editorial cartoonist for the *New York Sun* and, in 1948, was awarded a Pulitzer prize for his cartoon, "Peace Today," showing a blissful American family seated on top of an atomic bomb teetering between world control and world destruction.

Mr. Goldberg has recently given to the Bancroft Library a collection of his papers among which are over 5,000 original drawings for his cartoons as well as manuscripts of his stories and articles, letters, photographs, scrapbooks, etc. Further enriching the collection are the original congratulatory drawings presented by members of the National Cartoonist Society as a tribute when Goldberg won the Pulitzer prize, again when he was given the 1959 *Banshees'* award as dean of American cartoonists, and also on his 80th birthday celebration.

ESTELLE REBEC,
Chief Manuscripts Cataloger.

Staff News

THE LIBRARY has continued to change and grow during the last few months, not only in holdings of books and manuscripts, but in personnel.

On February first, the staff enthusiastically welcomed Linda Schieber, who came to be reference librarian in the Public Services Division. The new position was authorized last year, because of the immense increases in circulation and other public services during the past several years. Mrs. Schieber, reared in Sacramento, received her A.B. degree in 1964 and her Master's Degree in Library Science in January, 1966, from the University of California at Berkeley. Her bachelor's degree was in Anthropology. While in graduate school, she served as a research assistant in the Anthropology Department here.

Mrs. Schieber came to the Library as Linda Handjian but four weeks later, on February 28, she was married to Mr. William D. Schieber who is on the staff of the Institute of Library Research, and a doctoral candidate in the School of Librarianship. Many of the Friends and patrons of the Library have encountered Mrs. Schieber's warm and

charming smile at the reference desk. Those who have not are invited to introduce themselves to her when they are next in the Library.

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 Bancroft 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.

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.

Other members of the staff continue to be busy with their many interests. In November, 1965, Mr. James R. K. Kantor spoke to the Newcomer's group of the Section Club, University Wives, on the topic, "University Benefactors." On February 28, he was formally appointed by Chancellor Heyns to the position of University Archivist, a position whose duties he had been performing since the retirement of Miss May Dornin. *The Serif* for March, 1966, carried Mr. Kantor's article "The Damnation of Theron Ware and John Ward, Preacher."

C. L. CHASE,
Reference Librarian.

University Archives

JFK's 1962 CHARTER DAY address (signed typescript, with his manuscript corrections)? The *Pelican* for November 1913? A photograph of Phoebe Apperson Hearst and Teddy Roosevelt in the Greek Theatre? The inaugural robe of the University's President? First vouchers issued by the Board of Regents in 1868? Where does one find all these, and many, many more items relating to the history of the University of California? In the University Archives division of the Bancroft Library, which, following the transfer of this unit from the General Library in 1962, is now situated in new quarters on the first tier of the Annex, with service provided in Bancroft's own Reading Room.

Lest one think that the Archives is concerned only with the past, it must be remembered that *today* will be tomorrow's past—and the task of collecting the records reflective of the activities of the present is a never-ending one. Under the impetus of the University's Records Management Program, files being retired from the various administrative offices on the Berkeley campus and in the Statewide headquarters on Oxford Street, are screened by University Archivist J. R. K. Kantor, and those selected for "historical value" are transferred to the Archives. Files of the Regents, President, Comptroller, along with those of the Committee on Music and Drama, the College of Agriculture, and University Extension—to name but a few—are now deposited in the Archives. Whenever necessary, a calendar of records or a card index is prepared, providing for greater usefulness.

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

documentation of the University of California, provided by the Archives, goes back beyond the Organic Act of 1868, and includes records of the College of California, established in Oakland in 1855.

With the approaching Centennial in 1968, the University Archives have been mined by the staff responsible for publishing the various historical volumes in celebration of that event. Materials with few restrictions, are available to all—students, alumni, staff and friends of the University.

J. R. K. KANTOR,
University Archivist.

Regional Oral History

RETURNING TO ITS BIRTHPLACE in the Bancroft Library after ten years of wandering through the administrative labyrinths of the University is the Regional Oral History Office. ROHO is engaged in tape recording the memoirs of persons who have contributed significantly to the development of the West. Oral history, the generic term for this electronic extension of Hubert Howe Bancroft's system of sending stenographers out to interview the still living pioneers of the West, was begun by the Manuscript Division of The Bancroft in 1953 at the suggestion of professors James Hart and George Stewart. The first interview was recorded in Paris with Alice Toklas in order to round out The Bancroft's holdings of the Toklas-Gertrude Stein papers. From that beginning, the oral history program's last official count shows a collection of 133 memoirs completed or in process, with such regional celebrities as Francis P. Farquhar, Newton Drury, Philip Bancroft, Justice Jesse Carter, William Colby, Adrian Falk, Lawton Kennedy, Oscar Lewis, Kathleen Norris, Dr. Langley Porter, Leon Richardson, Paul Scharrenberg, Max Thelen . . . to name just a few well known to The Friends. An even longer list of persons contemplated, recommended, and hoped for has been lost forever to oral history because of a paucity of funds.

The manuscripts which result from the taped interviews are deposited in The Bancroft Library with supporting papers, photographs, and other historical materials. Augmented by a memoir exchange policy with a

sister oral history project at UCLA, the collection of manuscripts is open to qualified persons except when, by agreement with the memoirist, a manuscript may be under seal for a specified time.

Subject fields and persons for interview, ordinarily handled only in subject series, are determined through recommendation by a faculty member followed by approval by the faculty members or committee so delegated. In producing the memoirs, the oral historian first investigates the subject field, obtains background material on each memoirist, and prepares and goes over outlines with him. The interviews, informal conversations, usually take place in the home or office of the memoirist and may continue weekly over a period of a month or more. The interviews are then transcribed, edited by the oral historian for continuity and clarity, checked over and approved by the memoirist, final-typed, indexed, and bound with an introduction written by the oral historian.

Financing of the Regional Oral History Office is by the University, by outside grants for interview series, and by individual donations for non-series interviews. A recent grant of \$5,000 was received from the Alumni Foundation for a series on persons prominent in the history of the University of California. Series in the planning-and-proposed stage include: leading figures in the California bench and bar, forest history of the West, community service leaders in the Bay Area, and California politics during the Earl Warren years.

WILLA BAUM,
Head, Regional Oral History Office.

Hosea Blair Photographs

AMONG RECENT ACQUISITIONS of pictures, the collection of photographs from the cameras of Hosea Blair are of special interest. Dealing principally with the San Francisco scene from the 1940's through the 1950's, these two thousand negatives and over 1,500 prints are both excellent in quality and perceptive in content.

The late Mr. Blair, once an official photographer at the Panama Pacific International Exposition of 1915, was no stranger to the City by the Golden Gate; he was quite clearly a part of it, and devoted to it as is evi-

denced by the care with which he recorded it for posterity.

One might guess that Blair foresaw well before the event the replacement of graceful old buildings by modern architecture. Among his photographs are many of the older institutional, residential and commercial structures no longer to be found in reality. An ardent defender of the cable cars he so often photographed, he and his wife Nellie campaigned on the street to preserve these quaint conveyances when there was a serious threat to their continued existence; and it was not cable cars alone that appealed to him. His collection includes excellent photographs of earlier day steam and trolley cars.

As a commercial enterprise, Mr. Blair and his wife prepared three separate collections of photographs for residents and tourists alike, and all are a tribute to his excellent taste and unusual skill. Two are soft-cover booklets on the Presidio and the Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park. Each contains an excellent map to orient the user, and a series of carefully selected scenes which most successfully capture the spirit of these two landmarks.

The third volume, in hard-cover, is titled *Monuments and Memories of San Francisco: Golden Gate Park*, which contains over 100 fine pictures, a map and interesting caption texts.

This larger volume includes the Japanese Tea Garden and thus makes for an even better pictorial souvenir of one of the world's great parks.

Long a professional photographer, Mr. Blair was also an inventor and an innovator with respect to photography. His modified curtain shutter for the Graflex Camera, his simple and beautifully efficient tilt-head for camera tripods and his Blairco view camera are among his more noteworthy achievements. When a camera in hand was inadequate to cope with a view that Mr. Blair wished to record, he modified the camera, sometimes so radically as to require special standards to hold it steady. Even fine old lenses he found could be subtly modified to produce just the effect he wanted, and while he was in every sense an artistic photographer, he very wisely never let art get in the way of reality.

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, 1895, 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. "Pinky" (inevitably 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

War I. A newspaper career followed recovery, until 1928 when directors of the Huntington Library were persuaded that "he had the qualities needed to find, evaluate and acquire materials" of enduring importance. Quoting Lucy Brown (a Stanford classmate):

"To judge by his success, these qualities seem to have been immense knowledge of the state's history (and that of Mexico and the Southwest), an ability to listen to interminable tales told by miners, farmers, and rocking-chair sitters, and a persuasive technique that frequently resulted in donations rather than sales.

The stories of his travels, often undertaken at a moment's notice, and usually made by truck, are legion and legendary. One of the best-known concerns the records of the City of Monrovia which he saved, by minutes, from the incinerators. Not inappropriately, he was later the honored guest and principal speaker at the inauguration of the city's new library."

"Not every respected scholar is a sought-after speaker and lecturer. 'Pinky' Bynum was. The results of his searches were presented to happy audiences charmed by the quiet voice, the casual manner, the quizzical eyebrows, the dry wit." No audience was more appreciative than Indian friends with whom he played gambling games, in the foothills of the Sierra Madre.

During the thirteen years that Lindley Bynum worked for the Huntington Library, he had trouble with required monthly reports because his timing and procedure were unorthodox. He often "played it by ear"—as in the acquisition of records of the Pacific Steamship Company dating back to Gold Rush days. It was during San Francisco labor troubles, in 1937, that "a huge truck with a crew of three men, one of them Bynum, snaffled ten tons of western history out of the company's warehouse on the Embarcadero in the middle of the strike. The waterfront pickets thought the roped-up bundles were waste paper." Was this when "Pinky" first thought of himself as a "literary junk-man?"

Several years at UCLA, working harmoniously with Librarian Lawrence Powell, resulted in spectacular acquisitions; and in an assignment that lasted until their simultane-

ous retirement, as roving Special Assistant to UC President, Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul. The Bynum-Sproul correspondence and memoranda contain source material. For example:

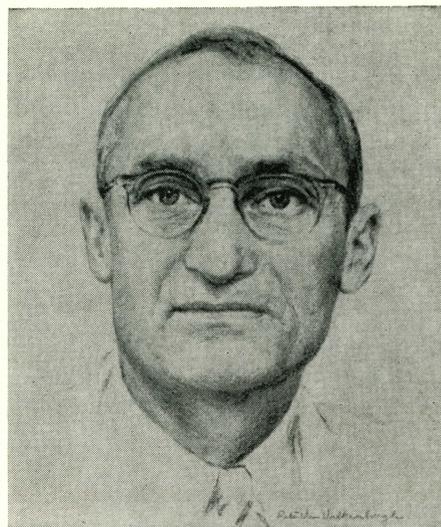
"July 5, 1957 [RGS to LB]—Another facet of this problem of historical records . . . is that of securing oral recordings from elder citizens who have participated in history for which there are inadequate written records. I seem to recall that at one time you were making such records, but I do not know what happened to them, or whether you are still working along that line. Suggestions from you as to likely prospects might promote such recordings by the libraries at Los Angeles or Berkeley."

There are repeated references to Bynum efforts to build up new University libraries. Many times, traveling up and down California, he carried duplicate books from Berkeley or UCLA collections to fill bare shelves elsewhere. For the long-established Bancroft Library he sparked important acquisitions, notably T. W. Norris and Hiram Johnson papers. Sometimes years went by, during the catalysing process; and many of his contributions of time and thought never will be known. Often he felt frustrated.

Now, friends and family have realized one of his unfulfilled ambitions by commissioning Lawton and Alfred Kennedy to print *High Treasure—Songs of the Sierra* by Lindley Bynum, the last "song" unfinished. Only a few copies remain, after a very personal mailing, to be given to Friends of the Bancroft Library on a first come, first served basis. Please apply in writing to Susanna B. Dakin, Secretary.

Our Review of Reviews

THE SURPRISE PRESENTATION to Dr. Hammond, at last year's Annual Meeting, of *GPH: An Informal Record of George P. Hammond and His Era in the Bancroft Library* was followed by distribution of this thirteenth Keepsake to the membership—and to various scholarly journals. The reviews have been appearing ever since. The Friends might like to know how the volume has been received, with its sprightly contributions by O. Cort Majors, Dale L. Morgan, Agapito



GEORGE P. HAMMOND

Drawing by Peter Van Valkenburgh, 1950

Rey, Charles L. Camp, Robert H. Becker, Robert E. Burke, Warren R. Howell, Susanna Bryant Dakin, J. S. Holliday, France V. Scholes, Francis P. Farquhar, and (unwittingly) Dr. Hammond himself.

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 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 Yesterdays*, "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—but 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 hombres*'—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."

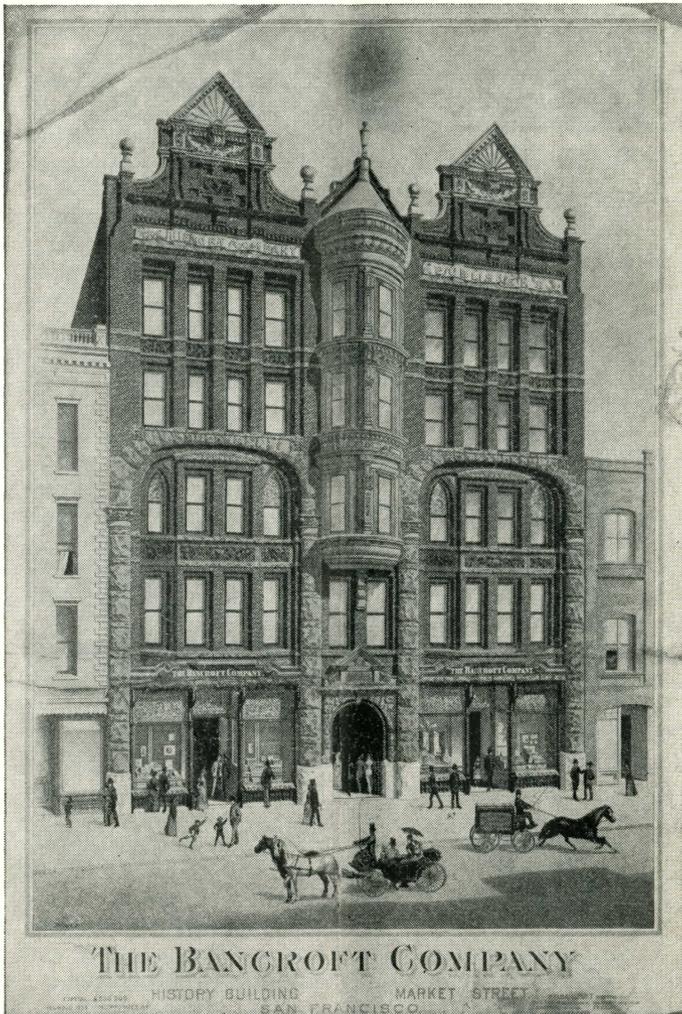
Manuel Servin, writing in *The Americas*, noted that the book "consists of thirteen penetrating essays and articles by George Peter Hammond's friends and colleagues—not by former students seeking another publication. . . . Their essays are . . . valuable both in their judgment of Hammond and his work, 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 Bancrofter' 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."



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