The Annual Meeting: 
The Friends, May 11, 1969

Preparations are unfolding for what promises to be one of our best Annual Meetings ever. Mr. William Randolph Hearst, Jr., the noted publisher and Pulitzer Prize winner, has graciously accepted our invitation to be the guest speaker on this occasion, discussing the development of journalism in the Bay Area during the past century.

The meeting will be held in the Playhouse of the recently finished Zellerbach Hall, opposite Harmon Gymnasium and facing the Alumni House. Parking will be available in the garage on Bancroft Way just below Telegraph Avenue, and in Fee Lot #3 on Dana Street between Bancroft Way and Durant.

Following the meeting, the Friends will walk to The Bancroft Library five minutes away, for a reception highlighted by special exhibits related to journalism in California. Members of The Bancroft staff are busy assembling papers, documents, and memorabilia for this, while University Archivist, J. R. K. Kantor, is preparing a Charter Day exhibit in commemoration of Phoebe Apperson Hearst, Regent of the University from 1897 to 1919, and one of its most generous benefactors.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 11th. Invitations will be in the mail shortly.

University Labor Day

"To Work! The students to fall in at one o'clock P.M. The State expects every student to do his duty by the University." So read the headlines in The Berkeleyan for Thursday morning, February 27, 1896. Acting upon a suggestion by Regent Jacob Bert Reinstein '73, the ASUC requested all men to assemble "for the purpose of performing the necessary labor required for certain improvements on the University grounds."

Aside from providing the desired improvements, the call "To work!" was to dramatize to the people of California both the serious financial needs of the University and the strong sense of loyalty on the part of its students. For three days the young men toiled. Under the guidance of Golden Gate Park superintendent John McLaren, they completed a fifteen-foot-wide path from the Center Street entrance to the bridge over Strawberry Creek, graded the sides of the main east-west path, and removed earth from around North Hall (now the site of The Bancroft Library). Meanwhile, the women planted ivy at the base of South Hall, the glorious results of which are visible to all campus visitors today.

Spectators gathered, cameras snapped. One cameraman present was San Franciscan O. V. Lange who captured this group at the corner of North Hall, with the Mechanics Building.
in the Senate. During his long years of service two years of Nixon's term, and was re-elected by Richard M. Nixon on his election to the Vice-Presidency. On November 2, 1954, he was strongly influenced by our collection of Kuchel Papers.

Those Friends who attended the annual meeting last year may remember that Council Chairman J. S. Holliday issued an informal, impromptu invitation to Senator Thomas H. Kuchel, featured speaker of the day, to deposit his papers in the Library at some future date. On February 10th that invitation bore some eight hundred and seventy storage cartons of records arrived at The Bancroft Library from Washington, D.C., papers covering Mr. Kuchel's career in the United States Senate from 1953-1968. Formal negotiations began in November, 1968 when the Senator was indeed, considering The Bancroft Library as a depository. Assistant Director Robert H. Becker flew to Washington to confer with him, and on January 1, 1969, the formal deed of gift was made. The Senator acknowledged that the decision in Bancroft’s favor was strongly influenced by our collection of Kuchel and Dresel lithographs, since his great-uncle when we learned that the Senator was, strongly influenced by our collection of Kuchel Papers.

The Kuchel Papers

THE LIFE OF A LIBRARIAN, like that of the private collector, has moments of keen excitement. Our Librarians have had such an experience in the recent purchase by The Friends of The Bancroft Library of the Mugarieta papers. The collection now in the process of being catalogued, fits into the Library’s Mexican sources like hand in glove. We wish to express our gratitude to The Council of the Friends who stepped in at the critical moment and purchased it. To each one of you members, and to The Council, the Library extends its deep appreciation for this gift.

George P. Hammond

Fabulous Francis Farquhar

"I am a sort of pack rat. I collect things and try to put them together and make an intelligible grouping for useful purposes and then when I have written something on the subject, I like to keep the things together where others can use them, so I have from time to time donated groups of documents and a few books and photographs to the Bancroft Library and hope to continue to do so.”

Francis P. Farquhar has often made the Bancroft Library the beneficiary of such groupings as he describes above. Among his many gifts to Bancroft is a unique and beautifully preserved collection of eleven pencil sketches, made during the first Geological Survey of California in 1860-1864, by an, as yet, unidentified artist who contributed them to a group of thirty-two drawings by various members of the surveying party. They form a key segment in the extensive pictorial section of the Francis P. Farquhar Collection in The Bancroft Library.

Reproduced here is a delightful view of Summit Lake, one mile west of Mono Pass. The other sketches include views of Cathedral Peak, Lake Tenaya, Mono Lake and the Monoliths nearby.

Bancroft is deeply grateful to Mr. Farquhar for his many gifts, and grateful as well for our long association with this man of such diverse talents and achievements. Farquhar’s childhood interest in mountaineering led him in 1911 to join the Sierra Club where...
he served as Editor of the Bulletin for thirty-five years and eventually as President. He introduced rope-climbing into that organization and himself scaled all the 14,000 foot peaks on the Pacific Coast.

Farquhar's passion for conservation also resulted in a lengthy association with the National Park Service, in various capacities, including helping to plan for post-World War I development of National Parks. Later, he represented the Sierra Club in the expansion of Sequoia National Park. Mr. Farquhar also served on California's Commission on Registration of Historic Sites. He was elected Treasurer and later President of the California Academy of Sciences. He also served as President of the California Historical Society, after many years as Director of its Publications Committee. He was a member of the Board of Governors of the Commonwealth Club and is an active member of the Bohemian Club.

Notwithstanding these many activities and honors, Mr. Farquhar somehow found time to help found our own Friends' organization and serve as its first President, or Chairman. For all of these reasons and more, Bancroft is both proud of and indebted to our pack rat Friend, Francis P. Farquhar.

JOHN BARR TOMPKINS

Jack and Charmian London, October, 1916

Jack London

This photograph of Jack and Charmian London, with one of their fine horses, presented to The Bancroft Library by Professor James D. Hart, was first published in Sunset magazine in February, 1917, in Louis J. Stellman's article "Jack London, Super-Boy." London was so pleased with this "futurist result" from the accidentally warped film that he sent copies to countless friends.

As a member of the Class of '00 and as a correspondent for the Hearst newspapers, London is closely linked to this year's exhibits on "Phoebe Apperson Hearst" (Charter Day) and "Journalism in the West" (Friends of the Bancroft Library). Beginning in the summer of 1896, he contributed only a few articles to newspapers in the waning years of the century, but he became a prolific journalist in the early years of the twentieth century. On November 18, 1902, he was special correspondent for the San Francisco Examiner at the dedication of the Hearst Memorial Mining Building, one of Mrs. Hearst's many gifts to the University, and throughout his life London did special assignments for William Randolph Hearst, but his most notable journalistic work was that of a war correspondent during the Russo-Japanese War in 1904.

In The Little Lady of the Big House, 1916, London used Mrs. Hearst's Hacienda del Pozo de Verona at Pleasanton as a prototype for his hacienda, and the social activities and the stream of notable guests at both houses are strikingly similar.

London's heroine, however, is more of a composite of the hacienda of the Hacienda and Charmian London. In the absence of confirming evidence, one can only speculate about Mrs. Hearst's view of this memorialization of her Hacienda.

JAMES E. SISSON

Keepsake 1969

A unique keepsake has been planned by the Council of The Friends for publication in May, 1969. Its principal feature will be a full-sized reproduction of one of the most important maps published in the early days of California statehood.

The map, published in 1857 by Britton and Rey, is based on the exacting work of George H. Goddard, a young British engineer. The original, from which the facsimile will be made, was a gift to the Bancroft Library in 1962 from Francis P. Farquhar, who acquired it in 1928.

The keepsake's accompanying text is being written by C. Albert Shumate, M.D., and Mr. Farquhar. Dr. Shumate is writing a biographical sketch of Goddard, and his text will include a description of the extraordinary craftsmanship required to etch the lithographic stone. Mr. Farquhar's contribution will describe the map's place in western cartographic history.

The map, a fascinating document, was the first reliable delineation of the state to be published. One of its many interesting features is the location of a number of gold rush towns then flourishing which have long since vanished.

While the map will be folded to fit a pocket in the back of the keepsake, additional flat copies will be made available to Friends who may wish to mount or frame it.

Jorgenson Oils

CHRIS JORGENSEN'S life reads like a page right out of the script of Horatio Alger. He was born in Oslo, Norway, in 1876, partially crippled. When Chris was ten, his widowed mother took her little family to San Francisco to begin a new life in this fabulous city. There...
he attended school and fought to strengthen his club feet by strenuous exercises.

Passionately fond of drawing, and kept at home when the others went to work, Jørgensen amused himself with some colors given him by his uncle. His enthusiasm led to lessons in drawing, and when the San Francisco Academy of Art and Design opened on February 14, 1874, with Virgil Williams as director, Jørgensen was one of its first pupils. He was fascinated by the out-of-doors, and sketched to his heart’s content. When he was employed by Bugbee & Sons, architects, 402 Montgomery, to help with the family income, he found the studio of Thomas Hill almost next door, at 405 California Street. Hill, recognized as a distinguished landscape painter, had compassion and friendship for his young admirer, and soon he permitted the youthful artist to come and go at will in his studio, a kindness Jørgensen always remembered with emotion.

Among Jørgensen’s first sketches were some he made of the tow boats which nudged the great sailing vessels into dock. One of these so fascinated its captain that he bought it! Encouraged, Jørgensen continued with his art, became an instructor at the School of Design, and, from 1881 to 1883, its Assistant Director. During his teaching days, one of his pupils was Miss Angela Ghirardelli, a young society girl of San Francisco, who charmed him even more than his oil painting! They were married in 1887, when Jørgensen was twenty-eight.

Some years later the couple spent two years in Italy, Angela’s homeland, where her husband studied under the best masters. In Italy he had been asked much about Yosemite. Thus, in June, 1899, the Jørgensens went to Yosemite Valley, camping out, while the artist sketched El Capitan, Half Dome, Cathedral Spires, and the grand views for which the Valley is so renowned. Fascinated, they returned the next year, built a “cozy studio,” and remained for nineteen years, a period during which Chris completed some of his most notable oils. Visitors were welcome at the artist’s retreat, and celebrities from everywhere came to see his work. One of these was President Theodore Roosevelt, who stayed in the Valley on a short trip in 1906. Later, the artist visited the White House and was received cordially. “Wait a minute,” exclaimed the President, “I’ll have your name in one minute. You are the man who paints pictures of the Yosemite and makes Dutch furniture.” So reported the Washington Herald, December 19, 1906. The furniture in Jørgensen’s cabin was of his own making, and the President had recognized it as early Dutch.

Cosmopolitan in his interests, Jørgensen painted not only the San Francisco waterfront, and Yosemite, but also the Grand Canyon, San Francisco after the Fire of 1906, and, after studying their architecture for five years, the California missions. The Jørgensens’ actual home was in San Francisco, but they had another at Carmel-by-the-Sea. Next, Jørgensen built a log cabin bungalow at Pebble Beach, on the Seventeen Mile Drive. As his two children, a boy and a girl, grew up, they built another home in the Piedmont hills, to be near the University of California. Jørgensen died in 1935, aged seventy-five, famed as a great artist, a great Bohemian.

The Council of The Friends of The Bancroft Library has purchased two of his mission paintings, both oil, one depicting San Luis Rey, the other the Visita of Pala. These are the first of Jørgensen’s art to enrich the Library’s treasures of Californiana.

GEORGE P. HAMMOND

U.S. Revenue Cutter Bear

The United States Coast Guard Academy at New London, Conn., recently sought the assistance of The Bancroft Library in an effort to reconstruct the history of this oldest of Federal Military Services, and to recover detailed information concerning the famed United States Revenue Cutter, Bear.

It is gratifying to The Bancroft Library to be able to make significant contributions to this important research. We have sketches and photographs of the Bear over a span of many years. We have portrait photographs of a number of members of her several companies. We have logs written by officers attached to the ship, and in the Charles Melville Scammon Papers, as in those of George Davidson, are many unique documents to draw upon. Between that January day of 1874 when the steam-powered sailing ship Bear was launched at Dundee, Scotland, and March 19, 1963, when she sank in the Atlantic Ocean, Bear lived out one of the busiest and most distinguished of marine careers. Originally designed as a whaling vessel, Bear first served with a sealing fleet out of St. John’s, Newfoundland. In 1884 she commenced her service with the U.S. Government. Her first assignment was to search in far northern waters for the survivors of the Greely Expedition. She recovered Greely and six companions at Cape Sabine, and brought them safely home.

In April of 1888, Bear was transferred to the Revenue Marine from the Navy Department and commenced a forty-year service as a Revenue Cutter, primarily in the North Pacific Ocean and in the Bering Sea. Her first northern mission was another rescue attempt: to find and bring back the crew of the whaling bark Amethyst. The six months of cruising in the Arctic failed to turn up any evidence of the lost vessel or her forty people, and Bear returned to San Francisco to await her next assignment in Arctic waters. Her principal task was to protect American fishing interests, to succor the sick, to rescue the stranded, to transport persons in legal custody, to bring relief to all nations. All that she did earned for her a unique reputation.

Because of her powerful construction she was well suited to ice conditions and these she often met, particularly when she undertook that cruise for which whalemen will always honor her, the rescue attempt in 1897-1898 to bring back the crews of eight whale ships which had been stranded in the ice in
the vicinity of Point Barrow. The crews were in dire straits with food supplies almost gone. An approach by sea, in winter, was more than even *Bear* could manage, and she was ordered to sail north, find a place where she could land some of her people, who could then force their way overland, driving a large reindeer herd ahead of them so that the crews, when found, might have meat. *Bear*’s goal was to save an estimated 265 men. In a period of ten months of great hardship, daring and imaginative innovation, *Bear* and her people succeeded in rescuing the crews of four of the eight vessels.

At the conclusion of her days as a “revenue,” *Bear* was purchased by the City of Oakland, Calif., in whose Estuary she had so often lain between trips north. Here she was to become a floating museum, but plans to this end did not materialize and the handsome ship lay rather sadly near what is now Jack London Square until 1932, when Admiral Richard E. Byrd bought her for his second Antarctic Expedition. Refitted in Boston Navy Yard, *Bear* sailed south in 1933 for the first of several trips to the Ross Ice Shelf at Bay of Whales. In July of 1941 she joined the Coast Guard again as part of the Northeast Greenland Patrol, during which service she towed back to Boston the German prize ship *Buskoe*. *Bear* was de-commissioned in 1944 and in 1949 was purchased by a steamship company in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She was sold again in 1962 to a Pennsylvanian who had plans to make a restaurant-museum of her in Philadelphia. *Bear* was saved this ignominious end by sinking during a bad blow while under tow to her new home. Thus, in 1963, it was assumed by all interested persons that *Bear* was gone for good. Those who knew and loved her are pleased now to learn that the Coast Guard has plans to raise her and to refit her as a lasting shore-bound monument not only to her own distinguished career, but to the Service she for so many years represented.

J. B. Tompkins

**Edmund Green**

Since 1849 a recurring question has been: “Who were the first gold seekers to reach California overland from the Missouri River?” The consensus has been that the front-runners were members of a party led by Lieutenant G. W. Paul of St. Louis, who set out from the Independence area on April 14th. Lost to view has been an item in the *Sacramento Placer Times*, July 21, 1849: “A party of seven arrived at the Dry Diggings on the 14th having left the Missouri on the 5th of May. Among them are Dr. J. H. Dickson of Pa. and E. Green of Michigan.”

Now, happily, as the generous gift of Mr. Wellman H. Topham of Tiburon, The Bancroft Library has Edmund Green’s first-hand account of this adventure, dictated in later years. Green set out from Corunna, Michigan about April 1, 1849, with his brother-in-law, Wellman Castle. From St. Joseph, Missouri, they took the “Old Fort Kearny” route, crossing the Missouri at present Nebraska City. The two young men caught up with Lieutenant Paul about forty miles east of Fort Laramie. After reaching Green River, they parted, “as we could go faster with our pack animals than he could with his wagons. We induced Dr. Dickerson [sic] from Beaver, Pennsylvania, and his four men to cut up their wagon and make pack saddles and go with us, making a party of seven in all.” From Green River, says Green, “we were the first Pioneers of ’49.”

They took the route via Fort Hall and the Carson River, reached “a settlement called Hang Town, where the town of Placerville is now situated,” and went on to Sacramento, a tent-town just laid out. “I continued on through the town,” Green says, “until I came to the bank of the Sacramento, being the first emigrant in ’49 to stand on tidewater. While we were camped there, the editor of a small paper came out from Sacramento and took our names and addresses and a short sketch of our trip, which article was published in the Sacramento paper . . . .”

In addition to the Green reminiscences, Mr. Topham’s gift includes half a dozen letters, 1854-1860, to and from his great-grandmother, Frances Ferry Castle, who married W.D. Castle in 1845 and joined him in California in 1852; other Castle family papers; and a superb overland diary of 1859 written by James Berry Brown. This Humboldt County pioneer originally set out from Iowa for the Pike’s Peak diggings but changed his mind at Fort Laramie and went on to California via the Lander Cutoff and the Honey Lake route.

Dale L. Morgan