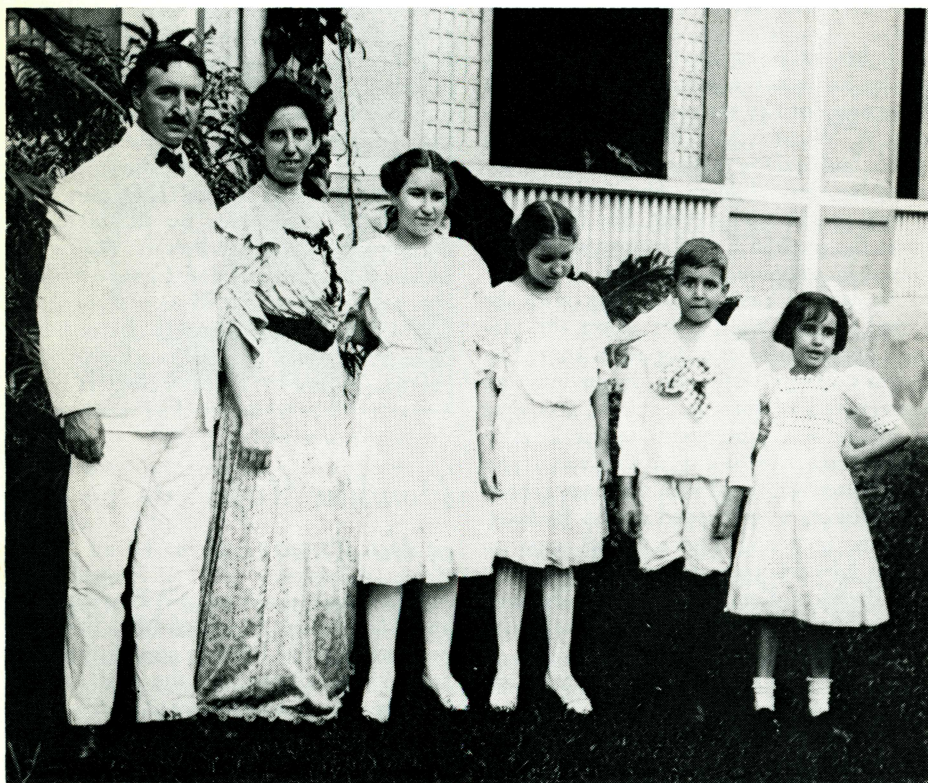


# BANCROFTIANA

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*Dr. and Mrs. David Prescott Barrows, with their children, Anna, Ella, Tom, and Betty, at Manila, 1908.*

## *"All Along the Way You Have Fun!"*

In her perceptive introduction to Ella Barrows Hagar's *Continuing Memoirs: Family, Community, University*, Marion Sproul Goodin notes that the last sentence of this interview, recently completed by Bancroft's Regional Oral History Office, ends with the phrase: "all along the way you have fun!"

And it is the story of "along the way" that comprises this substantial transcript, a gift from her children in honor of Mrs. Hagar's seventy-fifth birthday.

From a childhood spent for the most part in the Philippines where her father, David Prescott Barrows, served as General Superintendent of Education, Ella Barrows came to Berkeley in 1910, attended McKinley School and Berkeley High School, and entered the University with its Class of 1919.



Life in the small college town in those halcyon days before the first World War is vividly recalled, and contrasted with the changes brought about by the war and by her father's appointment to the presidency of the University in December, 1919. From her job as assistant to the personnel director of the Weinstock-Lubin Company in Sacramento, Ella Barrows was called home to assist her mother in the running of the President's House, and it was here, in 1922, that she met her future husband, Gerald Hagar, on a blind date.

Of her forty-year marriage, largely spent in the handsome home built for them on Stonewall Road by the young architect, William W. Wurster, Mrs. Hagar relates much of her husband's activities and the growing-up of her three children. She modestly sees herself as wife and mother, but the reader gains the sense of a vital woman deeply involved in community affairs, most notably in the campus YWCA, on whose board she served for forty-eight years. After Mr. Hagar's appointment as a Regent in 1951, Ella Barrows Hagar was again drawn into the University's administrative circle, at a time of intense problems related to the Loyalty Oath controversy. But there were also happy times, often associated with the many prominent visitors who stopped at the Berkeley campus, including Prince Philip, next to whom Mrs. Hagar was seated at luncheon, and President Kennedy, to whom she said, "Have fun," as he prepared to address 90,000 people in Memorial Stadium.

She had been told by Mrs. Chester Nimitz, the wife of another Regent, "You just accept everything you're asked to do." Mrs. Hagar recalls that "I haven't accepted *everything* but I've done what I could." What she has done since her husband's death in 1965 is a great deal, including quiet behind-the-scenes work on the Council of The Friends of The Bancroft Library and, as Vice Chairman, publicly officiating at the dedication ceremony for the remodeled Library in 1973. On that occasion President Hitch prefaced his remarks by saying to Mrs. Hagar: "Having you introduce me is a real treat." And for the people who will come to the Library to read *Continuing Memoirs*, there is also a real treat in store.

## Annual Meeting: June 1st

The twenty-eighth Annual Meeting of The Friends of The Bancroft Library will be held in Wheeler Auditorium on Sunday afternoon, June 1st, at 2:30 p.m. N. Scott Momaday, Professor of English at Stanford University and author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *House Made of Dawn*, and of *The Way to Rainy Mountain*, will be the speaker; his talk is entitled "The Native Californian: Centennial Views of the American Indian." Following the meeting there will be a reception in the Library's Gallery, marking the opening of an exhibition relating to the history of North American Indians, particularly those of California.

Professor Momaday will also contribute the preface to the annual Keepsake, a reprinting of two essays by the American anthropologist, Stephen Powers: *Californian Indian Characteristics* and *Centennial Mission to the Indians of Western Nevada and California*. The volume will also include a review of Powers' observations by Robert F. Heizer, Professor of Anthropology at Berkeley, and will be mailed to the Friends within the next few weeks.

## Hondius Map of the Americas

As a memorial to Francis P. Farquhar, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Power of Nut Tree have presented to the Library one of the eight known extant copies of the first issue of Jodocus Hondius' *America Noviter Delin-eata*, published in Amsterdam about 1624. Considered by many cartographic historians to be the most beautiful map of the Americas designed by Dutch engravers, the map measures eighteen by twenty-two and one-half inches and is colored in tones of brown, yellow, green, and blue. It shows the entire Western Hemisphere excepting the then-unknown parts of North America, as well as much of the Atlantic Ocean with portions of Europe and Africa; two insets include the North Pole and Greenland, and the South Pole.

Bird's-eye views of "Pomeiocc," "Carolina," St. Augustine, Havana, Santo Do-



"Novae Albionis Rex"

mingo, and Cartagena form the upper border of the map, while the lower border includes "Olinda in Phurnambuco," Cusco, Potosí, "[I]sla," La Mocha in Chili, "R. Ianeiro," and Mexico City. The side borders contain ten vignettes of native Americans from various locations as well as European figures. Of special interest to Californians is the vignette here reproduced entitled "Novae Albionis Rex," apparently depicting the greeting by the Coast Miwok Indian Chief of Sir Francis Drake when the latter landed on the coast in 1579.

Aside from its great historical significance to cartographers and Californians, the map is of interest to students of the history of printing, since it includes the names of the two rival Dutch map-makers, Hondius and Jan Jansson, the latter as publisher in this case. Hondius' map is a welcome addition to the Library's growing Map and Atlas Collection, and it will be included in the exhibition scheduled to open in the Gallery on the afternoon of the Annual Meeting of The Friends of The Bancroft Library.

## Bancroft's Contemporary Poetry Collection

IN THE SUMMER OF 1965 the University of California's Extension Division sponsored the Berkeley Poetry Conference, a two-week seminar featuring regularly-scheduled lectures and readings by well-known poets, including Robin Blaser, Robert Creeley, Robert Duncan, Allen Ginsberg, Joanne Kyger, Charles Olson, Gary Snyder, Jack Spicer, Lew Welch, and John Wieners. This Conference, a tape recording of which is in The Bancroft Library, was significant in that it provided an appropriate forum for a gathering of contemporary poets who had already acquired recognition; the lectures of Jack Spicer, who died not long afterward, drew much attention because he discussed the poet in politics. The Conference also served to render local tribute to the many poets representing the San Francisco Bay area poetry movement, and stimulated keener interest in the growth of the University Library's ongoing poetry collection which had been begun in 1964 by Allan Covici, a member of the Library's staff.

In response to the expressed concern of Professors Josephine Miles and Thomas Parkinson of the Department of English, University Librarian Donald Coney decided to make the Rare Books Department (now an integral part of The Bancroft Library) an official repository for materials in the field of contemporary poetry. Since the variety of forms in which contemporary poetry is issued ranges from mimeographed sheets of paper bound as booklets to hard-cover volumes which are beautifully designed, illustrated, and issued in limited editions, from broadside sheets to phonograph discs and tapes of readings, a guarded storage area was considered to be imperative. Too, much of the new poetry is distributed through non-commercial channels, and "underground" publications are likely to disappear before they can be collected through normal procedure.

Mr. Coney also, in 1967, appointed the prominent San Francisco poet Robert Duncan to the post of poetry consultant to the Library. Since that time his assistance in developing the collection has been indispensable; his close ties with the contemporary



scene and his comprehension of new literary directions, quickened by catholic taste, have made him an ideal advisor. His basic scheme for collecting has two aspects: first, the regional, whereby poetry written in the San Francisco Bay area is obtained for itself and in relation to cultural studies of this locality. Secondly, the collection is to keep abreast of contemporary movements regardless of locale, paying special attention to avant-garde and counter-culture poetry. At first Mr. Duncan intended to build a comprehensive collection embracing both aspects, but financial limitations have made this goal impossible, and in recent years only the best-known poets have been included. But Mr. Duncan's judgments were so good that the young poets he selected ten years ago have proven to be of lasting concern. To cite but one example, in 1964 Diane Wakoski was a student on the Berkeley campus, today she is an established poet with a national reputation.

During the last few years, with financial assistance provided by Regent William M. Roth, important manuscript collections have been obtained. In 1971 The Bancroft Library acquired the City Lights Archives (described in *Bancroftiana*, Number 58, June 1974), including records relating to both the book shop and publishing company during the years 1953 to 1970 and containing correspondence from many well-known poets. Also acquired in that same year were the archival records of the Auerhahn Press of San Francisco, constituting another very important collection of manuscript material relating to the San Francisco Bay area poetry movement. Spanning the years 1959 to 1967, this archive includes correspondence with, among others, William Burroughs, Robert Duncan, Allen Ginsberg, Philip Lamantia, and Michael McClure. Other collections which the Library has acquired include the records of the Untide Press of Waldport, Oregon, and manuscripts of William Everson, Thom Gunn, Michael McClure, Josephine Miles, Daniel Moore, and those of Mr. Duncan himself.

Although it is by no means as comprehensive as it might be, the contemporary poetry collection is of inestimable value, for it has attracted an ever-increasing number of graduate students into the Library to use this

material in their research. Not only are they employing the collection for literary studies, but they are exploring many psychological and sociological facets of contemporary American life revealed in the works of these poets. For, as Robert Duncan has said, "... words are, like men themselves, fields of life."

## Recent Exhibitions

Realizing that its Gallery is often crowded with visitors who have come to view the special exhibitions, the Library has begun to keep an attendance record and thinks it might interest the Friends to know how popular the Bancroft displays have become. During December and in the first week of January, even though the Library was closed on Saturday afternoons and for the four days of the Christmas and New Year holidays, more than 1,400 people visited the Gallery to view the Gifts Exhibition.

On January 19th, members of The Friends of The Bancroft Library, along with others of his admirers, gathered in Wheeler Auditorium to hear William Everson (Brother Antoninus) read his poems, following which a reception was held in the Gallery to honor the poet and to open an exhibition of his work. During the following two months more than 2,100 persons came to see this exhibition, "William Everson, Poet and Printer."

Most recently, on March 23rd, the Friends hosted a reception to mark the opening of "George Stewart, Historian, Biographer and Novelist: An Exhibition in Honor of His Eightieth Birthday" which was attended by more than 300 guests, some coming from as far away as Reno and Pasadena to congratulate the distinguished Professor Emeritus of English. During the first ten days after the opening another 553 people had visited the Gallery.

## Pictorial Collections

The importance of a Library such as the Bancroft depends not only on written and transcribed texts but also on pictorial representations of people, their social environment and the natural scene. Over the past several decades the Library has amassed a large and growing collection of pictorial materials

which now includes over one million photographs as well as thousands of prints, posters, and original works of art in all media. These visual documents are not mere adjuncts to scholarship exemplified by written works, but comprise in themselves an unparalleled

primary resource for original research, especially in the subject areas of Californiana and Western Americana.

For example, the collection includes original watercolors and drawings from all early expeditions to California for which pictorial



"Unidentified" San Francisco street, c. 1901. Photograph by Arnold Genthe. Through internal evidence the location of this view has been identified by the Library, but before including this information, in the next issue of *Bancroftiana*, we thought that the Friends might like to try their hands at detection.



material is known to exist. Outstanding historically are some of the earliest surviving representations of any scene in California—four drawings by Spanish artists of the Malaspina Expedition to Alta California in 1791. A Choris watercolor of 1816, "Dance of the Inhabitants of California," is the first depiction of the Mission of San Francisco; it shows an Indian ceremonial dance and a large audience assembled in front of the then flourishing Mission.

In addition to its rich documentation of Gold Rush scenes, the Bancroft owns the first drawing of Yosemite Valley, "The Yosemite" by Thomas Ayres (1855), and rare Currier & Ives lithographs of Western Americana. Also represented are significant works by early California lithographers, such as Britton & Rey, the Nahl Brothers, George Baker, and Kuchel & Dresel. The most important single acquisition of pictures was made in 1964 when the Library, with the generous assistance of The Regents of the University together with The Friends of The Bancroft Library, purchased the Robert B. Honeyman Collection of Pictorial Western Americana, a choice collection numbering almost two thousand items, including oils, watercolors, drawings, lithographs, engravings, etchings, early photographs, pictorial letter sheets, and a miscellany of scrapbooks, sheet music, advertising cards and other materials issued by pioneer business firms.

In collecting photographs and other original works of art, the Library's primary objective has been to document the people, places, events, and scenes which form the substance of western American history. The Bancroft has been able to acquire many pictures over the years which, however, are not only invaluable sources of visual documentation but fine examples of the photographer's art. Included are collections of work by pioneer photographers such as Timothy O'Sullivan, Eadward Muybridge, Carleton E. Watkins, Charles L. Weed, and William Henry Jackson. This material is supplemented by a number of well-known specialized collections, including the Graves Collection of Transportation, the McKay Collection of Early Daguerreotypes, the Oliver Collection of Marine Photographs, the Hills Collection of San Francisco Views, and the

Rodolph Collection of Oakland in the 1880's. Illustrated here is one of our most recent acquisitions—an original Arnold Genthe photograph, one of fourteen which were purchased, once again, with the assistance of the Friends. It is hoped that this small group will form the core of a growing archive of original materials documenting Genthe's career and the turn-of-the-century years during which he was active in recording the look of the San Francisco Bay area and portraits of its outstanding residents.

The beginnings of the pictorial collections actually date to the collecting and publishing activities of the Library's founder, Hubert Howe Bancroft, who began assembling materials for research in 1859, but its greatest acquisitions have been made in the last fifteen years and very recently we have also collected pictures unrelated to the American West but pertinent to our Rare Books Collection and the History of Science and Technology Project. To provide improved control over and utilization of Bancroft's pictorial resources, Dr. John Barr Tompkins, long Head of Public Services for the Library, was made Curator of Pictorial Collections in 1971. Following his retirement last year, Mr. Lawrence Dinnean, a former member of the staff of the University Art Museum, was appointed to this post. In addition, two members of the Public Services staff with specialized knowledge of photographs and of portraits, Mrs. Suzanne H. Gallup and Mr. William Roberts, contribute to general collection management.

In spite of this significant level of staff commitment, State funding provides no budget allocation for augmenting or restoring pictorial materials, and future growth and development continue to be dependent on private support, including that of the Friends. At present, new funds are being sought for archival preservation of photographic negatives, for necessary professional conservation treatment of original works of art, and for photographic documentation of fragile and special items.

## Membership Renewals

Announcement was made in the February issue of *Bancroftiana* of the increase in membership dues necessitated by the rising costs

of publications and activities of the Friends. We need only point out that in 1971 the fifteen dollar membership paid for 250 first-class postage stamps, whereas today this sum will purchase only 150 such stamps. The Council is grateful to those who have renewed their memberships for 1975 and pleased that they feel rewarded by the special Keepsake of a handsome marble and enamel paperweight. At the same time the Council realizes the predicament of many of our "older" Friends who are now living in retirement but with whom we do not want to lose touch. We sincerely want to hear from all our members in the hope that they will continue to express support for Bancroft and be entitled to receive the paperweight in addition to the 1975 Keepsake.

## Archivists Meet in Heller Reading Room

Director Emeritus George P. Hammond welcomed sixty members of the Society of California Archivists at their Fourth Annual Meeting, held in the Library's Heller Reading Room on Saturday, April 5th. Organized in 1971 by a half-dozen archivists and curators, including those at the Huntington Library, California State Archives, Stanford University, California Historical Society, UCLA, and The Bancroft Library, the Society now numbers more than 170 members and is presently engaged in preparing a statewide inventory of holdings for inclusion in the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections.

Following Dr. Hammond's remarks, Mrs. Lois Rather, who with her husband Clif comprises The Rather Press of Oakland, spoke of her more than forty years of research activity in The Bancroft Library, begun during the Directorship of Professor Herbert E. Bolton, and exhibited many of the books which she has written and which she and Mr. Rather have produced on their hand press. As a special gift for each of the attendees, the Rathers printed a keepsake, *An Amateur in the Archives*, the text of Mrs. Rather's talk. After luncheon, members of the Bancroft's staff, many of whom are also Friends, guided the visitors to sev-

eral areas of the Library, including the Mark Twain Papers, Regional Oral History Office, Manuscripts Division, Map Room, and University Archives, where they might sense something of the day-to-day activities of these units.

## Borax: California to Europe

In the beginning there were eight mules to a team, then the teams increased to twelve, and twice as much borax was carried in the same wagon. So, the teams increased to sixteen, and finally to twenty (actually, eighteen mules and two horses), hauling two wagons, each, with its load, weighing 31,800 pounds, and a water tank, carrying 1,200 gallons—a total weight of approximately thirty-seven tons—sixteen to eighteen miles a day for up to ten days over the trails of Death Valley. No wonder then that they and the men who drove them have taken on a sense of legend in post-Gold Rush California history.

Also legendary were the fortunes made by William T. Coleman and Francis M. "Borax" Smith from the borax beds of California and Nevada. The careers of these two men were curiously parallel insofar as each made a fortune from borax and each lost it in real estate schemes. When Coleman's San Francisco-based empire collapsed, Smith gathered the Coleman borax enterprises into his own newly-organized company, making it, in 1890, the largest borax operation in the United States. To this new venture he gave the name Pacific Coast Borax Company. From Coleman he also inherited another asset: William Lovering Locke. As part of its continuing interest in the Coleman and Smith enterprises, as well as in the history of mining in the western United States, The Bancroft Library recently acquired a collection of Locke's correspondence, as a gift from the estate of his daughter, Florence Locke.

William Locke, a mariner born in Vermont in 1853, arrived in San Francisco in 1875 and three years later he began working as a clerk in Coleman's office; by 1883 he had acquired private interests in borax in San Bernardino County. With the failure





William Lovering Locke

of Coleman's company, Locke and Frank S. Johnson established the Johnson-Locke Mercantile Company which arranged contracts for shipping goods around Cape Horn. Subsequently, they became interested in the construction of the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley Railroad, the famous "Valley Road." At the same time, Locke apparently entered into an association with Smith's Oakland firm.

In 1896 Smith sought a European outlet because the American market in borax was falling. Fortunately, an English firm, Redwood & Sons of London, needed a source of supply and joined with Smith to form a new company, The Pacific Borax and Redwood's Chemical Works, Ltd., which marketed borax world-wide. Smith became managing director of the American interests of the firm, while Richard C. Baker assumed the same post in England. Liaison men were transferred from each country and Smith chose Locke to represent him in England.

The correspondence in the Locke Collection dates from his first three years in England, 1897 to 1899, where he was attached to the firm of Mear & Green Limited of Kidsgrove. Most of the letters are from

R. C. Baker and they deal with the transmission of supplies from the United States to England, negotiations for German borax, acquisition of refining facilities in the United Kingdom either through buying or renting, accounting and technical processing details, and interactions among the various promoters — Smith, Baker, and Charles Pfizer, among others.

Locke returned to the United States in 1905 and served as Secretary of the Pacific Coast Borax Company until his death in 1915. This correspondence is indeed rich in documenting the effect of California's borax production on the international market and it provides further detail of the history of borax mining so picturesquely embodied in the "Twenty Mule Team."

## *Clemens Letters Sought*

As most of The Friends of The Bancroft Library probably know, the Mark Twain Papers is editing the previously unpublished manuscripts and correspondence of this major American writer, for publication by the University of California Press. Recently work has begun on the first of a multi-volume edition of Clemens' collected correspondence and since it is intended to produce as complete a chronology as possible the editors are soliciting information about any Clemens letters that might not have come to their attention. Such knowledge will be welcomed by the Editor, Frederick Anderson, of The Bancroft Library, who may be reached by telephone at 642-6480.

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