James D. Hart, 1911–1990

James D. Hart, Director of The Bancroft Library since 1969 and Professor Emeritus of the Department of English at UC Berkeley, died at his Berkeley home on July 23. His colleagues at Bancroft, and indeed throughout the world of books and scholarship, mourn his death as they honor his extraordinary accomplishments.

Professor Hart was born in San Francisco April 18, 1911. He graduated from Stanford University in 1932 and received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1936. He returned to California that same year and joined the English Department at Berkeley where he taught with distinction for more than four decades.

Mr. Hart's involvement in the world of books and letters was international. He was a member of the Roxburghe Club of San Francisco, the Book Club of California, the Grolier Club of New York, and the International Association of Bibliophiles. He was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1963 for his services to literature. In 1978 Mills College awarded him an honorary doctorate of humane letters. Professor Hart was also a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Antiquarian Society.

Hart combined a keen knowledge of American literature with a strong appreciation of the culture and history of California. His publications reflect both interests. He was the author of The Oxford Companion to American Literature (1941, revised and expanded several times, and now in its fifth [1983] edition), The Popular Book; A History of America's Literary Taste (1950), major works on Robert Louis Stevenson, Frank Norris, and Francis Parkman, and numerous other works on various aspects of literary culture and taste of America and California. His most recent major work was A Companion to California, first published in 1978 and reissued in a greatly expanded edition two years ago. His lifelong interest in fine printing resulted in his operating a private press in his home for many years and in the publication by the Library of Congress five years ago of Fine Printing: The San Francisco Tradition.

Mr. Hart was Chairman of the English Department at Berkeley from 1955 to 1957 and again from 1965 to 1969. He also served as Berkeley's Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs from 1957 to 1960. For virtually all of his
Annual Meeting of the Bancroft Library. Accordingly, the next issue of Bancroftiana will be devoted to that legacy.

Mr. Hart is survived by his wife, the former Carol Field, and his son Peter D. Hart. A memorial fund has been established in Mr. Hart’s honor. Contributions may be sent to the James D. Hart Fund at The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, 94720. The Bancroft Library has begun to receive individual reminiscences about James D. Hart and is keeping them as a special file. Additional reminiscences are welcome. Please send them to Peter E. Hanff at The Bancroft Library.

Peter E. Hanff

Our Party in the Tuolumne Meadows. From Joseph N. LeConte’s diary of a Yosemite camping trip in 1889.

For Dunne, after the initial culture shock of the move to California had subsided, the freed­dom and individualistic Western ethic liberat­ed him in a new way.

When I think of Los Angeles now, after almost a decade and a half of living not only in it but with it, I sometimes feel an astonish­ment, an attachment that approaches joy…. I am attached equally to the glory of the place and to its flaws, its faults, its occasional rev­olutions of psychic and physical slippage, its beauties and its betrayals. It is the end of the line. It is the last stop. Eureka! I love it.

At first free lance journalism in and about California became something like a joint pro­ject for the couple and, as it turned out, pre­pared the way for their fiction. For some time after 1967 they shared a column in The Satur­day Evening Post called “Points West,” though they did not directly collaborate together on anything except screen plays. They were, however, drawn to similar items in the newspapers, accounts of freak accidents, and the language of the omission voiced by the callers of radio talk shows. In 1967, Dunne published his book, Delano, the first major account of Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Worker’s move­ment, an even-handed account free of cant and Dunne are “The First Family of Angst” and “Entrepreneurs of Anxiety.”

In 1968 Didion published Slouching Toward Bethlehem, her first collection of the highly personal journalistic essays she prefers to think of as “pieces.” With its liter­ary yet ironic portraits of hippies, fundamen­talists, and other dreamers of the Golden West, and in the Central American section

bium (1970) attest, the traditional center of American life appeared not to be holding. Her sense of the anomie and the spiritual malaise of the Sixties is magnified in the striking prose of Play It As It Lays (1970), the story of the break­down of the marriage of Maria Wyeth, a minor Hollywood actress. This novel established Didion as the only post-World War II Amer­i­can writer to assume successfully the spiritual and stylistic legacy of Ernest Hemingway. The Nada of Hemingway’s “A Clean Well Lighted Place” is transmuted with the airlessness of diction but an intensity of feeling into the harsh glare of Didion’s Hollywood and Death Valley. For Dunne, though he wrote prolifically and suc­cessfully for periodicals, there was the problem of developing a unique voice for prose fiction. This he managed to do in Vegas (1974), his memoir of his dark season of struggling with an acute writer’s block in a residential motel in Los Vegas during the summer of 1969. In the crazy patter of Strip comics, hookers, and hus­ters he found the objective correlative for the language of the Irish Catholic Hartford, Con­necticut of his youth.

The annus mirabilis for both writers was 1977. Each published a major novel that year, Didion A Book of Common Prayer and Dunne True Confessions, and they finally received profits from A Star Is Born, the film project they originated and for which they wrote the earli­est versions of the screen play. A Book of Com­mon Prayer tells the story of the disintegration of the life and the death of Charlotte Douglas, an upper middle class San Francisco woman whose marriage and family come apart when her daughter joins a group of urban terrorists. Here, in Play It As It Lays and her journal­ism, Didion reveals her fascination with the “edge,” the salient between order and chaos, California is not so much the physical coast of the American continent as it is the edge of the American Dream of manifest destiny. In True Confessions Dunne is also concerned with the “edge” but in his story of the brothers Tom and Des Spellacy, one an L.A. cop and the other an ambitious young prelate, the edge is the invis­ible line between the sacred and the profane. The book also illustrates Dunne’s unique per­spective as an Easterner living in Los Angeles. Though set in Los Angeles, the Irish Catholic characters which populate the novel seem more the product of Hartford’s Irish Catholic ghetto. As odd as Dunne’s mix of East and West is, it works because he has truly been able to understand the East through the mediation of the West. Both books were popular successes but they confirmed some critics in the view that Didion and Dunne are “The First Family of Angst” and “Entrepreneurs of Anxiety.”

In their work, their vision of American life has been underscored in their latest work. With only the slightest mitigation in the non-fiction of The White Album (1979), Salvador (1982), Democracy (1984), and in her latest novel, Miami (1987), Didion continues to follow the effects of the disorder of American cultural and political life at the far edges of the American empire. Dunne’s novels Dutch Shea Jr. (1982) and The Red, White, and Blue (1987) repeat a number of the dark obsessions of True Confessions without its leavening of hope. In the autobiographical Hap (1986) with death as his central preoccupation, Dunne continues in the mordantly self- scrutinizing vein begun in Vegas, attempting to place himself, both as a writer and an ethicist, a “harp,” in the American landscape. Depressing though it may be to some people, the work of Joan Didion and John Gregory Dunne amounts to a major statement about the quality of life in the times we live in. They are highly skilled shapers of what Didion has called “cautionary tales,” which will continue to hold our interest.

* * *

It is The Bancroft Library’s good fortune to have received from Joan Didion and John Gre­gory Dunne the generous gifts of their exten­sive collections of literary manuscripts and pap­ers. These gifts represent a particularly ap­propriate addition both to the Bancroft’s al­ready considerable holdings of contemporary literary manuscripts, and to its unique and ex­haustive collections of Californiana and West­ern Americana. All of these authors’ major books are represented by notes, manuscripts, corrected and uncorrected galley proofs, all of which show the process of composition in a number of stages.

The John Gregory Dunne Papers contain, among other things, two different manuscript ver­sions of the early novel, Run River. There are extensive holograph notes for Play It As It Lays as well as the complete manuscripts of the first and the final drafts. In addition one finds an interest­ing artifact of Dunne’s editorial assistance which displays both his sensitivity and tact. A memorandum from him outlining the major criticisms that occurred to him after reading the first draft of the novel for the first time. The papers also include the original manuscript of Salvador with corrections made in red and green. Because of the need to get the manuscript to the printer in a hurry, no retyp­ing of the text was possible. The John Gregory Dunne Papers are equally interesting for the numerous different states of composition represented for each book, all scrupulously orga­nized by the author himself. There are note­books for The Studio and Vegas. True Con­fessions is represented by three different sets of notes, the original manuscript and a corrected version of the original manuscript. Dutch Shea Jr. and The Red, White, and Blue are similarly represented by numerous sets of notes, several different drafts, and in the case of the former, revised galley proofs. Dunne’s files also include his El Salvador notebooks, containing State Department briefing material and notes taken on the trip he and Didion took to El Salvador in 1981, which resulted in her book length essay Salvador and in the Central American section of The Red, White, and Blue.

In sum, whether studied separately or to­gether the Didion and Dunne collections pro­
vide invaluable material for the scholar, biographer and critic. It is fitting, too, at this time, to acknowledge the special role James D. Hart played in helping to bring these important collections to the Bancroft. With his extraordinary blend of warmth and indefatigability, Hart befriended and cultivated both writers. Their generosity, not to be diminished by the fact, was stimulated by his keenness to "collect" them for the Bancroft and for future literary and historical scholarship.

Tim Huyer

**Revolutionary French Science Revisited**

The long and distinguished career of Pierre Simon Laplace (1749-1827), one of Europe’s premier astronomers and mathematicians in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, is documented in an important addition to the holdings in history of science and technology at The Bancroft Library. The papers of Laplace and his immediate family are sure to attract the attention of scholars from all over the world. Acquisition of the Laplace Papers, comprising some twenty-five manuscript boxes, was made possible through the Flora Lamson Hewlett Memorial Fund, an endowment established at the Bancroft Library by William R. Hewlett in memory of his late wife, an alumna of the University of California, Berkeley. Laplace's scientific career included major accomplishments in astronomy, physics, probability theory, and chemistry. In the *Mécanique céleste*, Laplace exploited the achievements of 18th-century mathematical analysis in completing the Newtonian revolution in astronomy; he proposed a new theory (the nebular hypothesis) for the origins of the planetary system. He also built on this model in his description of terrestrial phenomena (heat, light, electricity, magnetism, and capillarity) in terms of central forces acting between particles. In his work on probability theory Laplace constructed a systematic theory of probability and endowed it with a philosophical foundation. He also participated in the chemical revolution most closely associated with the name of his colleague, Antoine Lavoisier. Laplace played important roles in scientific and political institutions of the Ancien Régime, revolutionary era, and Restoration. Before the French Revolution he assumed a position of leadership in the Paris Academy of Sciences; after 1789 he served as one of the architects of the metric system of weights and measures in France and contributed his expertise to new educational institutions designed to teach both science and a revolutionary ideology. Laplace enjoyed considerable political success under Napoleon Bonaparte, first as minister of the interior, then as vice-chancellor of the Senate and founding member of the Legion of Honor. After the Restoration his success and eminence continued in the Académie Française, over which he presided, and in the Chamber of Peers. He gathered around him a circle of talented young scientists, including Biot, Arago, and Poisson, all of whom played important roles in the development of French science in the 19th century. In 1788 Laplace married Marie Anne Charlotte de Romange; they had two children, Charles Émile Pierre Joseph (1789-1874) and Sophie Suzanne (1792-1815). Madame Laplace was later named as lady-in-waiting to Princess Elisa (Baciocchi), Napoleon's sister. Laplace's son Émile was trained at the École Polytechnique and became an officer in the artillery corps. He served as Napoleon's aide-de-camp, and eventually rose to the rank of general. He followed his father as an active member of the Chamber of Peers.

The collection contains a rich variety of Laplace's scientific papers, including manuscripts of articles on astronomy, physics, and mathematics (e.g., an unpublished essay on number theory and critical comments on his philosophical essay on probability theory), as well as corrected proofs of his popular treatise on astronomy, *Exposition du système du monde*. There are many pages of mathematical and astronomical calculations, some by the eminent French astronomer Delambre, who worked closely with Laplace. The papers also reflect Laplace's involvement in scientific projects undertaken with government sponsorship. These projects included the reform of French scientific institutions, recalculation of the meridian between Rome and Rimini, and restoration of the Gregorian calendar in France. The collection includes some of Laplace's correspondence, much of Madame Laplace's correspondence and some of Émile's. Regrettably, other important letters did not survive a fire at the family estate in Normandy in the 1950s. Letters from the papers are included in the Calendar of the Correspondence of Pierre Simon Laplace compiled by Roger Hahn, professor of history at Berkeley and longtime friend and advisor to The Bancroft Library.

Household receipts and business papers in the collection afford an intriguing look into practical aspects of the life of science, and detail Laplace's purchase both of scientific instruments and of chocolate. His passports, certificates for good citizenship and National Guard service, and receipts for tax payments and "voluntary" contributions evoke the atmosphere of the revolutionary upheaval. Madame Laplace's extensive social correspondence is illustrative of norms and practices among the French upper class both in the Napoleonic era and after the Restoration; and Émile Laplace's service records, account books, and diaries speak to life in the French military. The Laplace Papers thus constitute a valuable resource for studies of French politics and society before, during, and after the French Revolution, as well as a significant collection for the history of modern science.

Robin E. Rider

**New Council Members**

At this year's Annual Meeting the Friends appointed several nominations to the Council occasioned by the expiration of the terms of Sanford L. Berger, J. Dennis Bonney, Roger W. Heyns, Bernard M. Rosenthal and Thomas B. Worth. Sanford Berger's specialized knowledge of William Morris, the Kelmscott Press, and the fine printing movement in England in the late nineteenth century has been an invaluable source of wise counsel in these areas of the Bancroft's collecting interests. Dennis Bonney served as Chair of the Institutional Membership Committee, in whose capacity he has contributed to important expansions in the corporate membership rolls of the Friends. Roger Heyns has served as Chair of the Membership Committee, and has provided useful guidance in all areas of Friends activity, most especially those involving the Friends' relationship to the University. Bernard Rosenthal's preeminence in the antiquarian book trade provided essential insight to Council's deliberations in matters concerning the acquisition of rare books for the library's collections. Thorhas Worth has acted with distinction as Treasurer to the Friends. We extend to each of these retiring Members our deep appreciation for their years of dedicated Council service.

We also wish to welcome and acknowledge our incoming Council Members. They are: Barbara Boucke, an alumna of the University of California, Berkeley, and the Controller of the San Francisco Fine Arts Museums; June Cheit, a former editor for the UC Press who is active in campus and civic affairs; John C. Craig, a professor of the medical school at UC San Francisco, and a major collector of books on English gastronomy; Edwin V. Gaster, a distinguished antiquarian bookseller and member of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America and the Roxburgh Club of San Francisco; and William M. Hassebrock, former head of the Jacqueline Hume Foundation for Teaching Economics. Finally, we note that Peter E. Hanff, Coordinator of Technical Services at the Bancroft, has been appointed Interim Director of The Bancroft Library. In this capacity he has assumed the vacancy on Council created by the death of James D. Hart, long-time member of the Council.

Robin E. Rider
Specialized granting with national and international impact: the oral history of Mary C. Skaggs

Talking with Mary Skaggs provides a vivid sense of the energetic, independent spirit that has contributed much to America in the twentieth century. Practical and objective, that spirit has built the everyday businesses we all rely on, and frequently includes a continuing generosity and concern for fellow humans in the form of personal philanthropy. This has most certainly been the case for L.J. Skaggs and Mary C. Skaggs, founders of the Skaggs Foundation of Oakland.

In an unassuming, chatty manner, Mrs. Skaggs has dipped into her rich store of memories to tell The Bancroft Library's Regional Oral History Office of a life that she is fond of saying spans the invention of the airplane into space age. It has included a turn-of-the-century immigrant childhood and an active role in the business world, as well as the lifetime of interest in helping others. Dealing most especially with the creation of the L.J. Skaggs and Mary C. Skaggs Foundation and its grant-making philosophy, Mrs. Skaggs's recently completed memoir is a key volume in the History of Bay Area Philanthropy series, sponsored by Northern California Grantmakers.

Born in Holland in 1900, Mary Dee came with her family as a small child to Utah. In those near-frontier days, she recalls, what we think of today as public health was an individual everyday concern. Water, milk, and clothes were boiled, since municipal facilities were virtually non-existent. Travelers were regularly welcomed into their home because hotels were few, and she vividly remembers caring for her younger siblings when her mother went to help a neighbor in childbirth. Matter-of-factly, she mentions the flu epidemic of 1919, when no one knew when or if it would end, noting a parallel to fears and uncertainty about AIDS in the 1990s.

During World War I, when women were needed in the work force, teen-aged Mary happily took a job outside the home, in a local pharmacy. There she met Levi Juston Skaggs, one of a family of twelve children. Father-Skaggs and his sons had come west from Missouri and were doing well as pioneers in establishing low-cost grocery stores in small towns. After their marriage in 1919 Mary and L.J. scouted likely locations and set up Skaggs Stores outlets throughout the Midwest, later moving their base to Portland, Oregon. In 1926, Skaggs Stores merged with another grocery retailer to form the Safeway chain, and Mrs. and Mr. Skaggs went on to develop the Pay Less drug stores in northern California. More of their time was spent in the Bay Area, and they built a handsome home in the rolling countryside north of San Francisco.

Through the years, community requests for contributions were frequent and the Skaggeses responded to many solicitations. They also provided financial help to new employees just getting started in life and to promising young people they met on their travels. "I don't know how many children we put through college," Mary says fondly. When Pay Less in turn went public, the Skaggeses began to consider what to do with their considerable assets. In 1966, with the skillful assistance of their long-time attorney, Philip Jelley, who also was interviewed for this volume, they established the L.J. Skaggs and Mary C. Skaggs Foundation.

They soon discovered that many nonprofit organizations "had more money than they knew what to do with" and so, as Mrs. Skaggs's and Mr. Jelley's narratives describe, the Skaggs Foundation has carefully explored and expanded several unusual grantmaking programs. Among these have been a continuous interest in young people and the arts. Consistent support, for example, has been provided to the University of California's Young Musicians Program. Another, one that has been particularly gratifying to Mrs. Skaggs, has been traveling art classes for preschool children of farmworkers in Santa Clara County.

Skaggs is also one of the very few foundations with an interest in supporting historical research, from which The Bancroft Library has benefited on a number of occasions. Other projects funded by Skaggs have included research and development of background materials relating to the beatification of Father Juniper Serra as well as programs in Britain for preservation of ancient stonework and for living history programs. "I've seen some incredible things [there] as far as an effective way to make a historical site come alive," reports Mr. Jelley, some of them now being used in the U.S.

In making grants, the Skaggs Foundation sometimes spends more than its annual income. "We don't manipulate this wind-up of the foundation," Phil Jelley notes, "some day we'll spend all the money and we'll all go home."

The Mary C. Skaggs oral history is the first of a projected series of interviews with individuals who have been leaders in the growth and development of philanthropy in the Bay Area. Individually and as a group these accounts will constitute a fitting and valuable complement to Bancroft's already substantial resources documenting the social and cultural life of the region.

Gabrielle Morris

Bancroftiana Index

We are pleased to announce that an Index to Bancroftiana issues 51-100 was published in June and has now been mailed to all Friends. We are grateful to the diligence and hard work of its editor, Vivian C. Fisher, and its printer, Wesley B. Tanner. If you wish to receive gratis additional copies of the Index or back issues of Bancroftiana, please telephone Kimberley Massingale at The Bancroft Library (415 642-3786).

Documenting 100 Years of Conservation: The Sierra Club Records Project

In anticipation of the Sierra Club's centennial in 1992, The Bancroft Library in April launched an ambitious two-year project, in cooperation with the Sierra Club and funded by a grant of $199,623 from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, to make one of the most significant groups of environmental records in the United States effectively accessible for research.

In 1990, the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club voted to give the national historical records of the Club to The Bancroft Library. The initial group of records received consisted of 123 linear feet of historical files and more than 20,000 photographs, as well as films, tape recordings, and Sierra Club publications. These were followed in succeeding years by additions of inactive administrative files and subject files on conservation issues. Encouraged by the national office, many individual club members have been sending their personal files and photographs to be added to the archives. The Washington, D.C. office began transferring its records to the Library in 1978, and the Northern California/Nevada Regional Conservation Committee added its files beginning in 1985. In 1986 the Club's International Program forwarded its inactive files. The Bancroft Library is also the repository for the records of the San Francisco Bay and the Mother Lode chapters and for the Club's mountain registers. The collection today, accumulated over twenty years, consists of approximately 1,355 linear feet of records and nearly 40,000 photographs and other pictorial items.

The first phase of the project, before moving on to completing the arrangement and description of the archival records, is focused on the Sierra Club pictorial collections and a records management survey of relevant Sierra Club offices.

Although some of the larger Sierra Club photographic collections, such as the Cedric Wright and Joseph N. LeConte collections (over 10,000 images), were already processed, the project has identified, marked, indexed,
and preserved more than 400 distinct groups of photographs and other pictorial materials—about 29,000 images in all. These cover a variety of media, from lantern slides to ViewMaster red stereos. There are fine groups of photographs by masters such as C.E. Watkins and Eadweard Muybridge. There are also a surprising number of personal albums and groups of photographs by other lesser known but nevertheless fine photographers, photos taken by Sierra Club members such as George R. King, Philip Sidney Carlton, Walter L. Huber, and Francis M. Fultz, to name just a few. Such expected themes as scenic beauty, wildflowers, trail maintenance, trout planting, and hikers are, of course, well represented. What is surprising is the playfulness and exuberance exhibited in many of the photographs—the joy of evening entertainments in camp, of “bandanna shows” and Fourth of July celebrations, and of just enjoying friends and the outdoors together.

The great strength of the photographic component of the collection is its continuity in documenting nearly 100 years of the Sierra Club and its activities and, for the same period, the landscape of California and the West. On repeated visits to locales, both casual photographers and renowned artists recorded general and particular changes in the environment. For illustration and study of landscape history, forestry, mining, water resources, natural history, outdoor activity, biography, and a host of other topics, the collection is a resource of considerable depth and usefulness. Researchers will have access to these pictorial collections through a printed index derived from database files being created for photographers, named individuals in portraits and group portraits, locations, and subjects.

A records management survey of the five major offices represented in the collection is the other principal activity of the first months of the project. This survey will ensure that the collection includes essential records and will result in a plan for the orderly transfer of future records, through the formulation of guidelines for the identification, organization, retention, and transfer of archival records to The Bancroft Library. A later phase of the project will work with Sierra Club field offices and chapters across the country in establishing liaisons with regional repositories.

The last eighteen months of the project will concentrate on completing the arrangement and description of the Club archives. These records not only document the Sierra Club’s 100 years of sharing the love of the earth and of all nature engendered by its founder, John Muir. They are also an unparalleled resource for the study of the environmental issues that have concerned the members of this dynamic volunteer organization.

The records reflect all detail Sierra Club history: how the Club grew, addressed issues, developed policies, evolved political strategies, encouraged volunteer activism, worked with its leaders and collaborated with other environmental groups; the makeup of the Club’s membership, representing every economic and age group in the nation; and the complex organization that evolved to cope with the growth of the Club and its programs. The Sierra Club builds daily on this dynamic structure, and there is much for other groups and leaders to learn from its activities, campaigns, and its unique cooperative organization of volunteer activists and staff.

The collection also records the Sierra Club’s proud history of accomplishments. Through the efforts of its members, the Club played a major role in the formation of the National Park Service and the Forest Service. It also helped to establish such national parks as Sequoia, Kings Canyon, Olympic, Redwood, and the North Cascades. In recent years, it has played a leading role in saving Hell’s Canyon, the Big Thicker in Texas, and the Congaree Swamp in South Carolina. The Sierra Club was a moving force behind the creation of the National Wilderness Preservation System and the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Key parts of Grand Canyon National Park and Dinosaur National Monument would be under water today if the Club had not defended them against proposed dam projects. The Sierra Club has led efforts to preserve millions of acres of public land in Alaska, and it successfully fought to save the redwoods and protect the boundaries of Redwood National Park. As society’s demands on natural resources have increased, the scope of the Sierra Club’s conservation efforts has both extended beyond national boundaries and has grown to include energy conservation, air and water pollution, controls over toxic chemicals, marine conservation, Antarctica, siting of nuclear power plants and safe disposal of nuclear wastes, and preservation of rain forests, development of environmentally sound economies, mass transit, and many other issues that concern our global environment with increasing urgency.

All of these topics, from wilderness preservation to the threat of chlorofluorocarbons in the stratosphere, are represented in the Sierra Club records. The information gathered and retained here, particularly in the many groups of subject files created both by Club departments and by individuals, comprises an unparalleled research collection. The detailed, indexed collection, inventory which will be produced by this project will provide access to it all for a wide range of historians, environmentalists, and other researchers, such as land-use planners and economists, and will support a broad spectrum of studies, from legislative history to grassroots dynamics.

Bonnie Hardwick

Dialog Access to Bancroft Catalogs

Thanks in large part to grants from the U.S. Department of Education, catalog records for nearly all Bancroft printed materials and maps are now in machine readable form and available through two online library catalogs. GLADIS (the General Library Automated Database and Information System) is UC Berkeley’s online library catalog. MELVYL is the online catalog holding records for the nine campus UC system. Records for new acquisitions are added continuously to these databases. Some manuscripts are also represented in them. Plans now being formulated will add records for all other manuscript holdings to these online catalogs during the coming several years.

Both catalogs may be accessed from your personal computer using a modem and communications software. Step-by-step instructions are provided online for new users of the catalogs. Experienced users can type in their entire search request at the first prompt arrow. Online help is readily available; simply type the command HELP at any time for an explanation of how your search has progressed and what options are available to you.

Library Orientation Leaflet number 62, "Dialog Access to Library Catalogs", containing
information about baud rates, phone numbers, logon and free instruction, is available free from the Library upon request. Additional publications, "Connecting to the UCB Library Online Catalogs", "Guide to GLADIS", and "Guide to MELVYL", are available in person from the Library Copy Service, 145 Main Library, or by mail from the Library's Education Office, Room 245 Main Library, for $3.00 each. Checks should be made payable to UC Regents.

Irene Moran

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Editor, Bancroftiana: Nicole L. Bouché
Wesley B. Tanner, Printer

Desiderata

Bancroftiana from time to time publishes lists of books that the Library needs. We would be particularly pleased to receive gifts of any of the books listed below. Please telephone Bonnie Bearden, Rare Books Acquisitions Assistant, in the Acquisitions Division (642-8171) or write her a note if you can help us.


History of the San Francisco Theater / compiled by Workers of the Writers' Program of the WPA Administration. San Francisco: The Administration, 1941-. Lack v. 18, 19, 21.


__________ The Canticle of Brother Sun. NY: Other Media, 197?