

# BANCROFTIANA

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*Mrs. John K. McLean and her daughter Mary McLean Olney pause during a hike along the railroad right-of-way near McCloud, California, site of the flourishing McCloud Lumber Mill (July/August, 1899).*

## *Shasta-Siskiyou Vacation Album*

Mrs. Constance Condit has recently donated to The Bancroft Library a family photograph album compiled by her mother, Mary McLean Olney, documenting her family's vacation trip to several localities in the Shasta-Siskiyou area of northern California during July and August, 1899. This compilation of 90 snapshots complements important Bancroft Library collections of Olney family papers and relates directly to reminiscences in the Library's oral history interview with Mrs. Olney, *Oakland, Berkeley,*

*and the University of California, 1880-1895,* conducted by Willa K. Baum in 1963.

Mary McLean Olney (1872-1965) was the daughter of Dr. John Knox McLean and his wife, Sarah Hawley McLean. Dr. McLean was pastor of the First Congregational Church of Oakland from 1872 to 1895 and later served as trustee and president of the Pacific Theological Seminary in Berkeley. A major force in the social, religious, and intellectual life of his time, Dr. McLean was also a vigorous outdoorsman, taking long daily walks and insisting on six-week mid-summer vacations for hiking and family recreation in Yosemite, the Sierras, and other mountainous regions of northern California. In her memoir, Mrs. Olney

describes the Yosemite jaunts and also several childhood trips to the Mount Shasta area where the family was able to stay in little hotels. "There was one called Sisson's [present day Mount Shasta City]. I suppose we stayed there quite as much as any.... Father liked to move around, and we'd stay about two weeks in a place." In addition to Sisson's, the 1899 album documents visits to Shasta Springs, to Duns-muir, and to McCloud. Also recorded are trips up the Pit River, with side trips to Hedge Creek and Mossbrae Falls, and an ascent of Mt. Shasta.

Mary McLean remained close to her family and childhood friends throughout her college years at Berkeley (1891-1895) and during her three-year teaching career at Stanford and at Pomona College, so this vacation album of 1899, full of her snapshots and sprightly captions, marks the culmination of a long McLean family tradition as well as the beginning of a new family. Mary and Warren Olney, Jr., were married later that year and they settled in Berkeley, where Mrs. Olney became active in civic affairs while Mr. Olney went on to become president of the University of California Alumni Association and legal counsel for the Board of Regents. Their three children were Warren Olney III, who was a faculty member at the University of California Law School and served on the California Crime Commission, John McLean Olney, of St. Helena, and Mrs. Philip K. Condit, donor of the present album.

### Robert Duncan Exhibit

In February of next year, Bancroft will mount an exhibition of the work and art collections of Robert Duncan in conjunction with the University Art Museum. Christopher Wagstaff, Instructor in the Freshman Program on campus, will serve as guest curator of the exhibition.

Robert Duncan is widely recognized as one of the most important poets in post-World War II American letters. He came to Berkeley in 1936 as an undergraduate majoring in English. Soon afterward, he published his first poems in *Occident*, a campus literary magazine. In his sophomore year, Duncan moved to Annapolis and then to New York where he was active in a literary and artistic scene that included Anaïs Nin and Norris Embry. After returning to Berkeley in 1946, Duncan studied under the

historian Ernst Kantorowicz who "brought me to a new vision of the creative spirit and the world of forms in which that spirit is made manifest."

With poets Jack Spicer and Robin Blaser, Duncan explored the tradition of Romance in poetry, seeking to merge the life of the spirit with the minutiae of everyday reality. His first book, *Heavenly City, Earthly City*, was published in Berkeley in 1947 by Bern Porter with illustrations by Mary Fabilli.

In 1956, Duncan became a visiting faculty member at Black Mountain College in North Carolina. He taught courses in poetics and staged and directed his play *Medea at Kolchis*. With poets Charles Olson, Denise Levertov, and Robert Creeley, he devoted himself to a poetry which was a vehicle of experimentation rather than of psychology and self-expression.

National recognition came for Duncan with the publication by Grove Press of his *The Opening of the Field* in 1960. This was followed by other major collections of poetry, *Roots and Branches* (1964) and *Bending the Bow* (1968). It was at about this time that Robert Duncan began to serve as poetry advisor to the Poetry Archive in the University's Rare Book Department. After the Rare Book Department was merged into Bancroft, Robert Duncan continued to serve as poetry consultant, helping to define collecting policy for the Bancroft Poetry Archive and reviewing cartloads of proposed additions to the collection.

Duncan was interested in contemporary art as both a collector and an artist himself. He began working with wax crayons, his favorite medium, in the late 1930s. Guest curator Wagstaff explained this preference: "Duncan has probably done more with children's crayons than any other artist in our century. He was drawn to them partly because they were not associated with high or important art. He liked working with what was casual and not revered, and it often led him to make new discoveries."

Robert Duncan died in 1988 in San Francisco. The University of California Press is now preparing an edition of his collected works.

The University Art Museum will show a portion of Duncan's own art collection. Of special interest will be the work of Duncan's companion of thirty-seven years, Jess. Several

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of Jess's collages will be on display for the first time.

In Bancroft, we will be showing a selection of Duncan manuscripts and many of his decorated books. This will be the first major exhibition devoted to Duncan on the Berkeley campus. Several special events are planned in conjunction with the UAM/Bancroft exhibition, so we urge Bancroft Friends to watch for forthcoming announcements.

Anthony Bliss

### Mark Twain's Letters, Volume 3: 1869

The Mark Twain Project is about to publish its third volume of *Mark Twain's Letters*, a series that has attracted an unusually broad range of readers and reviewers. Professor Richard Etulain, writing in *California History*, recently noted that while "books like this often inhabit only the shelves of scholars, general readers will find more than enough interesting and lively information here to be worth their time and investment.... And as citizens we should be encouraged that some of our taxes supplied to such groups as the National Endowment for the Humanities are being used to support such worthwhile projects as the Mark Twain Papers."

Writing for *Choice: Current Reviews for College Libraries*, Professor M. Thomas Inge found the first two volumes "distinguished by meticulous editorial standards and exacting scholarship. The letters of few other authors have been handled with such exhaustive and intelligent care.... When completed, *Mark Twain's Letters* will constitute a comprehensive autobiography of a major American author and as such should be a part of all library collections."

Containing some 188 letters, most of them published for the first time, *Volume 3* follows Clemens through the production and initial reception of his first great success, *The Innocents Abroad*. "Nothing like it since Uncle Tom's Cabin, I guess," he told his fiancée, Olivia Langdon, just five months after publication. Clemens's courtship letters (certainly the longest letters he ever wrote) form a major element of this volume, and are particularly informative when read in the context of the other letters he was writing - to his family, friends,

and business associates. All of them exhibit his invariable gift of phrase and incomparable ear for speech, even as they are filled with the details of everyday life: lecture tours, proofreading, newspaper work of all kinds - even an occasional burst of temper. When Elisha Bliss, for instance, failed to issue *The Innocents Abroad* as expected, Mark Twain fired off several pages of sarcasm that are still good reading: "All I desire is to be informed from time to time what future season of the year the publication is postponed to, & why - so that I can go on informing my friends intelligently - I mean that infatuated baker's dozen of them who, faithful unto death, still believe that I am going to publish a book." (Bliss decided to publish it within a few days of receiving this letter.)

*Volume 3* was edited by three long-time members of the Mark Twain Project: Victor Fischer, Michael B. Frank, and Dahlia Armon. It is dedicated to the memory of Philip E. Allen, founder of The Pareto Fund, whose generous gift to the Friends of The Bancroft Library, matched by the National Endowment for the Humanities, made possible the preparation and publication of these letters.

Robert H. Hirst

### Mining in the West: Philip R. Bradley's Oral History

The oral history of Philip Read Bradley, Jr., *A Mining Engineer in Alaska, Canada, the Western United States, Latin America, and Southeast Asia*, distills the experiences of three generations of distinguished Californians in mining. Like his uncle, father, brother, and four cousins, Philip Bradley studied mining at the University of California College of Mines.

"I started with the class of '25,....so I'm a 'twenty-five," says Philip Read Bradley, Jr. "When I came back from [working at a tin mine in] Bolivia and went back to college, I had no trouble with grades. I had aged, I had matured, I was just fine....After working at my trade, I found that I knew why I was in college."

He tells of growing up at the Treadwell and Alaska Juneau mines in Alaska. "The Treadwell Mine, creating all the commerce that a mine can - payroll, travelers, freight back and forth, supplies back and forth...that was the

real opening of the door to Alaska. That one mine did that!...That was an important mine, and...it was the damndest, most beautiful place for a youngster to grow up in. Gee, that was a piece of luck that I just have to be thankful for almost every day."



Philip R. Bradley, left, with H. E. Linney in 1925 (?) from an out-going album of the Sigma Gamma Epsilon mining honorary society.

Bradley was born in 1904 into a California family associated with great mines – the Bunker Hill and Sullivan Mine in Idaho, the Alaska Treadwell and Alaska Juneau – at a time when mining was a premier industry, and great personal fortunes were to be made in it; Bernard Baruch, Herbert Hoover, John Hays Hammond, and Daniel Jackling are some of the acquaintances and associates mentioned in the memoir.

All four of Philip Bradley's grandparents lived in the California Gold Belt. His maternal grandmother, Hester Harland, was born on the Bidwell Ranch near Chico, and later was one of the founders of the PTA, and as an active suffragist was California secretary for Susan B.

Anthony. In the 1890s the Board of Lady Managers for the California World's Fair included both of his grandmothers, Hester Harland and Virginia Shearer Bradley.

Philip Bradley's grandfather Henry Sewall Bradley was born near Boston, graduated from a forerunner of M.I.T., came to San Francisco in 1850 (his journal of the voyage is in the archives of the California Historical Society), and first worked on Burns Diggings above Merced before going to Yuba County to settle near Nevada City, where the family still maintains a home. The other grandfather was a storekeeper near Park's Bar, where fig trees he planted still grow today.

Mrs. Bradley (Katherine Connick) also has strong California and University roots. She graduated from the University in 1937, as did her brother, Robert Connick, '39, now UC Professor Emeritus of Chemistry, and she has served on the Council of the Friends of The Bancroft Library. In an interview in the Robert Gordon Sproul Oral History Project, Kay Bradley tells of traveling to Europe with President and Mrs. Sproul and their daughter Marion, who was Kay's best friend.

Philip Bradley's oral history shows him as the epitome of the California mining man, in the finest tradition of good mine managers: paying good men a little extra, respecting the workman's judgment, and "camping on it" to get the job done. "I camped on the Pine Tree [Mine] because there's only one way to run a mine, and that's to camp on it...My hours at that mine were about eight in the morning to two at night."

He has pride in his profession for creating infrastructure, jobs, and good living conditions in opening up new places. "That's what mines do!" he exclaims. He was manager in the 1930s of the Harvard Mine in Jamestown, California, and still consults on this recently revitalized ore body, a case which illustrates the cyclical nature of mining as well as the durability of Mr. Bradley. He served on the California Mining Board for thirty-two years under four governors; for most of that time he was chairman. He founded the California Mine Operators Association, now the California Mining Association; he founded the Western Governors Mining Advisory Council; he was on the board of governors of the American Mining Congress.

Of the Western Governors Mining Adviso-

ry Council, he says, "About every two years you got a new governor in, and you had to educate them all over again. He was no damn use until he got educated about mining, and it would take about two years to educate him. Just as soon as you got him educated there'd be another governor to educate."

The California Mining Board was set up by about 260 words in the public resource code. Mr. Bradley says, "If you're set up by 260 words only, you've got lots of power – lots of room to roam. I knew mining, and knew the problems of miners, so I thought it was pretty good...You know how it is in Sacramento, people always playing games. We weren't, we were miners, and we were doing the right thing...We would make policy for the Division of Mines. Which I think was a pretty good idea."

His oral history was the first in the Regional Oral History Office's Western Mining in the Twentieth Century series. He was presented with his volume at an "Old Timers Night" meeting of the San Francisco section of AIME [American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers], who had provided the seed money for the oral history series in 1987. Other sponsors of the series include the Mining and Metallurgical Society of America, California Mining Association, Southern California section of AIME, and the Northern and Southern California sections of the Woman's Auxiliary to the AIME, corporations, and individuals. The series now comprises twenty-nine volumes completed or in process, including oral histories of Plato Malozemoff and Frank Woods McQuiston, both UC 1931, and James Mack Gerstley, a former member of the Council of The Friends of The Bancroft Library.

The first person to be interviewed in the series was ninety-six-year-old Horace Albright (College of Mines, 1912), who had already been extensively interviewed concerning his career as a conservationist, superintendent of Yellowstone Park, and head of the National Park Service. His career as mining lawyer, president of the U.S. Potash Company and director of U.S. Borax & Chemical Corporation, and his role in establishing Death Valley National Monument on land long owned by Pacific Coast Borax Company, was not so well known.

The October 20 Oakland-Berkeley fire destroyed the Bradley home on Vicente Road, with many irreplaceable photographs and pa-

pers. Fortunately, when they moved there recently they transferred to The Bancroft Library many of their papers, including those of his uncle Frederick Worthen Bradley.

Lee Swent

## Manuscripts On-Line

The great success of Bancroft's conversion of the old card-catalog for printed books to computer-catalog format ("retrospective conversion") reported in the last issue of *Bancroftiana* is now being followed with a similar project to convert records of our manuscript collections. Once again, The Bancroft Library is the recipient of a major grant from the United States Department of Education to fund a retrospective conversion project that will greatly enhance access to major resources. The Department of Education has approved the project for two years and has provided slightly more than \$200,000 for the first year of operations.

We estimate that records for 15,000 collections will be made accessible not only through the on-line catalog at Berkeley (GLADIS), but in the on-line catalog of all nine campuses of the University (MELVYL), as well as in the two national bibliographic utilities, OCLC and RLIN. These records will join the approximately 2,000 manuscript records already available in the computer catalog and will move The Bancroft Library one step closer toward the realization of fully integrated on-line access to all its collections regardless of format.

Two complementary activities will also be made possible under the grant: automated access to the index of 46,000 names of correspondents represented in the manuscript collections and a long-needed general survey of Bancroft's manuscript collections to evaluate processing and preservation needs.

Using our excellent experience with the last conversion project, we have once again contracted with a private vendor (OCLC) to handle the basic work of creating machine records from our card records. OCLC is able to use our detailed specifications to capture all the bibliographic elements we require. Once they return the master magnetic tapes containing the converted records, we then undertake internal editing and upgrading to bring the records into their final form in our computer catalog.

Once again, Bancroft is at the forefront of computer applications in special collections li-

brary operations. We are fortunate in having generous support from The University Library, and particularly from the Library Systems Office which has undertaken special programming to adapt the GLADIS catalog to provide a significant array of special access points needed by The Bancroft Library. Once the conversion project of our Manuscripts Collection has been completed it will be possible for computer users throughout the world to have direct access to our cataloging of books and manuscripts.

Peter E. Hanff  
Bonnie Hardwick

### *Vivian Fisher Retires*

With the retirement of Vivian C. Fisher in October 1991, The Bancroft Library lost one of its last direct links with the George P. Hammond era at The Bancroft Library. Vivian was curator of Bancroft's microforms, sound recordings, and motion pictures, but her breadth of knowledge about the Bancroft collections, particularly those having to do with Mexico, Spain, and Latin America made her a central resource for those parts of The Bancroft Library. Staff and scholars alike relied on her phenomenal memory to aid them in getting to just the right part of a collection or an archive. At the same time she developed an outstanding series of indexes and finding aids to guide the staff and scholars to the content of collections. Her boundless patience and intense love of the collections for which she was responsible gave her the energy to train (and re-train) all of us in the intricacies of complex and ancient archival collections. While we can rely on the access tools she developed for us over the years, we cannot replace her intimate knowledge of the many collections for which she was responsible. We count ourselves fortunate that she lives nearby and is willing to respond to our occasional calls for help. We also wish her a long and travel-filled retirement. She has earned it.

Several years ago, recognizing that she had the longest connection with The Bancroft Library of any staff member still present, Vivian Fisher prepared an informal reminiscence of her wonderful career here. We are pleased to share that with readers of *Bancroftiana*.

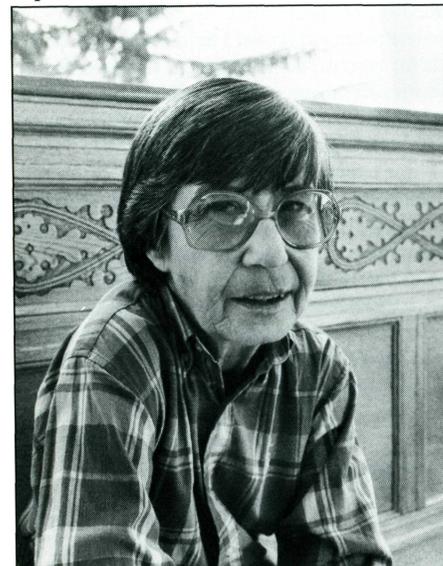
Peter E. Hanff

### AN INFORMAL MEMOIR

At the end of my freshman year (spring of 1947), I applied at the Bureau of Student Placement in South Hall annex for a part-time job for the summer and hopefully for the following year. I listed my major as English and my minor as Spanish. I heard nothing and eventually forgot about working. Late in my senior year (May of 1950), I got a postcard from the placement office telling me to come in if I were still interested in working. When I went, I was asked if I had continued my minor in Spanish. I said that I had switched to a Spanish major. The woman asked if I were interested in working in The Bancroft Library with microfilm for six weeks. I said, "Sure. What is microfilm?" She explained that it was like pictures I took with my camera but on longer rolls. I told her that I didn't have a camera and did not know how to take pictures. She said that Dr. Adams would teach me about microfilm. As I planned to work for my teaching credential during the following year and had been thinking of a summer job, I made an appointment for an interview with Dr. Adams, thinking I would probably not qualify. Dr. Eleanor B. Adams explained in the interview that I really did not need to know about microfilm as long as I could read titles in Spanish. She hired me for six weeks, making it quite plain that funds would run out on June 30.

My job involved counting microfilm exposures, checking that the film was in focus and of complete pages, splicing short strips into full reels, typing and pasting labels on boxes, and shelving the film. About mid-June I asked Dr. Adams if there were a chance of my staying on during the summer. She was doubtful but would ask Dr. Hammond, the Director. A few days later she asked if I could set my schedule so I could work on Thursdays from eleven to twelve and would be willing to page for six weeks as all the pages had classes at that time. I had only a vague idea of what that entailed but agreed. She said I would be told how to page when I needed to know. I was called upon only once and was told to go up to the reading room and get a book truck, take it down the elevator to tier 3, and get the cards from Mrs. Macleod. I was met by Julia Macleod who had miraculously already paged all the manuscripts and sent me with the book truck up the elevator. She even pushed the right button to take me to the reading room on tier 4. To the best of

my knowledge, I was the first female page in The Bancroft Library, and that was my great experience.



Vivian Fisher

The staff I can remember at that time were the following: Dr. George P. Hammond, Director; Eleanor A. Bancroft, Assistant Director and Acquisitions Librarian; Eva Romero Jacques, Secretary; Matilde Bierbower, Secretary; Elizabeth (Tex) Euphrat, Reference Librarian; Helen H. Bretnor, Reference Librarian; Frank Brezee, Reference Librarian; Julia H. Macleod, Acting Head of Manuscripts; Mildred Corson, Cataloger; Sue Stubbs, Serials; Dr. Eleanor B. Adams, Microfilm; James V. Mink, Assistant in Manuscripts; Doris Wright, Editorial; Maxine Chappell Bethel, Editorial; Mary Ann (Quack) Fisher, Editorial; Constance Thompson, Assistant in Cataloging; Frances Buckland, Supervisor of the Manuscripts Reading Room.

Shortly after I started working (possibly July 1, 1950), Dr. John Barr Tompkins replaced Tex Euphrat, having the title of Head of Public Services. There was quite an uproar as he set new policies, such as no briefcases in the stacks, pencils only for note-taking with rare books and manuscripts, screening people before they were granted stack access, and only one rare book or manuscript at a time for patrons. I had relatively little association with pa-

trons or other staff as I kept getting my employment extended. In January of 1951 Dr. Adams told me that she was returning to New Mexico. She had been frustrated in dealing with Main Library administration for space and equipment for working with microfilm. Such essential items as rewinds, roll labels, a moistener for labels, a splicer, and film cement, not being standard library items, required months and months to get. For the first six months or so, I typed on red-bordered labels, trimmed them to size, and licked them to paste them on.

Quack Fisher replaced Dr. Adams as my supervisor in February of 1951 as I was starting my student teaching. She had managed to increase my hours from fifteen to eighteen per week. That semester I did well to work twelve. She was very patient with me. Just as I had decided that I was really not suited to teaching, I heard that Ann Reed, who had meanwhile replaced Frances Buckland, would be transferring to Newspaper Room on June 1. I asked Quack if she thought I would qualify as Supervisor of the Manuscripts Reading Room. A few days later she told me that Dr. Hammond had given his approval. Ann trained me while she was being trained for her new job and as I was taking my last finals. As soon as my finals were over, I started working full-time and stayed on for over three years. About a month later, we got a new Reference Librarian, Robert H. Becker. I do not recall if he replaced someone, or if it was a new position. I think it was the latter. About a year later Frank Brezee retired and Richard Bernard was hired for that position.

Meanwhile, Sue Stubbs had left, and Beatrice Nolds, who later became a medical doctor, was appointed as Serials Librarian. When Bea left for medical school, Jean Trulson came in that position. After Jim Mink finished Library School and left Bancroft, Natalia Ruiz, wife of a graduate student, was hired to work in Manuscripts. Shortly after his return from a year in England in the Foreign Microfilming Program, Dr. Robert E. Burke was appointed as Head of Manuscripts.

As Supervisor of the Manuscripts Reading Room, I had a three-fold job. In order of importance were (1) circulation and security of manuscripts and rare books, (2) writing photo orders, and (3) typing manuscript catalog cards. I was soon given an additional responsibility, which I can't seem to lose: proofreading.

Dr. Hammond was starting the publication of the Larkin Papers. At eight o'clock Maxine Chappell Bethel, who was assisting Dr. Hammond, would come to the Manuscripts Reading room armed with manuscripts, typescripts, and sharp red pencils. We would alternate who read aloud as our voices gave out. When the room started to get busy, usually about nine-thirty or ten, we would quit reading. Later we read typescript to galleys, then galleys to page proofs, then back to manuscripts for the next volume. More than ten years later, Dr. Hammond asked me to help him read volume ten. I missed out on some of the middle volumes but got in on the first few and the last one.

During the more than three years of my tenure, I became acquainted with many of the "regulars" of The Bancroft Library, faculty, University administrators, and graduate students. We had very few undergraduates in those days. Among the regulars were Carl O. Sauer, Woodrow W. Borah, James F. King, Herbert E. Bolton, Helen Rand Parish, George R. Stewart, Charles L. Camp, Sherburne F. Cook, Engel Sluiter, Pinky Bynum, Patricia Bauer, Lois Chambers Stone, Fred B. Rogers, Donald Page, Irene and William Paden, Erwin Gudde, Ramón Ruiz, J. S. Holliday, Donald O. Fisher, Richard Frost, Virginia Thickens, Margaret Mollins, Marion Parsons, Edith M. Coulter, Rena Vassar, Peter Buzanski, Ruth Axe Frey, Henry Raup Wagner, Rudolph Lapp, Lawrence Kinnaird, A. P. Nasatir, France V. Scholes, and many others.

In August of 1954 I resigned from The Bancroft Library to assume the career of mother and housewife. In June of 1957 I returned to my old job, which I held for almost a year. Quack Fisher, as she was ready to become mother and housewife, made arrangements with Dr. Hammond for me to take on the responsibilities of the microfilm position. I have been there since, advancing step by step on the rungs of the ladder and broadening my scope.

The most significant change in staff on my return was that Mrs. Bancroft had died the previous year. Mrs. Elizabeth Gudde, who had been on the staff of the Main Library, was handling Acquisitions. Bob Burke had also left, I believe to teach at the University of Hawaii. Shortly after I changed jobs, Dr. J. S. (Jim) Holliday came as Assistant to the Director and Head of Manuscripts. Estelle Rebec was assisting Julia Macleod in Manuscripts. The ed-

itorial staff had also changed, although I don't remember who was doing that work. It may have been Doris Rivera or Teresa Vigil. They were here at some point. Dick Bernard left in the late 1950s as I recall. I believe it was J. R. K. Kantor who replaced him. Lee Chase came in the summer of 1961. Patricia Howard came at the same time as Serials Librarian to replace Elizabeth Hamilton Glasfield.

I don't remember the succession of Reference Librarians after Jim Kantor. The next five years or so was a period of fairly rapid turnover, with some of them being women who almost immediately got married and changed their names. I barely knew at the time which were the maiden and the married names. I leave it up to others like Pat Howard to document that period. I remember Fred Lynden, Janice Koyama, Linda Schieber, William M. Roberts, and Irene Moran from the mid- to late-1960s.

Dr. Dale L. Morgan was still at Bancroft when I went back to work. He had been here only a few months before I had left in 1954. During my first year back I wrote numerous photo orders to microfilm manuscripts which he borrowed for filming, and many orders to have positives made from negatives he had had made of manuscripts at Missouri Historical Society and similar institutions. These films form the nucleus of the categories of "Overland Diaries" and "The West." Dale and Dr. Hammond worked together to build our research materials, both manuscripts and books, for the westward movement, Mormonism, the Gold Rush, and fur trappers and traders. Dale was also working on his own publications as well as on volume one of *A Guide to the Manuscript Collection of The Bancroft Library*.

In the early 1960s Dr. Gwladys Williams was working her way methodically through the Mexican manuscripts, verifying names, dates, and other bibliographic data, for volume two of the *Guide*. After her retirement, the work was continued by Dr. Hammond and Quack Fisher. Gwladys retired at the same time as Julia Macleod and Mildred Corson (1963). Mrs. Gudde retired the next year, and Dr. Hammond the year after. Estelle Rebec took over Manuscripts, with Marie Byrne as her assistant. Elizabeth G. Todd came from Orange County as Cataloger. Bob Becker, who had been Assistant to the Director after Jim Holliday's departure, took over as Acting

Director. Mary-ellen Jones came from Main Library in 1964 as an assistant in Manuscripts.

The rest is modern history which does not concern me at this point. Almost anyone else currently on the staff can tell that part as well or better than I can. My object is to cover the part for which there aren't many of us left. However, I can't quit writing before relating some anecdotes about the crusty old Dr. Bolton.

My first meeting with him was in the elevator as I was going to work as a student assistant one day. He asked me where I was going. When I told him, he replied, "Oh, yes, I know George well. I got him his job." Shortly after that I went up to room 276 to give Dr. Adams the exposure count of some new film from Mexico. Dr. Bolton had come looking for Dr.

Hammond. Someone (I believe Quack) looked out the window and said, "He's on his way to the Student Union for coffee." Dr. Bolton strode over to the window, looked, and said, "There goes George, strutting like a peacock with his two peahens." Dr. Hammond was walking with Eleanor Bancroft and Eleanor Adams. During my first year in Public Services Dr. Bolton came into the Manuscripts Reading Room to see a map. I went to help him find it. He asked me since when George was hiring child labor, to which I replied testily that I was a graduate student and that just because I was small did not mean that I wasn't old enough to work in Bancroft. I'm still small thirty-five years later. Maybe I'm still not old enough.

Vivian C. Fisher

### *Gifts to the Library 1990-1991*

The University Library will not publish its Christmas Exhibition catalogue and list of library donors this year. In its place, library supporters will receive an expanded annual report with a few highlights of gifts to the Libraries over the past year. Bucking this trend, Bancroft wishes nonetheless to acknowledge the hundreds of people who have participated in maintaining the quality of the Library. On December 9, we will open our usual "Christmas" exhibit of gifts to the Library and we include in this issue of *Bancroftiana* a list of donors for the fiscal year 1990-1991.

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