When men went to the polls in California in 1911, the ballot proposed profound changes in governance, including Proposition 4, which, if passed, would give women the right to vote. This year, The Bancroft Library is commemorating the passage of this amendment with an exhibit from its extensive collection of materials related to women’s suffrage.

The struggle for women’s right to vote was a long one. In 1896, California voters rejected a proposal to give women the franchise. When a progressive Republican administration was swept into power in 1910, suffragists saw their opportunity and successfully lobbied the state legislature to put the question on the ballot again.

The tide soon turned, but resistance to a woman’s right to vote remained strong. Opponents warned that enfranchisement might damage the traditional roles of women as wife and mother. California State Senator J.B. Sanford defined suffrage as a “disease” and “political hysteria.” He quoted statistics from Colorado (where women could vote) and suggested that “suffrage had produced an increase in divorce and juvenile delinquency.” The Los Angeles Times editorial pages attacked supporters of the amendment as “either mannish women or effeminate men, the idle rich or lame duck politicians who had been thrown out of office and who hoped to get back in with women’s vote.”

In Los Angeles, suffragists initiated a “self-denial week” during which supporters were asked to forgo sweets, matinee tickets, card parties and other social events, donating the money saved to the campaign for a woman’s right to vote (source: Donald Waller Roads, The California Woman Suffrage Campaign of 1911). Suffragists spoke to voters in the streets and from automobiles. They held mass rallies, picnics, and small meetings. They addressed congregations, unions, factory workers, women’s clubs, and any audience they could find. “I appeal to you as a mother, a grandmother, as a garment worker, a school teacher, a trained nurse . . . as the case might be,” was one of the most popular opening lines when addressing a crowd.

To publicize their cause as widely as possible, suffragists distributed over three million pieces of literature and over 90,000 “Votes for Women” buttons in Southern California alone. An August 6 editorial in The San Francisco Call said, “Amendment No. 8 takes California from the dark ages to the light, sets her free from a discreditable tradition of skin-clad, bone-gnawing barbarism.”

Many saloon owners and businessmen associated women’s suffrage with the prospect of prohibition, so suffrage leaders anticipated strong urban opposition and decided to concentrate their efforts in the rural districts. Speakers and organizers embarked on automobile tours and distributed press material to media and voters in the remote corners of the state.

Images from the collection on Women’s Suffrage are on display in the Valley Rotunda cases at The Bancroft Library.
When Dr. Charles Faulhaber retired as James D. Hart Director of The Bancroft Library on June 30, 2011, he left a sixteen-year legacy of remarkable accomplishment. The most visible change to Bancroft was the renovation of the library itself. The Doe Library Annex, which housed this special collections library, was out of date and vulnerable to destruction by earthquake. The inner stacks were on unsecured half floors that could pancake in a temblor, and the top floor could not be used to store rare documents because the roof leaked. There was no climate control and the sprinkler system was old and unreliable. The many doors into and out of the facility made it hard to protect the collection from theft. The renovation has solved those problems.

In addition to securing the world-renowned collections, the renovation created a building that is worthy of the quality of its holdings. The marble entrance floor, exhibition gallery, reading room, and elegant rotunda announce a space that houses the famous Mark Twain collection, the largest collection of Egyptian papyri in the western hemisphere, one of the oldest and most respected oral history collections in the U.S., an outstanding collection of Western Americana, and rare books from the age of Gutenberg to manuscripts of the Beat poets, the entire photo archives of the former San Francisco Examiner and current photos of the construction of the new Bay Bridge.

Faulhaber worked tirelessly to raise funds to accomplish this renovation. In a crucial year for support of Bancroft (2003-04) he held more than 150 meetings with potential donors. He oversaw the design and managed the safe move of precious materials out of the building and back into the building while maintaining research services off campus during the construction period.

Notable collections were taken in during Faulhaber’s tenure including the Alice Waters Papers, the San Francisco Examiner Photograph Archive, the Mexican Inquisition documents, the Free Speech Movement Archive, and recently the Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life.

During Faulhaber’s time, the collection was steadily digitized to make it more accessible online and to scholars around the world. He brought the Digital Scriptorium to Berkeley. During his tenure, the Hubert Howe Bancroft Award for significant achievement in research and scholarship of the American West was established along with the Hill-Shumate Prize for Book Collecting (for undergrads).

Along the way, the Council of Friends of The Bancroft Library was strengthened and the Mark Twain Luncheon Club established to help support that project. The first volume of The Autobiography of Mark Twain was published and, remarkably, became a best seller.

A new director of the Regional Oral History Office was hired and oral history integrated with the campus history curriculum. The Center for the Tebtunis Papyri was set up in 2000 and has made steady progress in preservation, deciphering and publishing of the papyri under the direction of curator Todd Hickey.

Of course, Faulhaber did not do all of this alone. He has led an outstanding staff through a strong period of accomplishment for The Bancroft Library.

Dr. Tennant Becomes Bancroft Director

Professor Elaine Tennant, a medieval and early modern specialist in the German and Scandinavian departments at UC Berkeley, will follow Charles Faulhaber to become the James D. Hart Director of The Bancroft Library starting in September. She will be the first woman to direct the library in its 151-year history.

UC Berkeley’s University Librarian, Tom Leonard, noted that Tennant throughout her career has brought her students to Bancroft. She envisions creating new courses with a “Bancroft-value-added” dimension, as well as internships to expose students to the special collections and archives. Leonard said “Scholars such as Professor Tennant send their students to the Bancroft because the collections illuminate the big questions on campus today, especially the role of new people and new technology changing California.”

Tennant, who did her graduate work at Harvard University and the University of Vienna, joined the UC Berkeley faculty in 1977. She served for nearly a decade on the UC Berkeley Academic Senate Library Committee.
WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE continued from page 1

On Election Day, October 10, 1911, the measure was soundly defeated in the San Francisco Bay Area and passed narrowly in Los Angeles County. Disheartened and disappointed, suffragists were already beginning to plan yet another campaign when late reports from the far-flung rural counties began to swing the vote in their favor.

When the arduous vote count was finally completed several days later, Equal Suffrage had passed by only 3,587 votes, an average majority of one vote in each precinct in the state. The final tally was 125,037 to 121,450, and California became just the sixth state, all of them in the west, to approve women’s suffrage. Although it had voted overwhelmingly against suffrage, San Francisco became the most populous city in the country in which women could vote.

“A Centennial Celebration: California Women and the Vote” now fills the six cases in the corridor between The Bancroft Library and the Doe Library. The exhibition is open to the public until January 2012.

—David Hartley
Friends Council Member

The Suffragists Oral History Project

In 1972, as the second wave of the women’s movement peaked, Amelia Fry and Malca Chall of the Regional Oral History Office began interviewing seven women who were founders, leaders, and foot soldiers in the militant National Woman’s Party. All had championed the nineteenth amendment and then fought another six decades for the Equal Rights Amendment.

Sara Bard Field, a distinguished poet and political reformer, recounts her zany cross-country auto trip in 1915 to promote votes for women. It was radical enough for women to drive at all; without good roads and maps, it was often perilous. “We’d come into a town, covered with mud after having stalled in a washed-out road. But we’d wash up and then meet with leaders of local women’s groups and politicians, enlisting them in our cause.” Stories tumble out about “the advance team” of women setting up banners and parades and enduring the jeers they faced.

Among the most distinguished interviewees is Alice Paul, who chaired the Woman’s Party from its inception until 1972. She picketed the White House for suffrage, then was jailed and force-fed after a five day hunger strike. She fought bitterly with the more conservative National American Woman Association, claiming their strategy to win the vote state-by-state “was the most terrible proposal that could ever be made.”

Jeanette Rankin was the first woman elected to Congress [R-Montana, 1916], but was ousted after she opposed U.S. entry into World War I. Re-elected in 1940, she cast the only vote opposing entry into World War II, and subsequently lost her seat. Undaunted, she threw herself into the peace movement, remarking: “I traveled around the world and stayed long enough to know how the Americans were dominating undeveloped countries.”

Oral history as a research strategy recovers invaluable details about the daily routines of activists not found in letters, newspaper accounts, or organizational records. Hazel Hunkins-Hallinan, who ran the National Woman’s Party headquarters in Washington, D.C., recalls Mabel Vernon’s role as chief fundraiser. “She had a marvelous resonant voice that carried well, before the time of amplifiers. Striding back and forth behind the footlights, Mabel would ask first for a thousand dollars; and she’d get it because someone would be planted to respond that first time. Then she’d say, ‘Now the next thousand.’ And the people would begin responding on their own initiative. Striding back and forth behind the footlights, Mabel would ask first for a thousand dollars; and she’d get it because someone would be planted to respond that first time. Then she’d say, ‘Now the next thousand.’ And the people would begin responding on their own initiative. Before long she’d have $5,000, sometimes $10,000. Then we small-fry would go up and down the aisles to collect silver by the bushel. I never saw a woman bleed an audience as Mabel did.”

Continued on page 4

Published by the Fresno Women’s Club at 115 Sutter Street.

O say, can you see what with eager delight
And so proudly we hail, eyes with joy all abeamning?
“Isn’t our beloved Suffrage cloud, such a glorious sight
With its five beautiful stars mid the soft fields gleaming.
Named for Washington great is our Fifth Suffrage State,
California the next; we won’t have long to wait.
And the Star Spangled Banner in truth shall wave O’er the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave.

S.S.
Oral history can also elicit subjective reflections about personality and leadership styles. Rebecca Hourwich Reyher taught at Hull House and ran the Chicago office of the Party. In her oral history, she located “Miss” Paul’s strength in her “egotism”:

Her goals being set in one direction were such that her work could never have been done if she didn’t have that egotism. But I also feel that she had a certain sense of power, personal achievement and satisfaction in gaining that power. Some of the difficulties that she had in the Woman’s Party were because she brooked no differences and no discussion once she set upon her goal. However, I feel that there is no doubt that the Woman’s Party went further because she was at the helm.

Fry, a newspaper reporter, and Chall, an activist in local politics, were both well-educated, experienced, and politically sophisticated interviewers. Although they pressed their interviewees for more historical details and analysis, these efforts were often rebuffed; the interviewees wanted to talk instead about pressing current events, including their efforts to pass the ERA and their opposition to the Vietnam War. Alice Paul insisted that Fry actually lobby specific congressmen before she would grant the interview.

While continuing to knock down barriers, the second wave of feminism never achieved the scale or focus of the suffrage movement. “It’s much easier to concentrate women on working for one thing,” observed Burnita Shelton Matthews, a volunteer “apprentice attorney” in the Party’s DC office and later a federal judge. “Suffrage seemed to be the answer to everything. If they had the vote, they could have that.”

ROHO later launched a larger study of California women leaders to document their role in labor, social reform, and politics, including a wonderful interview with Helen Gahagan Douglas. These oral history projects have been cited by numerous scholars, and the Rankin interview was adapted for stage and screen. Students continue to mine the interviews for information about social movements, feminism, and female agency in the twentieth century.

For online transcripts see:
http://tinyurl.com/426z399 and http://tinyurl.com/3mzhv4k

— Lisa Rubens
Historian, Regional Oral History Office

Women were seen as future agents to clean up dirty politics.
The New Magnes Takes Shape

When the Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life reopens to the public in a new building in January of 2012, this Berkeley institution will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary. Seymour and Rebecca Fromer founded the Magnes in 1962, naming the museum in honor of Judah Leon Magnes, the Oakland-born Reform rabbi whose often-prophetic theological and political views make him a legendarily controversial figure in the U.S. and Israel even now, more than half a century after his death. An experimental, fiercely independent museum, formerly housed in the residential Elmwood neighborhood, the Magnes has amassed one of the world’s largest and most unusual collections of Jewish art, culture, and history—a collection gifted in July 2010 to The Bancroft Library with the intention of sharing the treasure with visitors, researchers, and students.

Last October, friends and staff of the Magnes Museum and The Bancroft Library celebrated the groundbreaking for the new building at 2121 Allston Way in downtown Berkeley. Now the Magnes staff is preparing to move and install the collections. With its central location and its innovative design, the new building will serve as a bridge between campus and community, display and research, knowledge of the past and inspiration for the future.

Magnes visitors accustomed to the bucolic ambiance of the old Russell Street mansion will find many surprises at the new location. Architect Peter Pfau has designed a red and silver retro façade for the new museum; the interior juxtaposes the industrial legacy of the building with the warmth of locally harvested wood. Pfau says, “One of the things that struck me as wonderful in our beginning talks was that the Magnes wanted to make their resources available to everyone, not just Jewish scholars, for instance, because that’s really what the Magnes is about: preserving and celebrating their cultural artifacts and sharing them in an open way that promotes dynamic discourse. We’re trying to make it a ‘living room’ for the Magnes community. When you walk in, we want you to feel like you belong. The Magnes isn’t a place to go and look at dusty objects from the past—it’s a place that celebrates the future.”

At the heart of the building is innovative collection storage. For the first time, the Magnes will be able to consolidate its collections in a state-of-the-art climate-controlled facility. However, instead of tucking the storage vaults away, out of public view, the staff is giving them premium space in the very center of the building, where they will be visible and accessible. Collection storage will become a public event in itself, a part of the daily life of the museum—visitors will experience the collections on the way to hear a lecture, see an exhibition, or do research. The designer of the collection display is Obio Jenkins of Pacassa Studios in Oakland. “One unique aspect of the Magnes,” he says, “is that they are trying to break the convention of the heavily curated experience. Instead of visitors being ‘told’ what to look at or what everything means, they are left to make their own conclusions and connections.”

Visitors will be able to access the collection through specially designed cases and vitrines. Jenkins’ partner at Pacassa Studios, Paco Prieto is a master woodworker who has designed the cases “to be as interesting and interactive as possible, to make the collection as accessible as possible.” Prieto selected elm as the primary material for the project. “We chose it because of the Magnes’ history of being in the Elmwood district in Berkeley,” says Prieto. But this is not just any elm. It is Northern California elm from Arborica, Evan Shively’s salvaged wood mill in Marshall, a tiny town on Tomales Bay. The wood being used for the Magnes has been curing for almost six years. After sitting in the wood yard for a couple of years, the logs were sawn into slabs. The slabs sat for another two years before being kilndried and then put out to “rest” for another year. “Evan has been preparing it for months, working to perfectly control the moisture content,” says Prieto. “It’s kind of like freshly baked bread.”

The new Magnes building will feature a gallery for special exhibitions, a large program and event space, seminar rooms, and a special study room for collection research and instruction. The staff is already leading hard-hat tours of the new facility. The most common thing we’ve heard from our loyal donors and community friends on the tours? “It’s a dream come true.” The grand opening and community open house is scheduled for Sunday, January 22, 2012.

—Alla Efimova
Jacques and Esther Reutlinger Director
The Magnes Collection of Jewish Art & Life
What Would H.H. and Matilda Bancroft Read?

“Books! Books! I revelled in books,” declared Hubert Howe Bancroft in his autobiography Literary Industries. “After buying and selling, after ministering to others all my life, I would now enjoy them; I would bathe my mind in them till saturated with the better part of their contents.” So the founder of what would become The Bancroft Library described his metamorphosis from businessman to scholar.

Bancroft’s relationship to books is both deep and contradictory, much like the man himself. A self-made entrepreneur, H.H. had never attended college, but he had always been an intellectual. He noted in his memoir, “Literature is my love, a love sprung from my body.” Indeed, one might say this literary love sprung with him from his mother’s body, for Bancroft attributes to her, Lucy Howe, the idea that “[a] healthy cultivated mind never can be lonely; all the universe is its companion.” Bancroft also described himself as “[n]aturally shrinking from general society, instead preferring books and solitude to noisy assemblies.” Books were his best companions.

Unsurprisingly, then, H.H. sought a wife for whom a love of books also manifested a rich life-of-the-mind, essential to an engaging relationship. Matilda Coley Griffing was not only mother of their four children together and stepmother to Hubert’s first daughter by a previous wife (who died in childbirth), but also Bancroft’s companion in travels, the recorder of “dictations” (early oral histories for Bancroft’s Works), the editor of his writing, and a reader with whom the exchange of books was vital to their family life.

In letters exchanged between Matilda and Hubert and between the couple and their son Griffing (documents beautifully archived in The Bancroft Library), we see references to what the couple was reading and what they valued in literature. On Nov. 7, 1888, Hubert wrote to Matilda, “I send you The Rise of Silas Lapham, a strong novel which I have just read. Silas reminds me of myself, only I do not wish to ‘rise,’ and I am not quite so honest as he, but then his wife made him honest & rather overdid it, and was I think a little sorry for it afterward.” The book treats a businessman who rises in moral righteousness even as his prosperity falls. In referring to this novel and others, H.H.’s identification with the content reflected his own moral trajectory. We also see how reading fiction contributed to the couple’s understanding of their relationship.

That same year, H.H. writes to Matilda about the novel Robert Elsmere by Mrs. Humphrey Ward: “Catherine & Robert (Elsmere) are you & me, only you are not quite so much Catherine nor I quite so much Robert. It’s a strong book, though not quite Middlemarch.” This novel portrays an Anglican clergyman questioning religious doctrine, much like Bancroft himself, who had rejected the Puritan strictures of his upbringing, though not the accompanying work ethic. Bancroft’s standard for an author of high literary value is George Eliot, a writer of great psychological and sociological complexity.

In choosing naturalistic fiction, H.H. and Matilda sought books that provided intellectual challenges in relation to social mores of their day. For example, a third title Bancroft mentioned to Matilda (March 25, 1887) was Charles Reade’s novel Woman Hater (1877), a book criticizing the plight of women doctors at the hands of male-dominated medical unions that were resisting women’s entry into the profession. Though Bancroft showed instances of reduced expectations of females in his life, true to his contradictory nature, he also appreciated his own wife’s business acumen and he read “feminist” literature of the day that supported women gaining skills as their roles expanded.

Matilda, like H.H., entertained wide-ranging tastes in literature. In 1905 she encouraged her son Griffing to read Jacob Riis’ How the Other Half Lives: “I am reading books on charities and the prevention of pauperism from the scientific point of view and get a great deal of help from them.” When Griffing sought his parents’ advice in relation to his own aspirations as a novelist, Bancroft’s interests in literature were shared and expounded by his wife and children.
novelist, Matilda related how her taste in literature was formed: “I studied English novel writing with a Radcliffe woman once and she told me that Stevenson, Gilbert Parker particularly and of course Shakespeare were always brought up for careful study as models.”

In his own letters to his son Griffing, H.H. explained the qualities of a good novel as “original, and very real, with pure diction, clear & simple, [which] characterized such writers as Howells, & Mary Wilkins . . . who certainly have genius” (June 1904).

Eventually, Griffing did become a novelist, fulfilling H.H.’s own wish to have done the same. In June 1904, H.H. described himself as offering “the best advice an affectionate and sympathetic father can give, & one who has had no small experience (not writing novels, which I always knew to be beyond me but which I would at any time have given my left leg successfully to do).” Indeed, Bancroft became an admirable history writer, fulfilling some of that unrequited love for storytelling in a different field.

_Literary Industries_ is chock full of references to authors, their lives and methods, philosophies and inspirational passages, indicating the breadth of reading that Bancroft absorbed throughout his life. Sometimes he also inserted descriptions of specific exemplars of excellence in writing, indicating those whom he most valued, especially Shakespeare, “whose pencil was dipped in colors of no earthly extraction, and whose every finished sentence is a string of pearls.”

In exploring the literary tastes of this writer of history, we better understand the breadth of his intellectual curiosity and how he sought to inform himself about social arguments of his day through fiction and other forms of literature. Would that we could turn off more of our electronic gadgets today and sit by the simple light of a kerosene lamp to enjoy as much literature as deeply as H.H. Bancroft did.

— Kim Bancroft

 Dương văn văn

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**Rara avis**

“Do you think it is?” she whispered. “We’ll soon know,” Spade said, his big fingers busy with the inner husk of coarse grey paper, three sheets thick, that the brown paper’s removal had revealed. When he had put the grey paper out of the way he had an egg-shaped mass of pale excelsior, wadded tight. His fingers tore the wad apart and then he had the foot-high figure of a bird, black as coal and shiny where its polish was not dulled by wood-dust and fragments of excelsior.

Spade laughed. He put a hand down on the bird . . . He put his other arm around Effie Perine and crushed her body against his. “We’ve got the damned thing, angel,” he said.

When The Bancroft Library acquired a copy of the first edition of Dashiel Hammett’s _The Maltese Falcon_, I confess that I felt a little like Sam Spade. But, unlike the dingus that Spade got hold of, this one is no fake. It is the genuine article.

The _Maltese Falcon_, published by Alfred A. Knopf in February 1930, chronicles private detective Sam Spade’s quest for a legendary, jewel-encrusted statuette through the fog-shrouded streets of San Francisco, from the posh hotels of California and Geary Streets to a vacant lot in Burlingame and back to his apartment at Post and Hyde (where, incidentally, Hammett lived himself when he wrote the novel). He also investigates the murder of his partner, Miles Archer, who was done in on Burritt Street above the Stockton tunnel, runs afoot of the police, and tangles with a desperate gang of some of the most memorable villains in fiction, including the fat man Casper Gutman, the dapper Joel Cairo, the gunsul Wilmer Cook, and the femme fatale Brigid O’Shaughnessy.

By 1930, Samuel Dashiel Hammett (1894-1961) had already established himself as a professional writer. Capitalizing on his experiences as a private investigator, Hammett’s hard-boiled short stories appeared regularly in pulp magazines, notably _Black Mask_, beginning in 1922. In 1929, his first two novels, _Red Harvest_ and _The Dain Curse_ (both featuring the nameless “Continental Op”) were published by Knopf. For his third novel, however, Hammett set out to redefine the detective story, hoping to move it away from the pulps and into the realm of “literature.”

_The Maltese Falcon_ was an immediate, and enduring, critical and popular success, with three film adaptations and countless reprints and foreign editions. In 1998, the editorial board of The Modern Library named it one of the 100 best novels in English of the 20th century, thus confirming Hammett’s goal of propelling mystery genre fiction into mainstream literature.

_The Maltese Falcon_ is widely regarded as the standard by which other detective stories are measured. It has influenced several generations of writers and will continue to do so. As a collector’s object, the first edition—especially in the original dust jacket—has become nearly as desirable as the titular _rara avis_, commanding prices in today’s market that rival Gutman’s appraisal of the black bird’s worth: “a hell of a lot of dough.” To have one in your hands is truly to hold the stuff of literary dreams.

— Randal S. Brandt

Principal Cataloger

For more information about crime fiction set in San Francisco and the Bay Area, see Golden Gate Mysteries at [http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/sfmystery/](http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/sfmystery/)
Friends of The Bancroft Library joined together to honor Charles Faulhaber on June 23, 2011 and celebrate his retirement as Director of The Bancroft Library. The event, held in The Bancroft Library and the Heyns Reading Room, was a fund raiser for the Faulhaber Endowment.

Dr. Faulhaber retired after 16 years as the James D. Hart Director and 42 years on the faculty at UC Berkeley. His contribution to The Bancroft Library is unparalleled. To commemorate his Directorship, the Council of the Friends of The Bancroft Library announced the establishment of The Charles Faulhaber Endowment for The Bancroft Library Research Programs, presently including the Mark Twain Project & Papers, the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri, the Regional Oral History Office, and the Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life.

Robert Sproul, Jesse Choper, and Carl Stoney toast Charles’s achievements.

Bernie and Jamie Hurley join the festivities.

Vincent Resh, Mari Choper, Jamy Faulhaber, and Jesse Choper cheerfully chat after the presentation.

Barry and Victoria Fong, George and Camilla Smith are on hand to celebrate the establishment of the endowment.

Bob Hirst and Russ Ellis discussed the library’s achievements.
Initial gifts to the Faulhaber Endowment were provided by members of the Bancroft family and several Friends in the amount of $300,000. All friends of the library are invited to join with a contribution or pledge. The endowment was presented to Charles at his retirement on June 30, 2011. Support for this Endowment will have lasting importance for Bancroft.

Contributions should be made payable to the University of California, Berkeley Foundation and mailed to: The Faulhaber Endowment, 131 Doe Library, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720-6000. For further information—or to make a multi-year pledge or gift of securities—please call or write David Duer, 510 642-6795 or dduer@library.berkeley.edu.
“I got Billy Pierce to wash my clothes. Had drills as usual. Weather warm and fine,” writes diarist John Braithwaite Allan on December 16, 1861, offering us a glimpse of the dull routines of army camp life during the American Civil War. Allan, whose diaries also contain ruminations upon the nature of free will and Divine intentions, spent four years enduring rain and snow (“It was as cold as Greenland”) and brushes with death. A bullet hit his stirrup in December 1862, which he considers “as near a call as I want.” Some others weren’t so lucky. Only a few months after recounting the death of a comrade in his 1862-63 diary, Samuel Beard himself was killed.

Because the Bancroft collections focus on the trans-Mississippi West, it is easy to overlook our rich Civil War collections. These include photographs, engravings, maps, letters, accounts, diaries, and more. California had entered the Union as a Free State in the troubled years before the secession crisis, but there were many Southern sympathizers in the state. Republican Abe Lincoln’s victory at the California polls in 1860 had resulted from division of Democrats into pro- and antislavery factions; Lincoln won the state with less than a third of the vote. Pro-South sympathy was especially strong in Southern California, notably in San Bernardino and San Diego counties. California’s retention within the Union was assured only by the concerted efforts of local volunteers and U.S. Army units in several counties.

**Treasured Volumes**

While some diaries, such as that of Hiram Tuttle, who served in Utah, detail action in the trans-Mississippi west, most of Bancroft’s diaries were produced by Union soldiers who served back East in what was termed the “Western theatre,” engaging Confederates in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama. Most were treasured volumes carried to California years later with families migrating from the Northeast. But two celebrated units, the “California Hundred” and the “California Battalion,” did travel east via Panama to serve in the 2nd Massachusetts Cavalry. George W. Towle wryly recounts his experiences in the “100,” under the inspiring leadership of General Phil Sheridan. Pursuing Mosby’s notorious Confederate cavalry, they followed a Southern soldier home and proceeded to ruin the family’s 1864 Christmas dinner by “taking with [them] one of the intended guests as well as the turkey which they had in the oven.” (They later befriended their amiable prisoner, so perhaps he did not miss his share of dinner!)

Towle’s account was written up years after the war (his daughter hoped his lively adventures might be made into a movie). Most diaries in the collection, however, are battered and small, frail and faint, having endured the same hardships as the men who carried them on their campaigns. Some of the diarists were taken prisoner (John Cilly, for example, was captured in June 1863, and his ink was replaced by pencil). The diaries record the cold, long nights camping in muddy fields or snow, the summer heat, the repetitive drills, but also days spent in the midst of iconic beauty. Sometimes the soldiers noted the books they’d read (*The Last of the Mohicans*, in one case) or documented the ripening of the melons, apples, peaches, and blackberries that were targets of their foraging. After experiencing difficulty finding food in towns already stripped bare by preceding armies, Bela Taylor St. John notes his joy at tasting the “most tender beef” he can imagine. His comrades tell an overseer (July 9, 1862) that they “had not seen” the lost calf for which he searched, which, of course, was actually cooking on the fire before them while they conversed!

**Foot Soldiers and Officers**

This diary, transcribed years later with comments added from memory, is a rich tapestry of detail, remembrance, and reflection. St. John, a Sergeant in the 46th Volunteer Illinois Infantry, recounts “hot” action, where the bullets flew “quite thick” and his colonel was “the first one wounded” at the Battle of Hatchie’s Bridge on October 5, 1862. The Union commander at that Battle was Major General E.O.C. Ord, whose papers, which include dispatches and orders written on the battlefield, are at Bancroft. Hit in the foot by a “mini-bullet” early in that battle, Ord relinquished field command to Major General Stephen A. Hurlbut. Ord later exudes pride in the spectacular performance of his men, including St. John, who “drove them beautifully.” He disdains “puffing” because “the soldiers know who does the fighting.” St. John, however, seemed pleased that Hurlbut took over. These two Bancroft collections allow us to see this battle from the perspective of both foot soldier and commander.
commanding officer.

The diaries of officers such as William Boyd of the 82nd Indiana Volunteers provide another perspective on the war. Boyd’s diary details the squabbles among his lieutenants who seek his resignation, offering a glimpse of the pat tern of jealousy, jockeying, and questions about competency that bedeviled the Union army right to the top command. In the diaries, such unseemly squabbles are suddenly overshadowed by updates about the charges and retreats of battle, such as Boyd’s account of his regiment’s chaotic action at the bloody Union disaster at Chicamauga.

Love and Liberty

The patriotism that motivated these men to fight for their country is evident in these pages. Aaron Riker, who enlisted on December 17, 1861, records his sorrow at leaving “a kind companion and two little children that I loved as my own life.” He “bids them farewell not knowing that I should ever see them again,” explaining that “I loved Liberty and should be ungrateful as to not help to defend the Liberty I had enjoyed and to hand it down to my own children unimpaired.” In a letter home to Troy, N.Y., Captain George Balch expresses disgust for resigning fellow officers “who had received the greatest favors . . . at the hand of the government [and] were most unfaithful to it.” John Braithwaite Allan is granted leave to attend church in nearby Florence, Alabama; when the preacher prays for Jeff Davis and the Southern Confederacy, “the old Codger was arrested,” it “being more than the soldiers could bear.” This dramatic scene “raised quite a stir among the Female portion.” It says much about this war to think of enemies attending Church services together.

Confederate Accounts

Union soldiers wrote most of the diaries held in Bancroft, but we also have some accounts from the Confederate side. The elder Joseph LeConte, trained as a doctor (and one of Cal’s first professors and a University of South Carolina professor of chemistry and geology before the war broke out) provides a vivid portrait of the fading Confederacy. He records the “personal experience” of his daunting 1864 odyssey from Columbia, South Carolina, to coastal Georgia (and back) to rescue his sister and daughter as William T. Sherman’s army bore down upon Savannah. He wrote his account “at almost one sitting” immediately after the end of the war, basing it upon the diary he had kept. LeConte, who added many amusing sketches, offers a detailed narrative of struggles with worn-out, stubborn mules and dangerously swollen creeks, narrow escapes, and an infrastructure that no longer works in a “nation” that is clearly facing imminent defeat. LeConte’s charming descriptions of the people he encounters, including the slaves from his plantation who help him elude Union soldiers and the fashionable Southern ladies he meets on passenger trains, reveal a surprisingly cheerful man struggling heroically in the hopeless situation into which life had thrust him.

Making History

Why did these Civil War soldiers keep diaries? Perhaps the habit helped them while away long, idle days in army camps or on ships and order their chaotic and frightening experiences. Perhaps their awareness of the important history they were making inspired a desire to record their personal participation. Their accounts might later refresh their own memories of campaigns and companions, or, in the event of their death, offer grieving families some picture of the hardship they had endured. For some, diary-keeping was a habit established before the war, when they recorded the weather or their thoughts about the life of the spirit. Writing daily accounts of one’s actions and reflections has deep roots in America’s confessional traditions. Whatever the genesis of the diaries in our collection, The Bancroft Library is grateful to have these records of the perceptions and actions of men who engaged in our most monumental national struggle.

—David Kessler
Bancroft Public Services
With holdings in excess of 26,000 fragments, the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri (CTP) possesses one of the foremost collections of Graeco-Egyptian manuscripts in the world. Many of these papyri were recycled in Antiquity to mummify humans or crocodiles, and as a result, they are often stained, faded, or obscured by paint, plaster, or dirt. This environmental damage makes their already-challenging scripts more difficult, even impossible, to decipher.

Since 2005, CTP has been working with Brigham Young University’s Ancient Textual Imaging Group (ATIG) to examine papyri in its collection that were deemed wholly or partially “unreadable.” In 2009, ATIG was awarded a Preservation and Access Grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities to explore the utility of Multi-spectral Imaging (MSI) technology in scholarly research. The Center for the Tebtunis Papyri was one of three institutions (along with the University of Michigan and Columbia University) that gave ATIG access to their collections for imaging using this NASA-developed technology.

In MSI, a camera takes high-definition digital images at different frequencies of the light spectrum. By means of software controls, approximately twenty-five filters (mounted in a rotating wheel) are passed in rapid succession in front of the camera. The filters channel specific bands of light onto the surface of the papyrus. Each manuscript has a wavelength at which the contrast between the ink and the papyrus is greatest; when this “sweet spot” is discovered, reading becomes significantly easier. MSI is most effective on blackened, charred, or stained surfaces, but is rarely able to penetrate mud, clay, paint, and plaster. It is able to recover erasures, cancellations, and faded ink and, accordingly, is well suited for the study of palimpsests.

P.Tebt. 254 (see image) illustrates the dramatic results that can sometimes be obtained with MSI. This papyrus, which was recovered from a crocodile mummy, has apparently been darkened by exposure to moisture and is all but illegible in visible light. Within the near-infrared spectrum (ca. 800-1000 nanometers), however, its writing snaps into view, and it may be deciphered with relative ease. The papyrus turns out to preserve a complaint to a government official from the royal farmers of the village of Kerkeosiris about some sort of misbehavior on the part of the inhabitants of neighboring settlements.

While the efficacy of MSI technology is undeniable, its cost (the equipment alone can require an investment of over $100,000) puts it out of reach for most institutions. CTP is currently exploring alternatives, including the deployment of a modified digital SLR camera, for our own onsite imaging research. (In a modified DSLR, the standard infrared cut filter is replaced with an 830-nanometer infrared filter. The auto focus is also altered to allow the camera to focus correctly in the infrared range.)

In other news, the 2010-11 academic year witnessed the tenth annual CTP Distinguished Lectureship. Richard Janko, Gerald F. Else Collegiate Professor of Classical Studies at the University of Michigan, presented a fascinating account of the discovery and study of the Herculaneum Papyri. These ancient manuscripts were buried by pyroclastic material during Mt. Vesuvius’ eruption in AD 79. Though the pyroclastic flow destroyed the town of Herculaneum, the papyri were preserved, albeit in charred form. MSI technology has had much success in rendering the writing on these carbonized papyri readable.

In the coming year, CTP will continue to collaborate with various institutions. Our partnership with Brigham Young University is ongoing, and we are spearheading initiatives for the American Society of Papyrologists and the Association Internationale de Papyrologues. The AIP program will bring young scholars from around the world to CTP for a weeklong seminar, including four Egyptians (one of whom was rather active in the defense of the Cairo Museum during the recent revolution). We look forward to an interesting and exciting year.

—Jean Li

Center for the Tebtunis Papyri
HONOR AMONG FIENDS

UC’s Role in the Founding of Iota Sigma Pi

When women students in the University of California’s College of Chemistry formed a social club in 1900, they called themselves the Chemistry Fiends. At that time, male undergraduate students outnumbered females nearly six to one. In 1902, members of the Chemistry Fiends elected officers and formally adopted a constitution. Little did they know that their group would later contribute to the creation of a long-standing national honor society, Iota Sigma Pi. Fortunately, the records of the Blue and Gold, the Agnes Fay Morgan papers, and the Office of Student Activities offer lasting documentation of their pioneering effort.

What inspired the members to select their name is not entirely clear, but they made a clever choice. A seeming play on their “fiendish” passion for the field, it also projects, albeit slyly, a more powerful self-image than women of that era were allowed to express openly. In 1902, members of the Chemistry Fiends elected officers and formally adopted a constitution. Little did they know that their group would later contribute to the creation of a long-standing national honor society, Iota Sigma Pi. Fortunately, the records of the Blue and Gold, the Agnes Fay Morgan papers, and the Office of Student Activities offer lasting documentation of their pioneering effort.

Illustration for the group’s entry in the 1906 Blue and Gold.

By the following year, the secretary had become the “scribe.” The Fiends wanted to build friendships among their small community of women and “to guide the innocent Freshman along the paths of experimental chemistry without danger to themselves or their immediate surroundings; to love and cherish the members of the Faculty; and incidentally to lighten the labors of chemistry by certain experiments in the construction of candy, and by unscientific explorations in Wild Cat Canyon,” as described in the 1906 Blue and Gold. Students in laboratory courses were considered to be “organic” members, while graduates and associate members made up the “inorganic.”

By 1912, membership in the Chemistry Fiends had reached approximately 125, so the club decided to reorganize as an honor society, Alchemia. This Alpha chapter, not surprisingly, took Hydrogen as its name. In September 1913, Stanford women petitioned the UC chapter to form Carbon, the Beta chapter of the group. The University of Southern California followed with a Sulfur chapter in 1914.

At the same time, a few other similar organizations were bubbling up outside the state. Chi Alpha Pi had formed as an honor society at the University of Washington in 1911 with Agnes Fay Morgan (1884-1968)—who would play a pivotal role in the society and at UC Berkeley throughout her life—as a charter member and its “catalytic agent” (a.k.a. president). Iota Sigma Pi was established at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln in 1912, and Alpha Theta Chi at the University of Illinois in 1915. Iota Sigma Pi merged with Alchemia in 1916 as a national honor society “under the name, constitution, and ritual of the former, but with pin and origin of the latter,” as Morgan would note in her society history. The organization held its first national convention in June 1918 at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. In 1921, it elected its first honorary member—none other than Marie Skłodowska Curie.

Iota Sigma Pi owes a special debt to Morgan, who provided seemingly tireless decades of leadership and service to the society. She joined the UC Berkeley faculty in 1915 as assistant professor of nutrition in the College of Agriculture, but believed that the best professional opportunities for women chemists would come from the development of the nutritional sciences within home economics departments. In 1916, she became joint chair of the newly established Department of Household Science in the College of Letters and Science (which would later become the Department of Home Economics, housed in the College of Agriculture). The Iota Sigma Pi installation meeting took place at her home that same year, and she would continue to host the Hydrogen chapter’s first meeting of the academic year there during her nearly forty years as its faculty advisor.

She also served as society historian for several years and published editions of its history. An award named in her honor is given annually by the national branch to a woman chemist or biochemist for achievement in research. Throughout the years, Berkeley’s Hydrogen chapter has benefited, too, from the support of other faculty members, their wives, and alumni. Both the chapter and Iota Sigma Pi as a national organization continue to thrive, thanks, in part, to a little help from the Fiends.

—Kathryn M. Neal
Associate University Archivist
My Bucket’s Got A Hole In It
A Tale of Brine Shrimp, the Lost Kofoid Books and a Happy Ending for the Berkeley Library

Despite living east of the shores of the largest inland saltwater sea in the Great Basin of North America, I never gave marine biology much thought in my youth. My exposure to it was afforded by the greatest denizen of the Great Salt Lake, the brine shrimp. Harvest and freeze several thousand of them together and you have the shrimp popscicle that is at the heart of the multi-billion dollar tropical fish-food industry, which a distant relative of mine pioneered back in the day. The Sanders Brine Shrimp Company is still going. I mention this to explain my puzzlement at a most curious bookplate belonging to one Charles A. Kofoid that I first encountered in the summer of 2010 in a library of rare and antiquarian books that I was about to purchase.

I have since learned that Charles A. Kofoid (1865-1947) was a giant in the field of biology at the University of California, Berkeley. He received a patent for a collection device designed to scoop plankton and other bottom-dwelling life forms from the ocean floor; it was in essence a bucket of sorts. In addition to his scientific and academic achievements, Kofoid amassed a great library of more than 150,000 books from around the world, which equaled the size of a branch library. During the Great Depression he had the means to collect heavily; and when he died in 1947, a major part of his library was donated to the University Library at Berkeley.

During the summer of 2010, friends in Salt Lake City alerted me to a large library of books that their family wished to sell and that they believed to be valuable. The library had belonged to the late William McVaugh, Professor of Psychology at Weber State University in Utah, who had acquired them in the Bay Area while he was a graduate student at UC Berkeley in the 1960s. Over a period of several weeks, boxes of books began pouring into the cramped back room of my bookshop. As my staff and I began preparing this impressive collection for eventual sale, the family continued to drop off more boxes. Darwin and other nineteenth-century first editions popped out of those boxes; so did eighteenth- and nineteenth-century illustrated books from England, Germany, France and other parts of Europe; and there was a mammoth 24-volume atlas with massive plates on an early French expedition to the South Pole, and many more examples of fine bookmaking from the past 250 years. Researching, collating, cataloging, and offering these books to collectors, institutions, and fellow dealers was going to be not only pleasurable, but profitable, I thought in the early stages of acquiring this fine collection.

As we continued to explore this marvelous library, it quickly became apparent that many books in the collection had the same curious bookplate. The top half depicts a gentleman’s library with bookshelves and an oak floor. The owner’s name, Charles A. Kofoid, is prominently displayed on a scroll that separates this image from the framed maritime scene below; it includes an underwater view of life on the ocean floor and a clunky bucket of some sort with plankton and other denizens of the sea cavorting about it. Further examination of the books also revealed library markings from various libraries at the University of California: Biology, Paleontology, Geology, Earth Science. A number of books had bookplates indicating donor gifts going back to the very creation of the University of California in 1868. Many books also contained shelfmarks in ink, accession numbers in pencil, as well as due-date slips and check-out cards. None of the books contained any “withdrawn” stamps or other indications that they were no longer University property. But how could such valuable books, so many rarities, be missing or have been stolen from the University of California or from the mysterious Charles A. Kofoid? Who was Charles A. Kofoid, and where had he gotten so many books? And most importantly, to whom did they belong now?

My findings and suspicions were understandably unsettling to the family. Having anticipated a six-figure payday, they learned that the books might belong to the University of California and have to be returned. I met with the five living members of the family to determine where the books had come from and what was to be done about their future. I made them understand that I could not purchase the books without clear title, and that in order for me to acquire them, we would need to make a list of the titles in question, i.e those with Kofoid bookplates or other library markings, and ask the University to investigate the matter. The family, to their enormous credit, took this all in stride and gave me permission to investigate the matter more fully and to contact the University.

Shortly before his death, Kofoid...
donated a major part of his library to the University of California, parts of his library were made available to the book trade. Many of these Kofoid books are still being sold online legitimately today. The portions of his vast collection that the University retained were dispersed among the relevant campus libraries. At that time the Library’s Rare Book Room focused on manuscripts, incunabula, and other early printed works with the result that rare and important editions from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries went into the circulating collection. This is what happened with most of the Kofoid books; only some of them were old enough to have been taken into the Rare Book collection. Many of the others were stolen; although some were undoubtedly checked out and simply not returned. Sadly, we shall never know the extent of these depredations nor the identities of all the individuals involved with them half a century ago.

Meanwhile, back on the shores of the Great Salt Lake, we prepared an initial list of approximately 100 books to send to the UC Berkeley Library. I contacted Charles Faulhaber, Director of The Bancroft Library, and let him and his staff know of our unusual find and of our concerns. The daunting task of identifying those books as still belonging to Berkeley fell to Frank Carothers, who was about to retire as Head of the Division of Gifts and Exchanges. Though no record for most of the books could be found in the Library’s digital catalog, Carothers found evidence for the Library’s ownership of each in a photostatic copy of Berkeley’s card catalog as it existed in 1963. No one on the current library staff was aware of the fifty-year old thefts. The bad news was given to the family, who once again, did the right thing and gave us permission to return the books that belonged to the library. Two more batches of books were cataloged and researched; and in the course of the past year, five shipments of books, worth more than a quarter of a million dollars, have now been safely returned to the library.

This has been an emotionally draining, time-consuming, and profitless venture, not only for the family and the staff here at Ken Sanders Rare Books, but for the UC Berkeley Library as well. We can all take satisfaction, however, in knowing that these important historical works have finally returned home. As for me, I’ve learned a lot about Charles A. Kofoid, his intriguing bucket, and his bookplate, and also possibly the tiniest bit about marine biology. But as a bibliophile and bookseller out here on the shores of the Great Salt Lake, I won’t ever again be able to think about brine shrimp without also thinking of Kofoid and his books, his bookplate and his bucket.

Author’s Note: Many thanks to Ian Jackson who led me into the world of Charles Kofoid, his bucket, and his bookplate; the McVaugh family here in Salt Lake City, and to University Librarian Tom Leonard, Director for Library Collections Bernie Hurley, Head of Gifts and Exchanges Frank Carothers, and Charles Faulhaber, Peter Hanff, and Steven Black of The Bancroft Library.

—Ken Sanders
Bookseller, Salt Lake City
EXHIBITIONS

August 2011 – January 2012
A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION:
CALIFORNIA WOMEN AND THE VOTE
Display cases, corridor between the Doe and Bancroft Libraries during Doe Library Hours

CALIFORNIA CROSSINGS: STORIES OF MIGRATION, RELOCATION, AND NEW ENCOUNTERS
Original manuscripts, drawings, paintings, photographs, and publications highlight California’s migration stories. The material demonstrates the often contradictory and competing claims to history from the points of view of the people and interests that set in motion California’s settlement. The artifacts tell the story of migration, relocation, and encounters with new territory, people, and ideas.
The Bancroft Library Gallery
10am – 4pm, Monday through Friday

September 2011 – February 2012
BULLETS ACROSS THE BAY:
THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA IN CRIME FICTION
Ever since the publication of Dashiell Hammett’s The Maltese Falcon in 1930, San Francisco has been recognized as the birthplace of modern crime fiction. Using materials from numerous campus libraries, “Bullets Across the Bay” examines the Bay Area as a popular setting for mystery and detective novels and highlights the richness of UC Berkeley’s collections for the study of genre fiction.
The Bernice Layne Brown Gallery
during Doe Library Hours

October 7, 2011 – March 30, 2012
WOMEN AT CAL, 1910-1915: WHEN CALIFORNIA PASSED THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT
In October 1911 California became the sixth state to embrace equal suffrage for women, one of the signal reforms of the Progressive Era. Meanwhile, women in the university pursued their academic careers with vigor—and faced glaring inequality. Although women students had been admitted on an equal basis since 1870, their access to the university’s intellectual, social, recreational, and athletic resources was restricted when compared with that of men. Drawn primarily from the University Archives’ collections, the exhibition examines the status of women on campus in this critical period.
Rowell cases, 2nd floor corridor between Doe Library and The Bancroft Library during Doe Library Hours

EVENTS

October 14
STORY HOUR IN THE LIBRARY:
BAY AREA MYSTERY WRITERS PANEL
190 Doe Library, 4–6pm

November 16
BOOK RECEIPTION:
Beyond Words: Two-hundred Years of Illustrated Diaries
Morrison Library, 6–8pm