

BANCROFTIANA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

PUBLISHED OCCASIONALLY BY THE FRIENDS OF THE BANCROFT LIBRARY

Number 36 • MARCH 1965

Change of Date

The Annual Meeting this year will be held on Sunday, May 23, at 2:30 p.m. in 101 California Hall. The speaker will be the distinguished author of Western books, Dr. Ray A. Billington, now a member of the Huntington Library Staff. Please note the date and meeting place. Specific details will be sent later.

Larkin Papers, Finis

IN THE CENTENNIAL YEAR of 1948, the Director of the Bancroft Library undertook with a light heart and much enthusiasm the project of publishing the University of California's collection of Consul Thomas O. Larkin's papers. Working in collaboration with the late Samuel T. Farquhar, then director of the University of California Press, and with the blessing of President Robert Gordon Sproul and the Regents, the task began. In 1964, with the publication of Volume X, this series of Larkin Papers was finished.

The story of the trials and tribulations that beset the editor and his assistants (and also the University Press) during this period may not be of vital interest to *Bancroftiana's* readers, but it is an experience that the editor will not soon forget. Prices soared. Budgets were thrown out of kilter. Staff members took other jobs. But now, at last, the series is complete, and an index to it is in preparation.

Publication of *The Larkin Papers*, like every such task, is a monumental achievement. The series is a gold mine of information for the historian, the investigator, even the raconteur; in fact, for anyone delving into the incredible California story from the 1830's to the late 1850's. With publication of

an index, the series will unlock a vast amount of detail not otherwise now accessible.

The Graves

Pictorial Collection

WE ARE HAPPY to announce that the Roy D. Graves Collection of historical photographs is now a prized possession of the Bancroft Library, a gift from Mr. Orrin W. June of New York City.

This superlative collection, brought together during more than half a century by Roy D. Graves of San Francisco, has been known for years as one of the finest and most extensive contributions to the history of steam transportation in the country.

Mr. Graves served for many years as an engineer on local railroads and on steamships and ferry boats, and the experience thus gained, plus equal skill with a camera, enabled him to build this vast pictorial archive. About 25,000 photographs are arranged in beautifully organized albums. His name appears in hundreds of credit lines in dozens of books, by many of the best known historians and writers in the country. His intimate knowledge of the San Francisco of his youth, and of its myriad changes in subsequent years, as well as his faculty of almost total recall, have made him a frequent consultant to those anxious to establish minute details of local history.

The bulk of the collection deals with railroads of all kinds in California and the West. There are 47 volumes containing nearly 14,000 photographs of main line, branch line, standard and narrow gauge systems, locomotives, cars, and cabooses. There are pictures of rights of way, switch points, and stations

of rail yards and subsidiary rolling stock, even including busses and trucks, all properly identified. Municipal transportation, both cable and electric, are represented in great detail for the Bay Area communities.

The Marine section includes photographs of sailing ships, steam vessels—ocean-going as well as bay and river craft. Other views include California towns and cities, especially of San Francisco, as well as the Bay Area counties, comprising in its totality an extraordinary gift. To both Mr. Graves and Mr. June, we extend our thanks.

Grayson, California Artist

QUIETLY, and with unassuming modesty, Mrs. John M. (Lois) Stone—her husband is a member of the Physics Department on U. C.'s Berkeley campus—has carried on an exciting study of the early California artist, Andrew Jackson Grayson, who came to the West in October, 1846. When Mrs. Stone undertook this investigation, Grayson was literally unknown, though his 154 sketches of Western birds were safely stowed away in the Bancroft Library. With persistence and skill, Mrs. Stone has ferreted out hitherto unknown materials about the artist and his family. At her instance, the magazine *Condor*, publication of the California Audubon Society, reproduced about a dozen of his bird pictures, in full color, with descriptive text, in 1949-1957. Grayson also painted some typical California scenes of the Gold Rush period. This pictorial bonanza, with many Grayson papers also in Bancroft, provides the substance for a book by Mrs. Stone about which we hope soon to have more to say.

J. N. Bowman—at Ninety

BANCROFT'S SENIOR "resident scholar," Dr. Jacob Neibert Bowman, will celebrate his ninetieth birthday on May 4. All who frequent the reading rooms will join in congratulating him for passing such a milestone.

Dr. Bowman was born in 1875, in a log house near Greenville, Ohio. After attending high school at Greenville and Heidelberg College at Tiffin, he studied history at the German universities of Heidelberg, Leipzig

and Berlin, from 1896 to 1900. For his doctoral dissertation, *The Protestant Interest in Cromwell's Foreign Policy*, he was named a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society of Great Britain. Dr. Bowman taught at various institutions (including the University of Washington, and the University of California where from 1906 to 1912 he was professor of medieval history); and from 1948 until his retirement in 1955 was historian in charge of the State Archives in Sacramento. His many scholarly investigations, published and unpublished, include a monumental "Index of California Private Land Grants," particularly useful since the court files pertaining to these land grants were deposited in Bancroft in 1962.

From the time the Bancroft Library was acquired by the University of California, Dr. Bowman has taken an active interest in its welfare, even while absent from Berkeley, and in turn its growth through the years has made more rewarding the labors with books, maps, and other documents that still engross him. His wide knowledge of California history, like the written materials deposited in the Library, he places freely at the disposal of younger scholars, who will hope to see him no less interested and active in these pursuits on his hundredth birthday.

Sustaining Members

IT IS MOST GRATIFYING that so many members have sent in checks for \$25.00 or more to become Sustaining Members—and that without any pressure tactics that might have been devised by the Friends' Secretariat! We love you, and wish to express our gratefulness through the pages of *Bancroftiana*.

The Serra Award

NOW ON DISPLAY in the Bancroft Library, with other recent awards made to its Director, is a handsomely illuminated scroll which says: "The Academy of American Franciscan History confers The Serra Award of The Americas for 1964 upon George P. Hammond in recognition of his invaluable contributions to Hispanic and Western American studies as Educator, Librarian,

Historian. Given at Washington in the District of Columbia the twenty-eighth day of December, 1964. Mathias C. Kiemen, O.F.M., Director." Principal speaker in presenting the award was Professor France V. Scholes, Dr.



Father Mathias F. Kiemen, O.F.M.; Dr. Hammond

Hammond's successor at the University of New Mexico as dean of the Graduate School, and later academic vice president. In accepting the honor, Dr. Hammond reminisced on his career and the place of the Bancroft Library in the field of Western history.

The Serra Award was created in 1945, at which time it was voted to Sumner Welles by a panel of judges comprised of Catholics, Protestants, and Jews. Distinguished recipients since then have included Herbert E. Bolton, former Director of the Bancroft Library, and Gabriela Mistral, Nobel laureate in literature. The Award is presented by the Academy "to those whose careers are graced by great historical knowledge and by a deep devotion and love for the cause of Latin American studies."

Southern Pacific Train Robberies

JUST BEFORE NOON on October 11, 1923, a southbound Southern Pacific passenger train stopped suddenly just after passing through a tunnel south of Siskiyou, Oregon, Shots

rang out, followed by a violent explosion. Killed by gunfire were the engineer, Sid Bates; the fireman, Marvin Seng; and the brakeman, C. O. Johnson; and in the shattered mail car lay the charred body of postal clerk E. E. Daugherty. This was one of the last and certainly most unsuccessful of the great western train robberies. Immediately, a four-year man-hunt began.

A trail of clues—including a cocked revolver found in the tunnel, a wire leading to a detonating battery, foot pads dipped in creosote, a pair of blue overalls, two deserted campsites, an abundance of shotgun shells, a black grip, a brown cap, and two canteens—all pointed to three brothers named De Autremont: Hugh, who idealized Jesse James, and the poetry-loving twins, Ray and Roy. Circulars in many languages were sent out and thick files containing shreds of evidence accumulated over the years until 1927 when the brothers were apprehended. Hugh, a soldier in the United States Army, was captured in Manila. Police found Ray and Roy, several months later, in Ohio. After a sensational trial, the three were sentenced to life imprisonment.

The records in this case, a gift to the Bancroft Library from the Southern Pacific Company, exhibit only one facet of a great collection concerning western train robberies. Included also are clippings and trial records relating to Roy Gardner, who carried out a \$175,000 robbery of a Southern Pacific mail train in 1921; scrapbooks of newspaper clippings, 1893-1933; volumes of wanted circulars, 1913-1932; and files of correspondence, clippings, and trial records of various hold-ups in Arizona, California, Oregon and elsewhere, from 1921 to 1933.

Cataloguing the Honeyman Collection

SINCE ASSUMING the position of Curator of Pictorial Western Americana at the Bancroft Library in October, 1964, Dr. Joseph A. Baird, Jr., has catalogued approximately eight hundred separate items from the Robert B. Honeyman, Jr., Collection. Due to practical considerations of packaging and

storage, these consist essentially of lithographs and other printed materials including original drawings and paintings by William McMurtrie, Pascal Loomis, Raymond Yeland, George Derby, G. Gison, and other mid and later 19th century artists, as well as the incomparable early series of John Sykes and Georg H. von Langsdorff.

Since Mr. Honeyman was an unusually catholic collector, the portion now catalogued contains a rich cross-section of the visual history of California and the West. Among the most important holdings are a major collection of pictorial California lettersheets, a good selection of views of San Francisco and other California towns, illustrations of Yosemite and the Redwood groves, as well as the work of artists accompanying the early exploring expeditions.

Although it is premature to encourage active research, until basic cataloguing can be completed, there have been distinguished visitors to examine the collection already. Attracted by the high quality of these new treasures of the Bancroft, which complement and expand existing holdings, such persons as Dr. and Mrs. Franz Stenzel (collectors and writers on art in the Pacific Northwest), Dr. and Mrs. Pál Kelemen (authorities on art in Latin America, especially Mexico and the American Southwest), Mr. Frank Sommers III (Head of Libraries, The Henry Francis Dupont Winterthur Museum, Wilmington, Delaware), Mr. John Davis Hatch (collector and museum consultant), Mr. Britton Rey (descendant of the pioneer California lithographers, Britton and Rey), and a lively group of younger scholars writing on California history, have come to the Bancroft Library to study special works in the Honeyman Collection. Portions of it have been loaned for exhibition at the Pioneer Museum in Stockton, the Nevada Historical Society in Reno, the Pavilion Gallery at Balboa Beach, and the new United States Federal Records Center in San Francisco.

Condor Award

THE SOCIETY of Pan American Culture, a new but very active international organization with headquarters in Los Angeles, has

established a "Condor Award" to honor those who have contributed to Hemispheric understanding. The three winners chosen during 1964 are: Sra. Amalia Castillo Ledón, Undersecretary of Cultural Affairs of Mexico; the governor of Puerto Rico, Luís Muñoz Marin; and Dr. George P. Hammond, Director of the Bancroft Library. Presentation of the Condor Awards took place after a gala dinner at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles on November 21, 1964.

Emblem of the Award is a golden condor (the largest of existing birds of flight) on a golden column set on a base of Mexican onyx. The whole stands about twenty inches high; it is now on display in the reading room of the Bancroft Library. The inscription reads: "Dr. George P. Hammond, Director of Bancroft Library, for his aid to students of Hispano-American Culture."

"The Line Forms to the Right"

A LIBRARY CATALOG in book form is no innovation. The Library of Congress, the British Museum, and other major libraries have displayed their wares in such fashion for years. In fact, this method long precedes the ubiquitous 3 x 5 card now most commonly used as a means of access to a collection of books. Recently, however, developments in photo-reproduction processes have made the publication of entire library catalogs commercially feasible. G. K. Hall & Co. of Boston has begun a program of reproducing catalogs of notable collections and libraries, including the General Libraries of the University of California at Berkeley and at Los Angeles, Yale University's Collection of Western Americana; the Library of the U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.; and, not least, the catalog of printed books of the Bancroft Library, as well as our index to printed maps.

However, we do not anticipate a recommendation from the Book-of-the-Month Club, and interested Friends need not rush their orders. Our whole set amounts to 23 volumes, and the list price is just under \$1,500.