

BANCROFTIANA

PUBLISHED OCCASIONALLY BY THE FRIENDS OF THE BANCROFT LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

Number 42

May 1968

Annual Meeting of The Friends

THE TWENTY-FIRST Annual Meeting of The Friends of The Bancroft Library will be held on Sunday, the nineteenth of May, at 2:30 in Wheeler Auditorium on the Berkeley campus. Thomas H. Kuchel, United States Senator from California, will be the speaker of the day. Following the program, The Friends and their friends are invited to The Bancroft Library for a collation and to view an exhibition celebrating the hundredth birthday of the University. Memorabilia, photographs and paintings, spanning a century, will be on display.

Due to limited parking space on the campus, The Friends may wish to use the University parking lots on Bancroft Way, Durant Avenue, or Hearst Avenue.

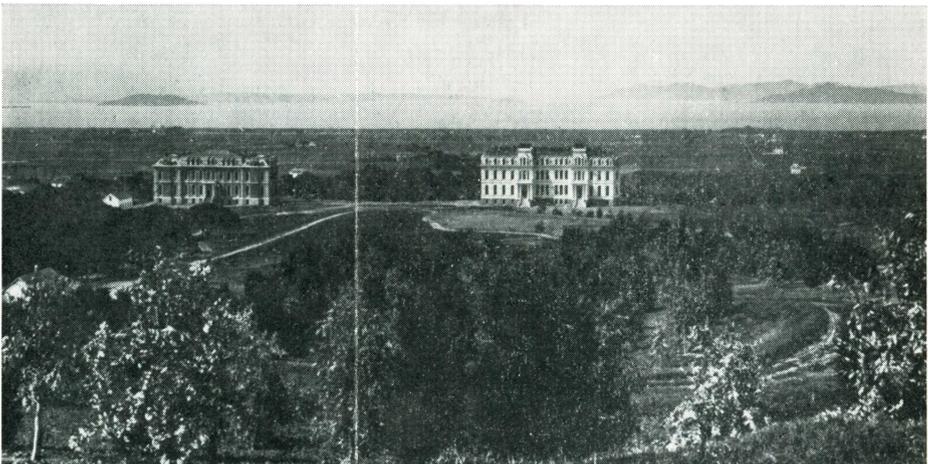
The Burgeoning Campus

AS THE FRIENDS OF The Bancroft revisit the campus each year to attend the Annual Meeting, they are bedazzled and often bewildered by the astonishing changes. Campus Planner Charles Tefft herewith presents an over-all view of growing plans and pains.

THE CAMPUS PLAN

"It is believed to be possible to secure a comprehensive plan so in harmony with the universal principles of architectural art that there will be no more necessity of remodeling its broad outlines a thousand years hence, than there would be of remodeling the Parthenon, had it come down to us complete and uninjured."

What boundless optimism The Regents of the University of California must have felt



The Berkeley Campus in 1874. The two buildings are: South Hall, on the left; and North Hall, now the site of the Library Annex. South Hall still stands, and has been designated by the University Regents as a permanent structure—the first University building to be constructed in Berkeley.

in 1897 when they issued this challenge to the architects and planners of the world. The Regents were calling for a grand competition to secure a plan for physical development of the University at Berkeley. The Regents were successful. They obtained a plan. The only building to be constructed in accordance with this plan, however, was the President's House, now called University House and the home of Chancellor Roger W. Heyns.

Between 1897 and 1956 The Regents adopted many plans, and used many plans not formally adopted. By the end of World War II it became clear to The Regents that the growth of the University demanded new plans and a new process for planning. Starting at Berkeley the University organized a Committee for Campus Planning, made the Chancellor responsible for physical development policy, hired full-time staff planners, and produced a new physical plan, the Long Range Development Plan of 1956.

This plan, brought up to date in 1962, calls for intensive development of existing campus lands, limited expansion into erst-while private property adjoining the campus, preservation of a few choice items of functional and historical importance such as South Hall, relocation of a modest number of selected campus activities to off-campus locations, etc. It does not provide for any radical new activities nor for any radical reorganization of existing activities. It primarily expresses a desire to organize the existing campus within its existing framework, providing enough flexibility to allow for modest changes and enough guidance to minimize conflict. It is a modest plan indeed and as such has served well these past twelve years. It is still fairly accurate as a statement of physical development policy but is already out of print with only copies of the plan map available.

The Berkeley campus needs a new physical plan. Much has happened since 1956, even since 1962, to suggest a new look at our physical development goals. The campus is aware of this and the Campus Planning Committee, responsible for the physical plan, is working towards this end.

CHARLES D. TEFFT

Council Authors

IN THE LAST ISSUE OF *Bancroftiana*, "published occasionally" by The Friends, there appeared an article remarking the literary fecundity of the members of The Bancroft's staff. Notable, too, is the creativity of the members of The Council of The Friends of The Bancroft. Ansel Adam's *Fiat Lux*, celebrating the centennial of the University has recently been published. George Stewart's *Not So Rich As You Think* is just off the presses, as is his informal history of the Department of English of the University of California on the Berkeley campus. William Bronson's *How To Kill a Golden State* will reach the book stores as *Bancroftiana* reaches you. Susanna Dakin's memoir of her California childhood, *A Scent of Violets*, has been edited by Elizabeth Wecter, printed by Lawton and Alfred Kennedy, and published posthumously. Charlotte Jackson is Children's Book Editor of the San Francisco *Chronicle*, and also Children's Book Editor of the Chicago *Sun-Times*. Harold Gilliam writes his weekly piece for the *Chronicle*, and reports sprightly sales for his *Natural World of San Francisco*. Francis Farquhar's *History of the Sierra Nevada* continues in great demand. Closest to home is George P. Hammond's current project, the editing of the second volume of Bancroft's *Guide to the Manuscript Collections in The Bancroft Library*.

Council Committees

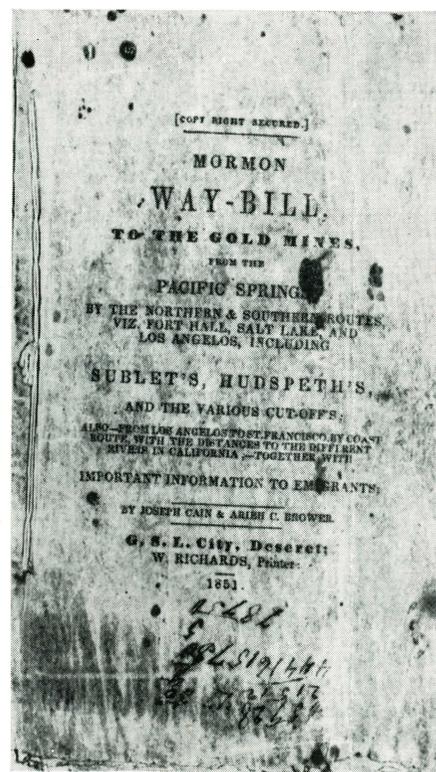
THE COUNCIL of The Friends of the Bancroft is a working tong, although anyone glancing in upon one of its cheerful lunch meetings—usually held upstairs at Jack's—might dispute this claim. Chairman J. S. Holliday announces the composition of the following committees:

- Acquisitions:* Mrs. David Potter
George P. Hammond
- Membership:* De Witt Alexander
George Stewart
- Nominating:* Mrs. Edward Heller
Donald McLaughlin
- Publications:* Mrs. Dixon Wecter
William Bronson

The Mormon Way-Bill

SOME SPIRITED BIDDING by San Francisco book dealer Warren Howell at a February auction in New York, and some nimble footwork by The Council of The Friends, has added to the Bancroft collection one of the most sought-after items of Western Americana, the *Mormon Way-Bill, to the Gold Mines*, published at "G. S. L. City, Deseret" by Joseph Cain and Arich C. Brower in 1851. The Bancroft prizes this truly rare guide not only for its stature in the literature of overland travel but also for its significance as one of the earliest imprints of the Mormon press in Utah.

The present copy is the fifth to come to light, the second to appear at public auction. All the other copies consist of forty pages, two signatures of sixteen pages each, and one of eight pages. The present copy consists of the first two signatures only, and raises a new question for bibliographers: Is it in fact a first issue, and are the forty-page copies ex-



panded second issues? Certainly it merits meditation that the text of the various routes to California from South Pass extends to page twenty-five, followed by sundry advertisements of blacksmiths, horse dealers, merchants, dentists, daguerreotypists, and the like. The eight pages that complete the forty-page copies provide way-bills for the "Oregon Route, from Pacific Springs to Oregon City," a "Route for Pack Trains from John Day's River to Oregon City," and a "Route from Fort Hall, via Great Salt Lake City." This text extends from page thirty-three to page thirty-eight; page thirty-nine is blank, and on the last page is a note, "This Way Bill is printed on colored paper, being the most durable, and will not wear out by being creased or carried in the pocket." The copy acquired by Bancroft is a light tan colored paper. The Oregon section clearly has a tacked-on character, following rather than preceding the advertisements. We are unable to answer conclusively the question we have raised, but one who has acquired information enough to ask the question, has taken a long stride toward finding the answer!

DALE MORGAN

Larkin Papers Index

HERE IT IS AT LAST, an Index to The Larkin Papers! Prepared by an expert husband-and-wife team, Anna Marie and Everett G. Hager, who have established an enviable reputation as professional indexers, this Index was issued in March by the University of California Press, publisher also of the entire documentary set of Larkin Papers.

The Larkin Papers in the Bancroft Library, as most of The Friends know, comprise one of the great collections of source materials for the last years of Mexican rule and the first decade of California's existence under the flag of the United States. These papers, numbering more than four thousand items, were published as a contribution to the centennial of the gold rush and California's admission to the Union in 1850. The first volume of *The Larkin Papers* was issued by the Press in 1951, and the tenth, and last, in 1964. They were edited by Bancroft's director, George P. Hammond—who finished this task before his retirement!



Dr. James W. Skipper,
New University Librarian

Welcome Dr. Skipper

WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY to extend a welcome to Dr. James W. Skipper, who will become the University Librarian on the Berkeley Campus, following the retirement of Donald Coney on August first. Dr. Skipper received his undergraduate degree at the University of North Carolina, and subsequent degrees, including the Ph.D., at the University of Michigan. He has had posts of increasing responsibility and importance at Washington and Jefferson College, Ohio State University, the University of Michigan, the University of Connecticut, and lastly at Princeton, where he has been Associate Librarian. According to William Dix of Princeton, writing in *College and Research Libraries*:

"Throughout his career he has been actively involved in the essential technical details of librarianship, serving as chairman and member of a variety of committees of state, national and international professional associations. In 1963-64 he was president of the Resources and Technical Services Division of the American Library Association, and as Executive Secretary of the Association of Research Libraries he broadened his international contacts and experience as a delegate to conferences in Sofia, Rome, Helsinki, The Hague, and Toronto, and as a participant in other international gatherings."

He has been active as a consultant on library buildings and administration working with more than a dozen institutions. We wish Dr. Skipper well, and promise him our enthusiastic cooperation. ROBERT BECKER

Keepsake—1968

THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE of The Friends of The Bancroft Library is pleased to announce the publication of its sixteenth annual Keepsake, *A Kid on the Comstock*, by John Taylor Waldorf, with an introduction and supplementary text by his daughter, Dolores Waldorf Bryant. Illustrated with the original cartoon drawings of the *Bulletin's* Herb Roth, *A Kid on the Comstock* has been designed and printed by Lawton and Alfred Kennedy, and will be presented to members at the Annual Meeting on May 19, 1968, or will be sent through the mail to distant Friends.

A Kid on the Comstock is John Taylor Waldorf's fond remembrance of his boyhood adventures in Virginia City during the last flush of that boom town's colorful period of the 1870's and early 1880's. First published in Fremont Older's San Francisco *Bulletin* in 1905, Waldorf's reminiscences recall a town and a time whose charm and vigor have rarely been matched in the annals of the West. More than ten years as a newspaperman—several of them on the *Bulletin* during the paper's militant crusade against the machinations of Abe Ruef—could not dull Waldorf's warm recollection of a childhood he considered the last taste he would ever have of true freedom, a conviction that provided his reminiscences with the luminous charm of unabashed nostalgia.

Dolores Waldorf Bryant—Waldorf's daughter and a San Francisco newspaperwoman herself—introduces the book with a compellingly honest and loving biography of her father's vigorous career during one of the most eventful periods of San Francisco journalism. Her supplementary notes, placed at the end of each chapter, are informative, pungent illuminations of the life and times of the Virginia City that Waldorf knew and loved.

J. S. HOLLIDAY

Keepsake Kudos

THE FRIENDS 1967 KEEPSAKE, *Valley of Salt, Memories of Wine*, more familiarly known as the Nusbaumer Diary, designed and printed by Lawton and Alfred Kennedy, has been selected by the Rounce and Coffin Club as an outstanding example of Western books.

Bartolome de la Casas

HENRY R. WAGNER (1862-1957) was not only one of the founders of The Friends of The Bancroft Library, but always one of its staunchest supporters. Ten years after his death, friends will be pleased to note that his long-awaited study, *The Life and Writings of Bartolomé de las Casas*, done in collaboration with Helen Rand Parish, is now available. Joint publishers are the Cortés Society, of which Wagner was the moving spirit, and the University of New Mexico Press at Albuquerque.

Bartolomé de las Casas, a Spanish conquistador on the island of Santo Domingo four centuries ago, became convinced that the *encomienda* system of forced Indian labor in the Spanish colonies, which had originated soon after Columbus' discovery, was wrong. With great courage, he gave up the life of a land-holder in 1514, became a Dominican friar, and devoted the rest of his long career to lift the yoke of the Indians.

Casas was a brilliant, tough opponent of the settlers. For fifty years, until the very day of his death in 1566, he fought with great courage and against tremendous opposition, to alleviate the lot of the Indian. He made his first trip to Spain to plead their cause before King Ferdinand. Not much could be done with the dying Ferdinand, however, but Casas then presented his case to the famous Charles V and his advisers, and ultimately saw the issuance of the New Laws of the Indies, 1542-1543, forbidding the practice of making slaves of the Indians, and issuing sweeping proposals for their better treatment. When many of the former evil practices continued, Casas fought on, waging some of his most noted campaigns at the court of Philip II. In fact, Casas' attacks seemed to invalidate the right of the Crown to take tribute from the Indians, or to make slaves of them, a bold stance for any of the King's subjects!

Wagner's book on Casas is in many respects the most challenging and constructive of the numerous works that have appeared on this subject through the centuries. It is original in scope, with adequate consideration of all phases of his career, not just the spectacular early years, often given so much attention. The essay on his writings is a refreshing contribution to Casas literature

that may well be another monument in Wagner's long career as a Latin-American scholar.

The Cortés Society, born and reared on the Berkeley campus, is the publisher of a limited, special edition, while the University of New Mexico Press has issued the general edition. Orders may be sent to the Cortés Society at The Bancroft Library. The price is \$12.50.

GEORGE P. HAMMOND

The Wheat Collection

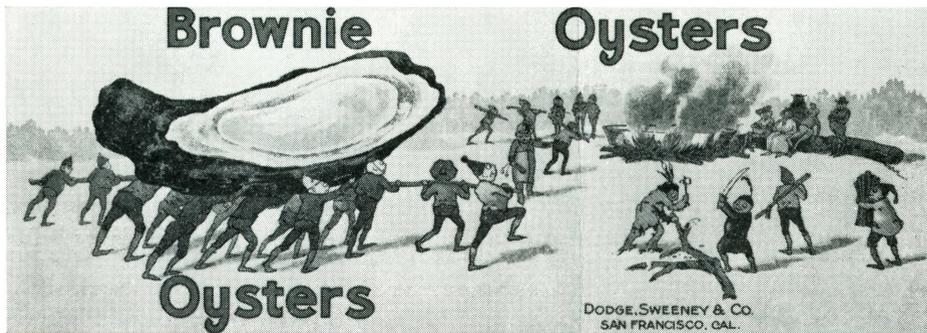
A GENEROUS ACTION by Mrs. Carl I. Wheat has established a precedent which she and her sons hope may be followed by other devoted Friends of The Bancroft Library. As the community of Western scholarship well knows, Carl Wheat formed a notable personal library of Western Americana, and from this library Mrs. Wheat asked Bancroft to select such items as were not already at Berkeley, or which would significantly enhance the collections. Several dozen books were accordingly set apart for the Bancroft shelves—some published comparatively recently, others of greater antiquity.

One very notable title in the group is Harvey Wood's *Personal Recollections*, printed at Angels Camp by the Mountain Echo Job Printing Office in 1896. Twelve copies only of this slender pamphlet are believed to have been printed, and only two of these are definitely known to have survived.

Also very welcome are four rare atlases, especially Henry S. Tanner's *New Universal Atlas* of 1839, and Sidney E. Morse's *The Cerographic Atlas of the United States*, published in 1843. To an earlier magnificent gift of maps, presented to The Bancroft by Carl Wheat in his lifetime, are now added seventeen very rare maps described in his *The Maps of the California Gold Region, 1848-1857*, twice that number of maps described in his five-volume *Mapping the Transmississippi West*, and as many more maps, photostats and originals, which for one reason or another were not described in either work.

The Wheat family previously had deposited in the Bancroft Library, Carl's personal papers and a small interestingly varied collection of manuscripts he had formed. These benefactions are deeply appreciated.

DALE L. MORGAN



An evocative label from the Schmidt files

Schmidt Lithographs

THE NAME OF SCHMIDT is famous in California's lithographic history. The Bancroft Library is happy to tell its Friends that the Schmidt family has turned over to us forty-nine albums of examples of their commercial production dating from 1906, an uncommonly fine overview of lithographic style and art.

Max Schmidt, founder of the company, arrived in San Francisco in December of 1871. The San Francisco City Directories of 1873, 1874 and 1876 dramatically indicate the progress of this immigrant sailor after he left the decks of the ship *Emily*, which brought him from Hamburg, Germany, to San Francisco. In 1873 he is listed as a lithographer with the firm of F. Korbel & Bros., having gained some small experience with the craft through a German friend who worked for the firm of G. T. Brown and Co. In 1874 Max Schmidt appears as a member of the firm of Schmidt & Buehler, lithographers, and by 1876 the name of M. Schmidt & Co. in the directory testifies to the advance this talented man had made in his first few years on our shores.

The Schmidt firm has been, over the many years, one of the great lithographic firms of the West. It has produced labels, letterheads, stock certificates, posters, etc., in great profusion and with imagination and taste. As a record of commercial art in general, and of the progress made in lithography in particular, the thousands of examples of the Schmidt firm's work are most rewarding. Bancroft Library and its patrons have much reason to thank the Schmidt family for this unique gift. It affords a most unusual glimpse into

the past of western lithography, western industry and commerce. The Regional Oral History Office, Bancroft's "Roho," has interviewed members of the old Schmidt Lithograph Company, thus recording details of the workings of this label house so closely allied with the California food and wine industries.

J. B. TOMPKINS

The Barrows and Hagar Papers

THROUGH THE GENEROSITY of Mrs. Gerald Hagar and other members of the Barrows family the personal papers of David P. Barrows and Gerald H. Hagar have been given to the Bancroft Library.

On February 10, 1965, Barrows Hall on the Berkeley campus was dedicated. It was an occasion marked by the usual dedicatory ceremonies, but highlighted by the tribute to David P. Barrows delivered by Gerald H. Hagar. As son-in-law of President Barrows, Hagar was in a unique position to speak of him as a man and of his remarkable career as educator, administrator, soldier and public servant. His thirty-three year association with the University of California, from 1910 to 1943, was, in Barrows' own words, "... the central experience of my life and its associations overshadow all else in my life."

Coming to the University in 1910, after having been general superintendent of education in the Philippine Islands, Barrows served, in turn, as professor, Dean of the Graduate School, Dean of the Faculties, President of the University, 1919-1923, and, after his resignation from that position, as profes-

sor of political science and chairman of the department. During his absences, which amounted to no more than six years, he served on the Commission for Relief in Belgium in 1916 under Herbert Hoover, was in active duty in World War I in the Philippines and with the expeditionary force in Siberia, and went in 1928 to Latin America as visiting professor under the auspices of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and to Germany in 1933 as the Theodore Roosevelt professor at the University of Berlin. Continuing his interest in military affairs after the war, he became commanding general of the 40th Division, California National Guard in 1926. After his retirement from the University in 1943, he continued his active career, becoming a radio commentator and syndicated columnist. It was a full life, and through it ran devotion to public service and to the University.

A similar devotion to the University and to the community characterized the life of Gerald Hagar. A distinguished corporation lawyer, he earned his law degree from the University in 1920 and started practicing law in Oakland. He became a noted civic leader, serving as president of the California State Bar and the Alameda County Bar Association, and as member and president of the California Code Commission. In 1951 he was appointed a Regent of the University by Earl Warren and served from 1951 to 1964. In 1965 the University conferred upon him an honorary Doctor of Laws degree:

"... he brought to the counsels of the Regents wise judgment, broad experience, a perceptive sense of values, and a firm commitment to the goals of education and the ideal of academic freedom."

The Bancroft is indeed grateful for the gift of these important papers.

ESTELLE REBEC

"Mammy" Pleasant Letters

THE LONG LIFE OF Mary Ellen Pleasant extended from the pre-Civil War period to the opening of the twentieth century. Arriving in San Francisco with the gold-seekers, her way of life was puzzling and mysterious.

She had careers enough for several lifetimes. Little is known of her work in behalf of black pride while there is notoriety aplenty for her shadowy financial career. In her declining years she seemed to be involved in many small ventures that brought help to her people and some profit to herself. Sometimes misunderstandings would ensue, as her letters, now in the possession of The Bancroft Library, illustrate.

These letters came into my hands through the generosity of Miss Kate Grases, now deceased, who was the granddaughter of Reverend Jeremiah B. Sanderson, a leader of the nineteenth century Bay Area Negro community. She was in her nineties when I first met her in Oakland in the course of trying to unearth her grandfather's still elusive diary. Our relationship warmed to a friendship and she decided that history would best be served if she gave me her accumulation of ephemeral printed and written matter. The two letters addressed to Miss Grases' father from Mary Ellen Pleasant were in this collection.

Miss Grases had seen "Mammy" Pleasant a few times and she told me that the Sanderson-Grases families knew her well. When asked about Mrs. Pleasant, Miss Grases never offered details but would shake her head and leave the implication that "Mammy" was a tough character.

For some thirty years Miss Grases had attended Bay Area cultural events and had kept all the printed programs. They are now in the possession of The Bancroft Library. She was a well traveled, cultured person and performed as a songstress-eloquent during the turn-of-the-century years. Under more democratic circumstances, I believe Miss Kate Grases would have become a black Helen Hayes.

The two letters involved a misunderstanding between Mr. Grases and Mrs. Pleasant over Mr. Grases' niece who had been placed in Mrs. Pleasant's care. One of the letters is in Mrs. Pleasant's hand and the other had been dictated to someone caring for "Mammy" during a period of illness. To my knowledge, this is the only sample of writing in Mrs. Pleasant's own hand available for scholarly examination.

RUDOLPH M. LAPP
The College of San Mateo