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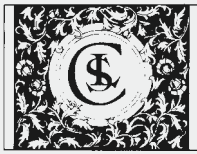
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Number 90

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California State Library Foundation

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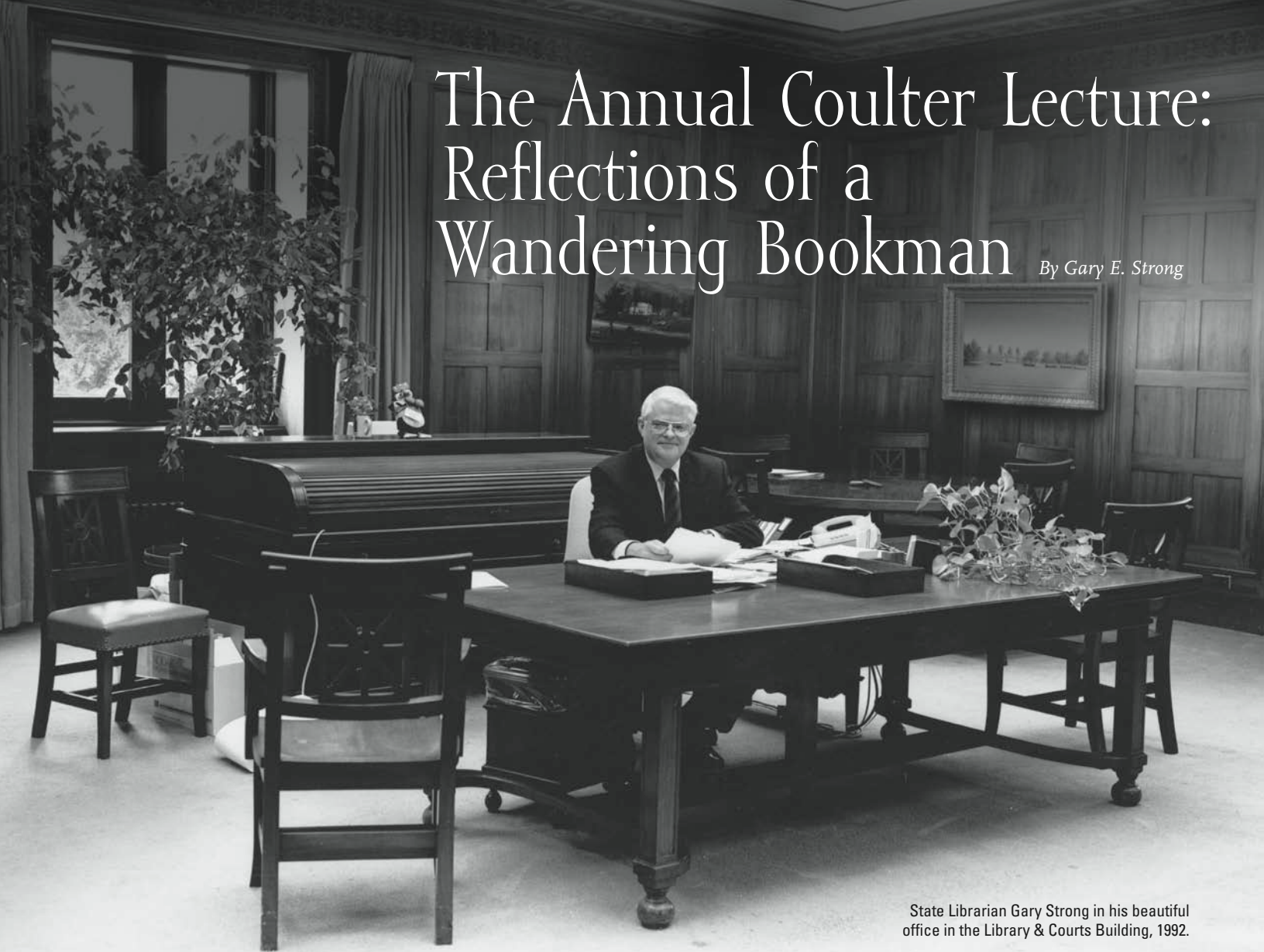
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The Annual Coulter Lecture: Reflections of a Wandering Bookman

By Gary E. Strong



State Librarian Gary Strong in his beautiful office in the Library & Courts Building, 1992.

Thank you for the nice introduction, but I am not sure that I am worthy to stand before you in the line of distinguished speakers who have graced this lecture. During my Sacramento years, I had the pleasure of publishing two of the Coulter lectures—one by Ward Ritchie and another delivered by Kevin Starr.* So I have some understanding of the meaning behind the lecture and the heritage it hopes to sustain.

Several years ago, I acquired a California Library Association (CLA) keepsake containing the Coulter lecture given by Lawrence Clark Powell talking about his relationship with Ms. Coulter.** At the time I read it with great amusement, and having re-read it recently recalled my many conversations with Larry and his take on the history of California librarianship. Now sitting in his seat at UCLA—well, not in the exact same chair or even the same building—I have charge of that southern campus of the university and the responsibility, and inspiration, of following in his footsteps more than metaphorically. Powell took the reins with fewer than a million volumes in the collection. He

spent his time acquiring, building, and starting a great research library collection to rival Cal's (UC Berkeley). I had the pleasure this last year of celebrating the addition of the eight millionth volume to that collection. While we have not overtaken Cal, we have secured our place among the top ten research libraries in North America.



EDITOR'S NOTE. Mr. Strong is University Librarian at UCLA, former California State Librarian, and founder of the California State Library Foundation. Mr. Strong kindly gave us permission to publish the talk that he gave as the Coulter Lecture at the 2007 Annual Conference of the California Library Association in Long Beach. His presentation covers a fascinating and challenging period in the State Library's history. The Edith Coulter Lectureship was established by the Alumni Association of the School of Librarianship, University of California, to honor Professor Coulter who taught bibliography and wrote several books. Gold Rush historian Dr. Rodman Paul gave the first lecture in 1952.

My task today, however, looms in front of me as one that I relish, because I don't get the chance often enough to talk about passion and values. So let's see; where to begin. I was born in Idaho, grew up in the country, and rode the bus to school for twelve years to Potlatch. Potlatch was a company town owned by Potlatch Forest, Inc. It was home to the largest white pine mill in North America.

It was there that Georgia Mae Bennett inspired me to become a librarian. She was my high school Latin teacher for four years, my senior English teacher, my drama coach, and the school librarian. By my junior year she gained enough trust in me to leave me in charge of the school library before classes began and during what would have been my study hall period. But most of all, she inspired me to read and to think and dream beyond that small rural place. To my knowledge, she also inspired four others of my contemporaries to work in libraries.

Years later, she called my father and asked him to get in touch with me to see if I would like to have her eleventh edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. She had remembered that I had admired it and borrowed volumes to read during high school. I accepted that gift, and it holds a place of honor in my personal library today. She also gave me a book by a guy named Powell entitled a *Passion for Books*, which I immediately devoured. Those words and her actions would guide my entry into the profession.

Idaho is a small state, and I had the opportunity to work in the library at the University of Idaho, where Lee Zimmerman and Richard Beck took me under their wing and gave me the opportunity to work in every menial job imaginable, until I finally was made a reference assistant in the humanities. I also got the chance to take three library science courses during a summer session between my junior and senior years. My last year at Idaho, I worked to establish the library support group, the Associates, and drove the bookmobile across two counties in Northern Idaho under an LSCA (Library Services & Construction Act) demonstration grant.

When it came time to go to graduate school, I assumed that I would go to the University of Washington, but Irving Lieberman, the dean at Washington whom I had met in the Pacific Northwest Library Association, told me to go somewhere else. "You know all about the Pacific Northwest," he said, "and you need other experiences." So I applied at Columbia, Rutgers, and Michigan. The choice was easy: they didn't require the GRE at Michigan, they gave me a job running residence halls libraries, which paid my room and board, and they let me take the final exams for all the introductory library courses. Eloise Ebert, the Oregon State Librarian, made the decision to give me an LSCA scholarship to attend school.

I set off to graduate school in the middle of Kent State and the



Top: Strong and Congressman Robert Matsui share a quiet moment at a ceremony in front of the Library & Courts Building.

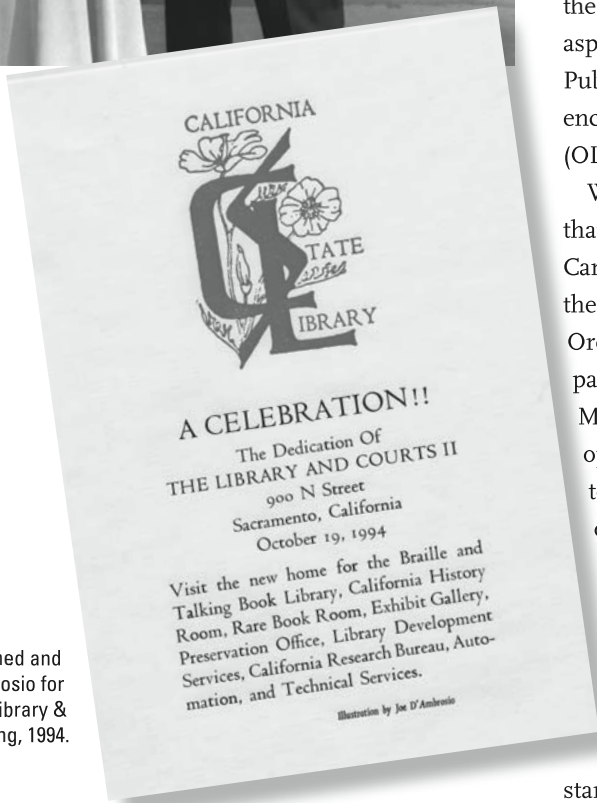
Bottom: Gerrilee Hafvenstein of the Library's Preservation Office and noted book artist Joe D'Ambrosio admire an exquisite binding. Strong commissioned D'Ambrosio to create a serigraph in 1993 to celebrate the Library's sesquicentennial.

Vietnam War. Michigan was a whole new world. So while others were protesting, marching, or "sitting in" in various offices across the campus, I would go to the graduate library and just sit and look around, pulling great reference books off the shelves and just sitting and looking at them. If one could be arrested for fondling books, I would have spent most of my time in book jail. I loved library school. Wally Bonk was my dean, and he would meet on Friday afternoons with students at the Library Bar on the north campus. Other faculty would join us, and we talked and schemed about what we would do when we got control of the profession.

It was at Michigan that I got the sense of public librarianship while heading the Markley Residence Library. The residence libraries were set up for the use of students and provided a full range of reference and public services for them. I learned to listen to their interests and needs and plan programs which



Strong stands with Claire Shulman, Queens Borough President at the Unisphere in Flushing, Corona Park to kick off Kids World Queens. It was the site of the New York World's Fair in 1939-40 and 1964-65.



Broadside designed and printed by Joe D'Ambrosio for the dedication of the Library & Courts II Building, 1994.

were responsive. I also had the chance to host the actress in residence that year—Miss Helen Hayes. She was wonderful and would gather students around her at lunch and dinner and in the evenings to talk and visit. I realized how important this personal connection was in promoting library services. It reminded me of what it must have been like when Robert Frost was in residence at Michigan in 1914.

To complete my last courses in the summer session, I found that I was short in making my tuition payment, and I knew there was no money coming from home. My scholarship funds had been exhausted. Walking down a residential street in Ann Arbor, I came on a yard sale and began to look at the books. Among a stack was a book by Robert Frost. I realized I had in my hand an almost perfect inscribed copy of *North of Boston* (1914). Someone was selling off the “junk” in the house they had just bought. I bought it for 25 cents and made my way down to the local book shop. The \$750 I got for the book made it possible for me to pay my summer session tuition and take my girl friend out for a dinner that was more than hot water and ketchup packets. I have always regretted that this volume was only in my possession such a short time.

I had realized that I needed to serve my two years of indentured servitude in a public library in Oregon on graduation or pay back the scholarship. Since I had no money, I put my academic library aspirations on hold and took a job as director of the Lake Oswego Public Library. And I never looked back. During those years, I was encouraged to run for office in the Oregon Library Association (OLA) and was elected president. What did I know?

Well, I knew enough to gather a kitchen cabinet around me that included Carl Hintz from the University of Oregon, Bill Carlson from Oregon State University, and Mary Phillips from the Library Association of Portland. Together, we took on the Oregon State Library and opened up library community participation in the state. These were also the days of Senator Wayne Morris and his stand on national issues in Congress and his opposition to the war in Vietnam. I brought him as my speaker to OLA that year, and Lillian Bradshaw was there as president of the American Library Association.

With that, my association work had begun, and since then, it has always played an important role in my professional life. As president of the Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA), I brought television journalist Daniel Schorr as conference keynote speaker in Boise. He had just been fired for his views from CBS News, and his principled stand in support of freedom of speech was an inspiration to us all. It was during that time we brought Alberta and Saskatchewan into PNLA, so I started learning about international librarianship as well.

At about that same time, Eli Obler, who was librarian at Idaho State University in Pocatello, decided it was time to indoctrinate me on censorship and intellectual freedom. PNLA was meeting in Vancouver that year, and he decided several of us youngsters needed to go see an adult movie. So off we went after the conference evening session and reception. It was the most boring experience I had ever had until the movie ended and the lights came up, and we all stood and sang "God Save the Queen." Now that was the capper for an interesting evening out with the guys.

I went into Everett, Washington, just as Boeing crashed, so I hired a community service officer and began to develop programs for displaced workers. Then the gas crisis hit us. I had an executive on my board from General Telephone, so I talked him into giving us a half dozen answering machines, and we set up the first telephone reference system that listed open gas stations by sector in town every day. We got thousands of phone calls each day and the Chamber of Commerce award for the year.

When I was at Lake Oswego, I began to bring writers and illustrators into the library to do programs. We would get huge crowds. My children's librarian, Hilda Lapidus, was a great storyteller, and the place hopped with activity. We could not keep books on the shelves. I also met Teresa Truchot, who asked if she could tutor those who could not read in the library. She was a retired school teacher in her eighties who inspired me to think about illiteracy and the role of libraries.

At Everett we brought writers and performers into the library regularly. One of my favorite programs was a week-end celebration of "Bobby Burns birthday." The highlight was the county clerk dressed in his kilt leading the whole crowd into the library playing his bagpipes. The readings went on all day. That was quite a change from the first public program we did on bicycling around Puget Sound, which drew my wife and me along with the local homeless guy, who came for the refreshments. The speakers were great sports and spent the evening talking to us. I didn't have the heart to tell them I didn't even own a bike.

Washington State Librarian Rod Swartz drafted me into service at the State Library as his deputy. It was here that I first met Carma Zimmerman, who was friends with former Washington State Librarian Mary Ann Reynolds and most of the library development staff at the Washington State Library. Carma had been Washington State Librarian before taking the California State Library job in 1952. These were Washington Library Network days, and we were faced with having to make it pay for itself. Mary Ann had set it up so WLN would be paid for with state funds, but that all changed with the economic downturns of the 1970s.

My great pleasure there was overseeing the annual Washington writer's awards given each spring. Dixie Lee Ray had just been elected Governor as we announced the awards for 1977.



From top: Librarian of Congress James Billington, Strong, and Patricia Flynn President of the Board of Trustees of the Queens Library receiving IMLA Award in the US Senate in 2000.

Pictured here is the closing banquet of the Second China-US Conference on Libraries in Flushing Queens in August 2001. Gary served as chair and host.

Strong established relations with many libraries abroad. In this photograph he is examining rare books at the National Library of Croatia, 2000.

Strong with H.R. H. Princess Mah Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand at the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Conference in Bangkok in August 1999.

She came and gave an inspired talk, glad-handed everyone, and left for the mansion. The next morning she eliminated the Women's Commission and cut the state library's budget by ten percent. Just goes to show you how politics really works.

We had a branch of the Washington State Library in the Governor's Mansion, and I was often invited up to fill in a seat at lunch. I got up one day and sat my chair back right on the tail of one of the dogs, and that ended my invitations to lunch.

In the fall of 1979, my wife Carolyn and I took the children to visit my brother in Sacramento. We had a great time, and I had a chance to visit the Sacramento Public Library and the State Library. I was struck by the majesty of the Library and Courts Building and joked with my sister-in-law about coming down and taking it over one day. The next spring she called me and said that she had heard that they were looking for a new state librarian. On a lark, I sent in my application.

When I arrived for the interview, I was ushered into the conference room in the Capitol to be faced with an interview panel of more than twenty people. I thought, "Well this is going to be interesting." I felt like the kid in *The Omen* as my head spun from one side of the room to the other trying to make eye contact and to answer the questions thrown at random by those in the room. I left feeling that it was a most interesting experience indeed.

A few days later Carlotta Mellon, the governor's appointments secretary, called and told me I had been selected as the next state librarian of California. I couldn't believe it, so before anyone could change their minds I accepted, and spent the next fourteen years in the state.

Within a month of taking office, I was meeting with the Jesuit officials at the University of San Francisco (USF), negotiating to keep the Sutro Library in the basement of the Gleason Library until we could find new quarters. I soon was off to my first meeting of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies in Madison, Wisconsin. While in route, I received a frantic call from my Sacramento office telling me that I had been exposed to hepatitis during the lunch in the USF faculty center during that meeting, and that I needed to immediately get vaccinated. So instead of my first reception with fellow chief officers, I was driven around Madison, trying to find a needle that would serve its purpose.

I recall my first meeting of the Council of the California Library Association. Barbara Campbell was president, and I was invited to observe the meeting and be introduced to the Council. Anxious to get out and meet people, I found myself in the back of the room between Ursula Meyer (Stockton-San Joaquin City and County Librarian) and Gina Minudri (Director of Berkeley Public Library). Little did I know of the controversy about the speaker for the joint dinner with the Nevada Library Association. You certainly could not take a nap between Ursula



and Gina arguing over whether to cancel the talk on Nevada brothels. I had truly arrived in California

In 1983, I found that we had two and one half million dollars of out-of-cycle LSCA funds to spend. I asked the staff for options, and Library Consultant Carmela Ruby came to me and proposed that we start a program of teaching adults to read in public libraries. I had learned by this time that good staff have good ideas, so although I had no idea what would be involved, I told the consultants in the Library Services Development Bureau to develop a program, and in 1984 the California Literacy Campaign was born. We funded programs in twenty-six libraries. Martin Gomez had come to work at the State Library, and he wrote the first regulations. The Campaign caught the attention of the legislature and the state Department of Education. We partnered with adult education and with the Governor's Office. I hosted First Lady Barbara Bush and California First Lady Gloria Deukmejian at the State Library.

This took on a life of its own, and in the aftermath of Proposition 13, we had an issue that drew interest from both sides of the aisle. My greatest achievement was getting State Senators David Roberti and Bill Baker to sponsor the Families for Literacy legislation and to get it funded. From opposite ends of the political spectrum, they led the charge, making this a non-partisan issue. The program was off and running. I also worked



Opposite page: A young bibliophile: Gary at age 5 at home in Idaho.

Left: Carolyn and Gary Strong at the Queens, New York annual gala event, 2001

Right: Strong shakes hands with First Lady Barbara Bush at the White House. November 1989.



with Assemblywoman Teresa Hughes to introduce legislation to support the Students for Literacy program. It was structured to be a work-study program that would fund college students to work in public library literacy programs. That would fail, and I learned about how powerful the higher education lobby is in California. Still, my greatest satisfaction is that California created a solid program of literacy services as a valid part of local public library services and set the tone for the nation.

As outgrowth of the Ethnic Services Task Force and the Rand Study I commissioned in the early 1980s looking at demographic change in California, we created the Partnerships for Change Program. Library Consultant Yolanda Cuesta would lead this effort. This program was intended to help public libraries change how they related to these new communities. Having funded hundreds of outreach grants, I was convinced that service to new Americans had to be delivered within the context of broader library service programs. You can not sustain a level of service on soft money, but you could use soft money to experiment and try new services. A library needs collections that support the reading interests of the people who live there. I found myself speaking at hundreds of events and putting this out at a time when people thought libraries were dead.

I learned one important thing from Proposition 13 and its aftermath: Californians loved their libraries and were willing to

support them. But library service was devastated in the first few years after its passage. And at the same time we were talking about shifting resources from traditional users of libraries to whole new populations. It was a challenging time indeed.

A part of this time was spent trying to build the State Library's own collection. Perhaps the most controversial collection we obtained was that of Howard Jarvis and Paul Gann. Many librarians felt we should not have given it a place in the archives of the State Library. Gary Kurutz and I felt it was important to document this mass change in political thought and action in California. Not since the early 1900s had there been such a sea change in the way the state functioned.

In my latter years as State Librarian, I sought to establish the State Library as a small independent agency. We successfully separated ourselves from the Department of Education before Superintendent of Public Instruction Bill Honig was ousted (in 1992), which cast a shadow on the department. In the next year the electorate passed an initiative limiting the budget and terms of office of the state legislature. Even though the State Library had always been authorized to provide legislative reference service, it was an opportunity to take on a broader role.

As luck would have it, I had invited Librarian of Congress Jim Billington to visit, and he helped me convince President pro Tempore of the California State Senate David Roberti to allow

Left: Gary Strong with Yuanling Ma, Director of the Shanghai Library, August 17, 1999, at an international conference.

Right: New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Strong celebrate Greek Independence Day, March 2003.



the State Library to establish the California Research Bureau. It was intended to take over the functions of the Senate Office of Research (SOR) and later the Assembly Office of Research (AOR). The SOR was home of some of the finest research thinkers within state government, but unfortunately, the AOR was mostly a patronage arm of Speaker Willie Brown. Our efforts were successful, and after numerous attempts by the Assembly to plant staff in the Bureau, we were able to establish a solid staff to provide research support to the Governor and the Legislature.

At the same time, the State Library's budget was cut significantly and funds for acquisitions virtually eliminated. Since we could not pay for the subscriptions in the State Law Library, I closed it. I could not justify providing inaccurate legal information to the various attorneys in state government. This brought the wrath of Senator Bill Lockyer, who called for my resignation. Senator Nick Petris intervened and held him off. Assemblyman Phil Isenberg, meanwhile, worked closely with me to find a solution. He had just finished a term as President of the State Bar Association and sought their financial support to carry subscriptions for one year while we developed a legislative solution. These events brought me even closer to the Third District Court of Appeals justices, with whom we shared the Library and Courts Building. Their support was needed. The passage of an increased fee on civil court filings would provide a secure, ongoing source for acquisitions to the law library collection.

In 1994 I decided it was time to take an opportunity to put my money where my mouth was. I accepted the position as director of the Queens Borough Public Library, and was able to practice more directly what I had been promoting during my State Library years. We lived the belief that people would use libraries if you provided them with what they wanted—a solid collection

of materials relevant to them in their own language as well as in English, a rich educational program, and cultural programming that brought them together to celebrate the diverse cultures of New York City. We became the busiest public library in the country. We saw over one half million people each year attending programs and 50,000 a day entering our doors.

We were visible in every community of the borough. The borough president liked calling me out at events as the "head of the busiest library in the world." I never corrected her; you take the sound bites when you get them. We built partnerships with businesses, hospitals, and social service and immigration agencies. We pioneered programs of working with youth-at-risk. I recall a recognition ceremony ending the first special program where first-offense youth were sentenced to the Library for a series of focused programs instead of going to prison. The young man who spoke stood in front of the assembled family and friends and announced that he had read his first book, and it wasn't half bad.

I initiated a Page Fellows program to attract the best of our student workers to consider librarianship as a career. That program now has had more than one hundred and seventy-five young people exposed to the profession, paired with mentors who talk to them about librarianship.

We created the Center for International Public Librarianship, which brought librarians from Asia, Europe, Russia, Africa, and the Caribbean to study and work in the Queens Library. I traveled to China, Thailand, Russia, Croatia, Slovenia, Latvia, Hungary, France, Argentina, Singapore, and Austria giving workshops and talking about service to diverse populations. We built WorldLinQ bringing web resources to the Queens Library Web site in Chinese, Korean, Russian, French, and Spanish.

9/11 changed many things. For me, it made Carolyn and I real-

ize that we wanted to be closer to our children, who had both resettled in California. Out of the blue, an overture to apply as University Librarian at UCLA presented itself. Never believing that it could happen, I sent the application forward. And that is where I am today. So some thirty plus years after forsaking academic librarianship to fulfill my obligation to my scholarship sponsors, I had entered the academic library world.

Challenged by the chancellor and provost at UCLA to implement change in the university library, I found a great staff, a broad collection, and a terrible physical presence on the campus. We had lost several departmental libraries, and space was at a crisis stage. So we set out immediately to address these issues.

But the greatest challenge for me has come at a time when building a great research collection seems to be under threat. Yes, we should be acquiring access to the breadth of science, technical, and medical resources. But we should also be strengthening our role as laboratory for the humanities and social sciences. We have one of the few comprehensive collections in the Western United States. What is our role in maintaining that in the face of Google gobbling up our content and stealing our cataloging? Will we be faced with buying it all back, as we have with journal literature?

What will be our role in supporting change in undergraduate education? A recent survey of undergraduates across UC reveals that seventy-five percent of the 38,000 who responded to the survey feel that having access to a world-class library collection is important, very important or essential. Learning research methods drew sixty-five percent and learning about faculty research forty-six percent. I believe this gives us much reason to be encouraged and at the same time challenged about what the role of library instruction ought to be and how important the development of our collections must be.

Over my career, I have been interested in library programs that will change people's lives. It has certainly changed mine. During my years as state librarian, I was able to pursue the building of my own personal collection. (Mind you that I did not purchase books for the collections of the libraries I have directed.) I began building a collection of twentieth century Californiana including a pretty good selection of artist's books and limited editions. A couple of years ago I was able to obtain the last volume I did not have that was published by the Allen Press. The collection also includes almost the complete output of Joe D'Ambrosio, Vance Gerry at The Weatherbird Press, Peter and Donna Thomas in Santa Cruz, Yolla Bolly Press, Dawson's Book Shop, the Book Club of California, among others.

But I have also been a passionate collector of mystery writers from California or who set their stories in California. I have left it to others to collect the classic California mystery writers, and my collection begins in the late 1970s and includes over

150 writers. Some are pretty standard pulp, but others are pretty good reads. It really began with Bill Pronzini after we acquired his papers and collection for the California State Library. Then it was Marcia Muller. And it just kept going. The genre is interesting in California. Most writers build in great descriptions of California, and you get a sense of life across the state.

But I cannot stop thinking about how much I would like to have that copy of North of Boston sitting on my bookshelves along with the other Robert Frost volumes. I can't afford to acquire one these days.

In looking back at this journey, I think today of Edith Coulter and her work to prepare librarians for this profession. I do wish that our academy would still value the education of librarians to work in academic libraries. We need this new talent more than ever. As we integrate library and information resources into the teaching and research roles of our campuses, librarians have the tremendous opportunity to demonstrate how critical our role is in education.

A tradition at UCLA is to hold a reception for new deans to be welcomed to the campus. I closed my remarks that day in this way:

The faculty and students at UCLA create significant amounts of new intellectual content. The Library must work with you to determine how best to capture and preserve this invaluable resource and ensure that it is appropriately made available for use and consultation. Support for robust systems of full text must be developed and maintained along side print collections.

Everything I have done to this day has been preparing me for the next years at UCLA. Serving three different governors in California through the early post-Proposition 13 era prepared me with several degrees in crisis management. Dealing with the aftermath of the terrorist attack on our country tested my resolve of the role of libraries in creating and keeping a civil society.

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you today. ❁



FOOTNOTES

* The two Coulter Lectures published by the Foundation are: *Ward Ritchie, Growing up with Lawrence Clark Powell* (1987) and Kevin Starr, *The Rise of Los Angeles as a Bibliographical Center* (1989). Both are available for purchase through the Foundation. The Ritchie Coulter Lecture sells for \$3.95 plus tax and shipping and the Starr Coulter Lecture sells for \$5.95. Both together are available for \$10 including tax and shipping.

** Powell gave the Coulter Lecture in 1968 at the CLA Conference in San Diego. His talk was published by CLA in 1969 as *The Example of Miss Edith M. Coulter*.

“The Wars to End All Wars”: The Experiences of Two Californians in the Twentieth Century’s Greatest Conflicts

by Michael Dolgushkin

Since California was admitted to the Union in 1850, its citizens have fought gallantly in the many wars that the United States has become involved in. By far the most serious of these conflicts were the two world wars of the twentieth century. Two collections recently acquired by the California State Library document the service of two Californians in these wars and illustrate the varied experiences that one could have while serving his or her country.

HENRY A. ECKHARDT, A WORLD WAR I SOLDIER’S ROMANCE

Henry A. Eckhardt was born in San Francisco on December 19, 1890. By 1916 he had become involved with Marie M. Jochumsen, who had been born in Denmark on September 29, 1896. As is typical of young couples, Henry and Marie spent a lot of time together dancing, attending parties, and socializing with their friends. Also typically, the two wrote letters to each other while apart. Marie often visited relatives in Los Gatos, and on April 10, 1916 wrote to Henry about her excursions to San Jose and Santa Cruz. As fun as this was, she missed Henry and the good times they had in San Francisco. Henry often traveled outside of San Francisco for several days at a time and he, too, wrote Marie letters. These missives were filled with expressions of Marie and Henry’s desire to be back in each other’s arms, spoke of the anticipation of having “more fun” when reunited, and were usually signed “from one who always thinks of you.” Many contained pressed flowers, which was common at the time.¹

Unfortunately, young romances such as Marie and Henry’s have all too often been swept up in the tide of history. After President Wilson’s declaration of war against Germany on April 3, 1917, Henry was drafted into the United States Army. By December he had been transferred to Camp Mills, New York, awaiting overseas assignment, and wrote Marie often: more often, apparently, than she was writing him. On December 5th

Henry began a letter to Marie with “Dear Sweetheart, I wonder if you have forgotten me altogether. I have received only two letters from you dear, since I left home.” Four days later he began a letter with “Darling Sweetheart, I am wondering how you are and what you are doing. I have not heard a word from you for nearly two weeks and I am sadly disappointed.” Then, on December 11th, Henry sent Marie the following message on a postcard:

Darling Sweetheart,

This may be my farewell to you. I am leaving camp tonight. I do not know where we are going it may be France. Our barrack bags left last night with all my possessions [sic]. Darling if you do not receive any mail for the next two weeks you will know I have gone across the sea. Sweet heart it [is] very hard for us both but it can not be helped. Darling I only hope you will be waiting for me when I come back. You will always be in my mind and I will always dream of you when over there. Dearest darling sweetheart I shall never forget you. So fare well darling from your own true love. With love and kisses and a fare well hug from your loving and home sick sweetheart.

Henry

Henry indeed shipped off to France, and became a machine-gunner in the 18th Infantry. This regiment participated in the Montdidier-Noyon, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, Lorraine 1917, Lorraine 1918, and Picardy 1918 campaigns, and was awarded two French Croix de Guerre with Palm. Henry saw a great deal of action, and wrote to Marie about it. Of course, American soldiers’ mail to their loved ones back home was subject to the censor’s knife; the letters going from Henry to Marie illustrate the rather curious priorities involved. His descriptions of specific battle experiences and of German bombing of the trenches from the air reached her intact, but his account of



Pictured is a letter written by Marie Jochumsen to her sweetheart Henry Eckhardt in San Francisco and postmarked June 15, 1917, apparently before he had been inducted into the United States Army. She has included some pressed foliage in the letter.

exactly what type of lights were used to illuminate the camps at night was heavily snipped.²

During this time, Marie's sporadic communication with Henry did not help his state of mind. One of his letters began as follows:

*Dearest Marie,
I have not heard from you for a long time and it seems like an age. I know of no reason why you do not write and I have had many a heart ache on that account. You must have some very good reason for not writing so dear drop me a line any way and let me know how you are.*

While it is likely that the paucity of Marie's correspondence to Henry was the result of wartime conditions (the need for mail to be inspected by censors, and the difficulty of getting it to the battlefield), one can well sympathize with Henry's concern. Here he was pining for his sweetheart at a time when he did not know if he would ever see her again, if he would still be alive in twenty four hours, or even for another few minutes. The letters

he did receive from Marie revealed that she was still dancing and socializing as before, but without him. That must have caused Henry anxiety as well. Would she meet someone else? Having one's lover across the sea for an extended period can result in one of two feelings: "absence makes the heart grow fonder," or "out of sight, out of mind." Unfortunately, the annals of warfare are replete with soldiers, sailors, and airmen who received "Dear John" letters from wives and girlfriends who could not wait any longer and found someone else to provide what they had been missing.

Accordingly, one cannot read these anxious letters from Henry to Marie without wondering if she dumped him. This collection does not tell us. Henry remained in France well after the Armistice as part of a unit repairing the country's infrastructure, but had not returned home as of February 1919. The very last two



Michael Dolgushkin is the Library's manuscript processing librarian and a scholar of San Francisco history.



Top: This is the front of the postcard sent by Henry to Marie on December 11, 1917, the message on the back of which began “Darling sweetheart, this may be my farewell to you.” The inscription he wrote on the front of the card seems rather more optimistic.

Bottom: After the passage of almost 70 years, it is easy to forget that the United States harbored a significant amount of isolationist sentiment that opposed entry into the European conflict. Here is a flier that William Davis picked up (likely during his time at UC Berkeley) advertising an America First Committee rally at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium on July 1, 1941, featuring noted isolationist Charles Lindbergh. Because of his viewpoints, some Americans considered Lindbergh a Nazi sympathizer.

letters in the collection were written by Henry to Marie in April of 1920 during a trip to San Diego, which reveals that they still communicated after his return home, but were they sweethearts or merely friends? We need to consult other sources to find out: San Francisco city directories, Ancestry.com, and San Francisco Chronicle obituaries. As it happened, Henry and Marie married sometime in the early 1920s and lived the rest of their lives in San Francisco. Their marriage produced a son named Henry Jr. Henry Sr. who joined the San Francisco Fire Department and died on September 27, 1962. Marie passed away on October 31, 1974. How wonderful it is to find out that this story of wartime romance had a happy ending!³

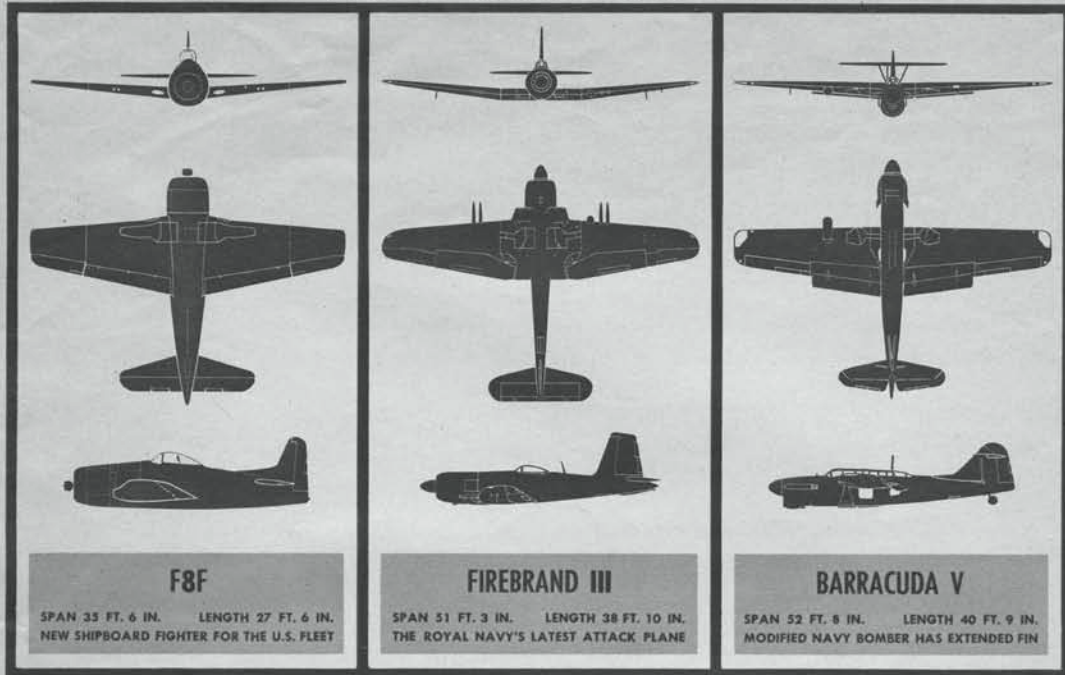
WILLIAM NEWELL DAVIS, JR., WORLD WAR II INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
The experience of William Newell Davis, Jr. in World War II was much different than that of Henry A. Eckhardt during “the war to end all wars.” Davis was born in Kingsburg, California in 1915. He received a bachelor’s degree in history from Fresno State College in 1936, a secondary teaching credential from UC Berkeley in 1937, and a master’s in history from the same institution in 1938. In subsequent years, he taught at the high school and college level in various institutions, and in 1955 was appointed as a historian to the California State Archives. In 1964 Davis became chief of archives and held this position until 1980.⁴

After receiving his doctorate in history from UC Berkeley in May of 1942, Davis joined the United States Army Air Force and attained the rank of captain in a combat intelligence unit stationed in the Pacific Theatre. His World War II collection contains his records, jacket, uniforms, medals, insignia, and various other essentials: a canteen, a duffel bag, a knapsack, and a barracks bag. Other materials include items relating to his time in a Salinas USO facility in 1942 and 1943, periodicals, correspondence, diaries, books, and a folder on antiwar activity at UC Berkeley—in the 1930s! People forget or are unaware that what happened at Berkeley in the 1960s was actually nothing new.⁵

It is the intelligence materials, though, that are the heart of the Davis collection. Much of this was classified at the time, and contains some of the first captured Japanese photos of the Pearl



NEW AND REVISED AIRPLANE SILHOUETTES



F8F

SPAN 35 FT. 6 IN. LENGTH 27 FT. 6 IN.
NEW SHIPBOARD FIGHTER FOR THE U.S. FLEET

FIREBRAND III

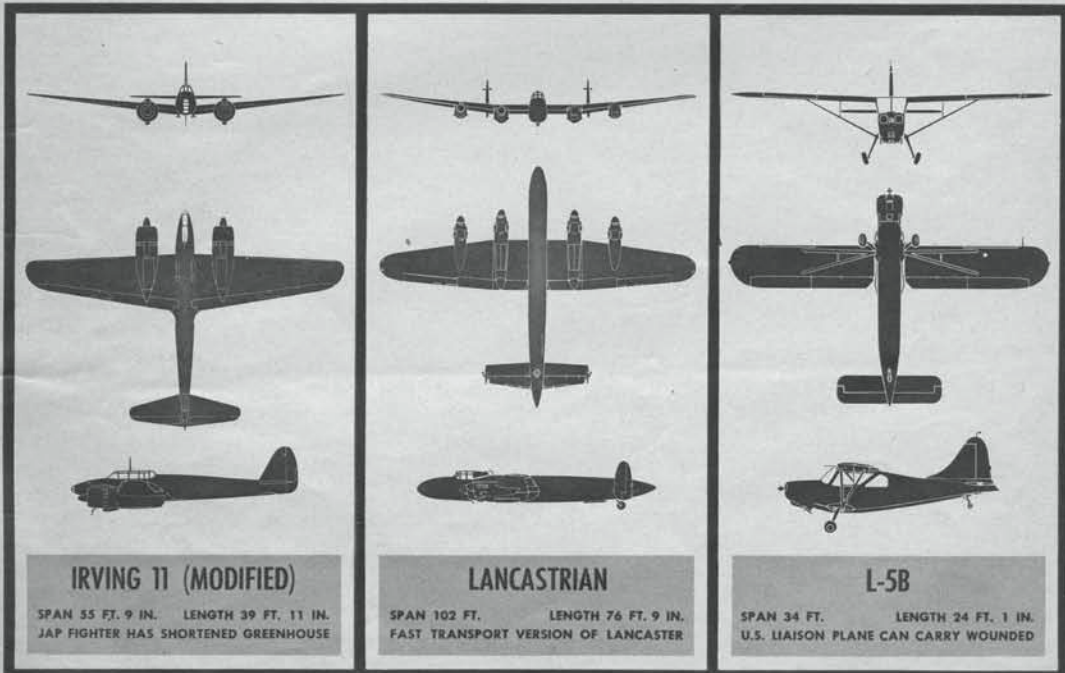
SPAN 51 FT. 3 IN. LENGTH 38 FT. 10 IN.
THE ROYAL NAVY'S LATEST ATTACK PLANE

BARRACUDA V

SPAN 52 FT. 8 IN. LENGTH 40 FT. 9 IN.
MODIFIED NAVY BOMBER HAS EXTENDED FIN

New U. S. Navy fighter, the F8F Bearcat has Grumman square wing and tail lines and sturdy fuselage (see pp. 8-9). The Blackburn Firebrand III is a big, single-seat attack plane for carrier oper-

ations. Extremely narrow fuselage and the tall, square fin and rudder are its main recognition features. Recent Barracuda revisions include a broad fin extension and installation of a Griffon engine.



IRVING 11 (MODIFIED)

SPAN 55 FT. 9 IN. LENGTH 39 FT. 11 IN.
JAP FIGHTER HAS SHORTENED GREENHOUSE

LANCASTRIAN

SPAN 102 FT. LENGTH 76 FT. 9 IN.
FAST TRANSPORT VERSION OF LANCASTER

L-5B

SPAN 34 FT. LENGTH 24 FT. 1 IN.
U.S. LIAISON PLANE CAN CARRY WOUNDED

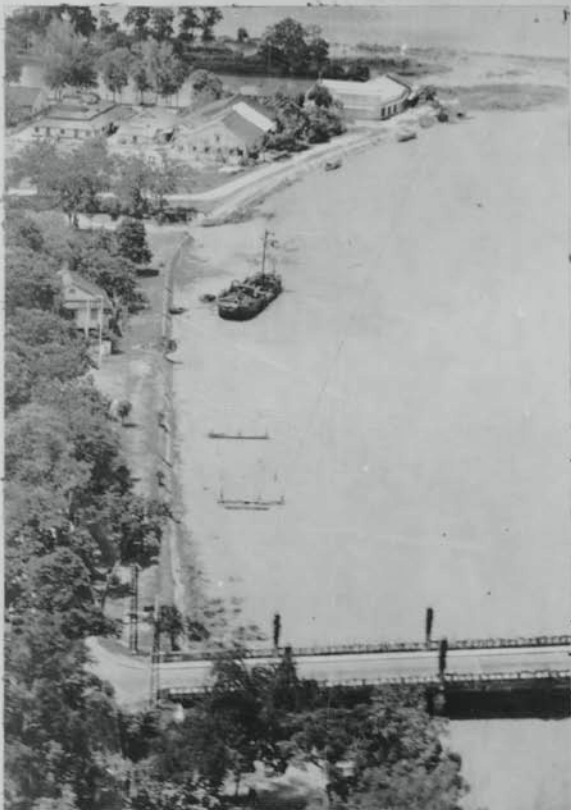
Modified Irving has the rear section of its greenhouse cut away, giving it a long, clean dorsal line. The British Lancastrian is nothing more than a Lancaster with its turrets removed and its nose

and tail streamlined for high-speed transport duty. As a result of Allied experience in Burma, the L-5 Sentinel has been modified as the L-5B so that a litter can be carried in its deeper, wider fuselage.

Being able to differentiate between friendly and enemy ships and aircraft is of vital importance during wartime. Accordingly, those in the theater of operations during World War II (notably William Newell Davis, Jr. in his intelligence role) needed to be kept informed of the characteristics of the newest equipment. Here we see the silhouettes of new British and American aircraft from the front, side, and underneath, angles from which they would commonly have been viewed. Once again, a "restricted" note can be seen at the bottom of the page.

RESTRICTED 13

IV



868 TH. SQ. SNOOPERS SCORE HITS
ON SMALL SHIPPING, BASSET RIVER,
FRENCH INDO CHINA, 23 JULY 1945.

Here are four classified photos of the effects of Allied bombing missions in what was known in 1945 as French Indo-China; an area which would become the scene of another major conflict twenty years later.

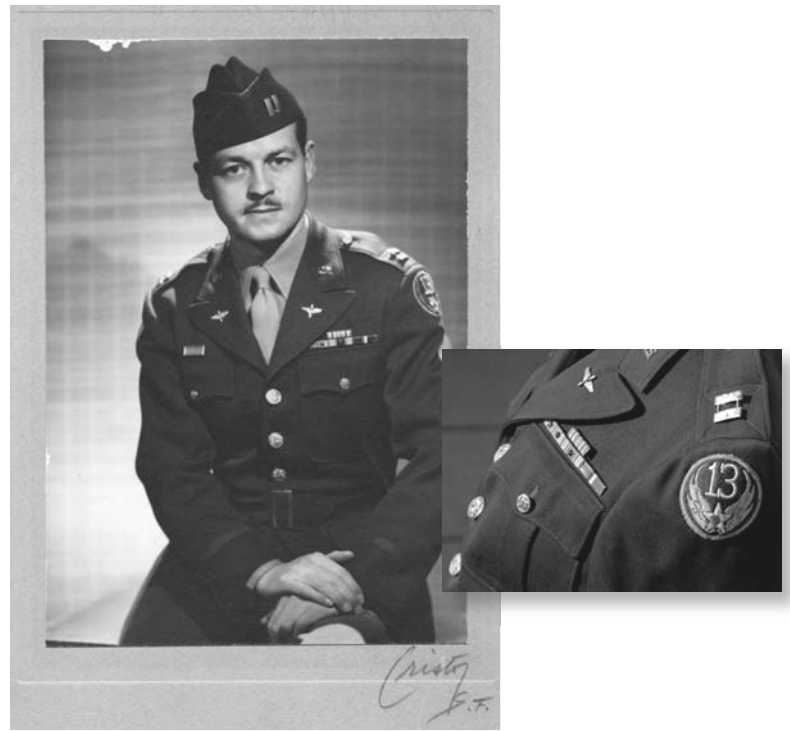
Harbor attack, along with the account of a captured Japanese officer on how the attack was planned and carried out. Other photos show the results of napalm attacks on North Borneo, reminding us that this technique was used long before Vietnam.

One folder contains aircraft recognition guides; the ability to distinguish between friendly and enemy planes and ships was vital to the survival of one's combat unit. Davis saved several copies of the Thirteenth Air Force Secret Intelligence Summaries, as well as both American and Japanese propaganda. One Japanese leaflet urged American GIs to remember "the warmth of HER shapely body pressed against yours: that blood-tingling kiss: that overpowering sense of passion that sweeps over you . . . [that] you'll be able to relive again if you'll throw down your arms, surrender and get out of this hell-hole." As if anyone who deserted would be feeling his wife's or girlfriend's embrace any time soon.

The most interesting of the intelligence material in the Davis collection is that which describes events near, at, and after the war's end. Even as Japan approached its ultimate defeat, its fighting spirit prevailed. During the capture of Iwo Jima, Lieutenant General Kurabayashi wrote that "we will fight to the last man and know you will carry on to ultimate victory. We fall in battle here but our spirit never dies. It will be reborn seven times, if necessary, to defeat the enemy."⁶ Two weeks later Japanese Prime Minister Suzuki announced that "the hour is here when the 100 million people of Japan should stand up and meet the task of defending the nation. No enemy will conquer Japan unless it is done over our dead bodies."⁷ On July 30, 1945, after the fall of Okinawa and numerous American air raids on Japan, Suzuki dismissed the latest surrender ultimatum from the United States, Great Britain, and China as "low propaganda."⁸

Faced with the prospect of a protracted invasion of Japan in which all Japanese civilians would act as combatants, President Truman authorized the use of an atomic bomb on the city of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. After this attack, Radio Tokyo reported that "the enemy employed a new type bomb on the city of Hiroshima. Considerable damages were caused by this bomb and details of the bombing attack are still under investigation," and also quoted a Hiroshima news reporter as saying that "the ghastliness of the results of this bombing attack cannot be described in words."⁹ A few days later Radio Tokyo quoted a news reporter from Asahi Shinbun:

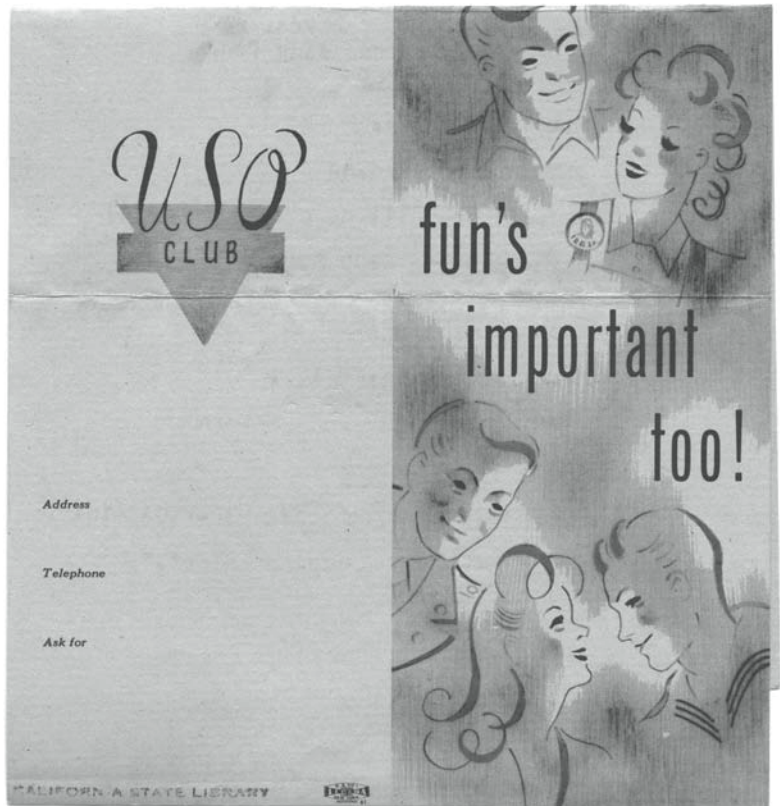
The B-29 attack on the 6th was the most disastrous one. The entire city was in flames and the explosions were terrific. The people in the immediate vicinity were killed by the terrific blasts and intense heat. The majority of the people were severely burned. Even the most distant localities suffered some kind of damages: rice fields were turning yellow and withering and homes were punctured.¹⁰



Top left: A portrait of Captain William Newell Davis, Jr., United States Army Air Force, taken by Cristy of San Francisco.

Top right: Here is the same uniform jacket worn by Davis in the previous photo, still in immaculate condition as befits an officer of the United States Army Air Force.

Bottom: Yes, fun was important even during World War II. Here is a brochure collected by Davis during his stint at a Salinas USO facility during 1942-1943. Such entertainment units provided American GIs with a welcome diversion while on leave from combat duty.



On the American side, the August 14th Thirteenth Air Force Intelligence Summary described the situation as follows:

While the photo interpretation reports of destruction of urban communities by large scale B-29 attacks continued to verify the Allied threat to destroy Japan, a new weapon hit Japan with results too astounding for ordinary comprehension. On 6 August, the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima in southwestern Honshu. Smoke and dust obscured the results from photographic reconnaissance until Wednesday, 8 August. Final assessment showed a total of 4.1 square miles or 60 percent of the built-up area destroyed—all by a single bomb.

The report then described the August 9th atomic bomb attack on Nagasaki as not being as destructive because the city was more spread out.¹¹

The day after this report was issued, President Truman announced that Japan had accepted the Allied terms of surrender. Following the formal signing, Davis went to Japan as part of an investigative unit to ask questions of top naval officers concerning the 1942 Battle of the Bismarck Sea. Davis gave the details of this trip in a September 10, 1945 letter to his parents sent from Yokohama. His investigative team asked questions of a number of officers at the Kure Naval Base regarding the afore-

Pictured is a contemporary reproduction of a Japanese propaganda leaflet dropped to American troops, urging its recipients to follow the improbable scenario of laying down their arms in order to be reunited with their loved ones.



mentioned battle. The most interesting interview, however, was with the commander of the base. The following exchange illuminates Japanese attitudes as the war was drawing to a close:

"When did Japan leave the offensive and go on the defensive?"

"Never; Japan was on the offensive until 15 August, 1945 when the Emperor ordered a halt."

"If the Emperor had not ordered the surrender, when would Japan have been defeated?"

"Never, Japan could not be conquered."

"What should be done with the Japanese prisoners taken in New Guinea and the Philippines?"

"Cut their throats; they are like a boxer who quits in the ring, yellow."

The commander went on to say that he wanted to cut General Tojo's throat for leading Japan into war before it was ready, and that he did not think the United States went too far in using the atomic bomb. "No, that is war and a nation has to do what it has to do to win," he explained. The aspect of the bomb that the captain considered inhumane was the slow, lingering death suffered by many of its victims.

Davis saw this suffering firsthand, since he visited Hiroshima during his trip to Japan.

He wrote to his parents that "the scene there is almost beyond belief; not wreckage remains as is found in other heavily bombed cities, but dust and powder and confetti, piled evenly over the great waste. The picture is not chaos, but simple basic disintegration." Further away from the epicenter of the blast, where buildings were not actually destroyed, Davis gained further insight into the bomb's effects: "structures were shaken and blasted at the same time, as if earthquake and cyclone were exerting their forces simultaneously." Davis also witnessed the human toll of this attack:

We were taken through the Red Cross hospital at Hiroshima — an ugly sight, the poor burned old women and little children, with great open burns spreading on their bodies, a sad sight, the swarms of flies torturing the suffering who were ill-cared for as they lay on the floor without beds other than mats and without adequate insect netting, a tragic and sickening sight. Who does not pray that the atomic bomb will never be used again?

The Henry A. Eckhardt and William N. Davis Jr. collections are located in the California History Section at the State Library. Information about them can be obtained in the manuscript collection binders which are available at the reference desk. These materials must be viewed in the rare materials reading room. ❀

RADIO TOKYO

ATOMIC BOMB

On the morning of the sixth, the enemy employed a new type bomb on the city of HIROSHIMA. Considerable damages were caused by this bomb and details of the bombing attack are still under investigation.

A news reporter in HIROSHIMA reported as follows in regard to this new-type bomb: "The sex of the victims of this new type bomb is indiscernible. The ghostliness of the results of this bombing attack cannot be described in words. The use of this new bomb by the enemy is an inhuman act."

Day before yesterday, a fleet of 7-29's attacked the city of HIROSHIMA. In this attack it appears that the enemy used a new type bomb. Relative to this bombing, the grand imperial headquarters issued the following communique at 1430 hours yesterday: "Yesterday, 6 August, enemy 7-29's attacked the city of HIROSHIMA and caused considerable damages. The enemy, it appears, utilized a new type bomb, and, at present, this bomb is under investigation."

Relative to the D-29 attack on HIROSHIMA day before yesterday, the DOMEI news agency made the following comment: "At present, the new type enemy bomb is under investigation. However, it is apparent to us that the purpose of the enemy is to completely wipe out the Japanese people. The inhuman plan is now out and lies exposed for what it is worth to the entire world. The enemy realizes that JAPAN has all the advantages in any decisive battle on our homeland. Therefore, in order to bring an early conclusion to the war, the enemy is using this new type bomb."

NEW GUINEA

In the WENAK area, our garrison troops have been constantly attacking the Australian 6th Division, consisting of 10,000 men. It is reported that 6,000 enemies have been killed and 3,000 wounded, thus leaving only a thousand men in the Australian division. 50 trench mortars were captured or destroyed.

BORNEO

Fierce fighting is still raging along the SULLINDA Highway in the BALEKPAEN area. Enemy troops engaged in building fortifications along the road, have suffered severe losses by our constant cutting-in attacks. Our air force also attacked the BRUNEI and MIRI districts with favorable results.

- 3 -

FOOTNOTES

- 1 Henry A. Eckhardt, in Ancestry Library Edition, California Death Index, 1940-2007, <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com/cgi-bin/sse>; Marie M. Eckhardt, in Ancestry Library Edition, California Death Index, 1940-2007, <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com/cgi-bin/sse>.
- 2 "18th Infantry Regiment," [United States] Department of the Army, <http://www.18inf.org/line.htm>; "18th Infantry (Vanguards)," Center of Military History, United States Army, <http://www.history.army.mil/lineage/branches/inf/0018in.htm>.
- 3 Henry A. Eckhardt, in Ancestry Library Edition, California Death Index, 1940-2007; Marie M. Eckhardt, in Ancestry Library Edition, California Death Index, 1940-2007; Eckhardt, Henry A., Sr. death notice, San Francisco Chronicle, September 30, 1962, 37; Eckhardt, Marie M. death notice, San Francisco Chronicle, November 3, 1974, 13.
- 4 Weston, Lois, "W. N. Davis," Lucky Land of Lassen 12 (1964): 7-9.
- 5 Weston, 9.
- 6 Headquarters 7th AAF Radio Squadron Mobile APO #719 Japanese Language Broadcast 0700-1700 22 March 1945 from Radio Tokyo 11800 kcs, 4.
- 7 Headquarters 7th AAF Radio Squadron Mobile APO #719 Japanese Language Broadcast 1200 8 April -1200 9 April 1945 from Radio Tokyo, 2.
- 8 "Radio Tokyo, 30 July 1945: Premier Suzuki's Statement: on Surrender Ultimatum," Headquarters Thirteenth Air Force Intelligence Summary: Southwest Pacific Area 38, July 31, 1945, [10].

Top: Here is an intelligence report given to Davis containing the Radio Tokyo broadcast following the August 6, 1945 atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima. Obviously the Japanese did not know exactly what had hit them, since the broadcast refers to "a new type bomb," the nature of which was "under investigation." The unbelievable power of the bomb, however, convinced them that the United States planned to use this weapon to annihilate the Japanese people and bring about an early conclusion to the war. Arguably, the atomic bomb did end the war early, but the Japanese people fortunately survived.



- 9 Radio intelligence report, 3.
- 10 "Radio Tokyo 12, 13 August 1945: Atomic Bomb," Headquarters Thirteenth Air Force Intelligence Summary: Southwest Pacific Area 39, August 14, 1945, [6].
- 11 "Raids on Japan," Headquarters Thirteenth Air Force Intelligence Summary: Southwest Pacific Area 39, August 14, 1945, [3].

Left: This is a captured Japanese aerial photo of the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, which triggered the United States' entry into World War II. While such photographs have been published extensively since 1945, they were kept strictly classified during hostilities, as the note above the photo reveals.

Pioneer Photographer's Personal Archive Donated

By Gary F. Kurutz

Through its friends Linda and Wayne Bonnett of the Windgate Press, the Library received a remarkable collection of medals, locket, photographs, newspapers, and other memorabilia documenting the career of famed pioneer photographer I. W. Taber and his daughter Louise Taber, a California historian. The Taber materials were in possession of Doris Cuneo Maslach and her brother Gordon Cuneo, children of Louise Taber's close friends Egisto and Ruth Cuneo. The Bonnett's learned of this treasure trove when researching their outstanding book, *Taber: A Photographic Legacy, 1870–1900*.^{*} Because of the Library's keen interest in Taber and association with the Windgate Press, Mrs. Maslach and Mr. Cuneo decided to donate the collection to the Library's California History Section.

Isaiah West Taber (1830–1912) created one of the finest pictorial records of California and the Far West in the last part of the nineteenth century. Operating out of San Francisco he amassed a huge inventory of negatives of over 30,000 scenic views and 100,000 portraits. A skilled photographer in his own right, he attracted the bon monde to his elegantly appointed studio. Visitors staying in such places as the Palace or Grand Hotels made it a point to stop by his nearby salon at 8 Montgomery Street to have their portraits made or to purchase handsome views and albums of Yosemite and the Big Trees, Monterey Peninsula, wineries, notable attractions in San Francisco and the Bay Area, and such exotic and remote locations as Hawaii and Alaska. In addition, the charismatic entrepreneur employed other "sun artists" and acquired and marketed the early glass negative collection of C. E. Watkins, California's most brilliant photographer. A remarkable showman and innovator, I. W. Taber became the official photographer of the 1894 Midwinter Fair in Golden Gate Park and traveled to London in 1897 to photograph the



Louise Taber reading a passage from a California history book for her popular radio program.



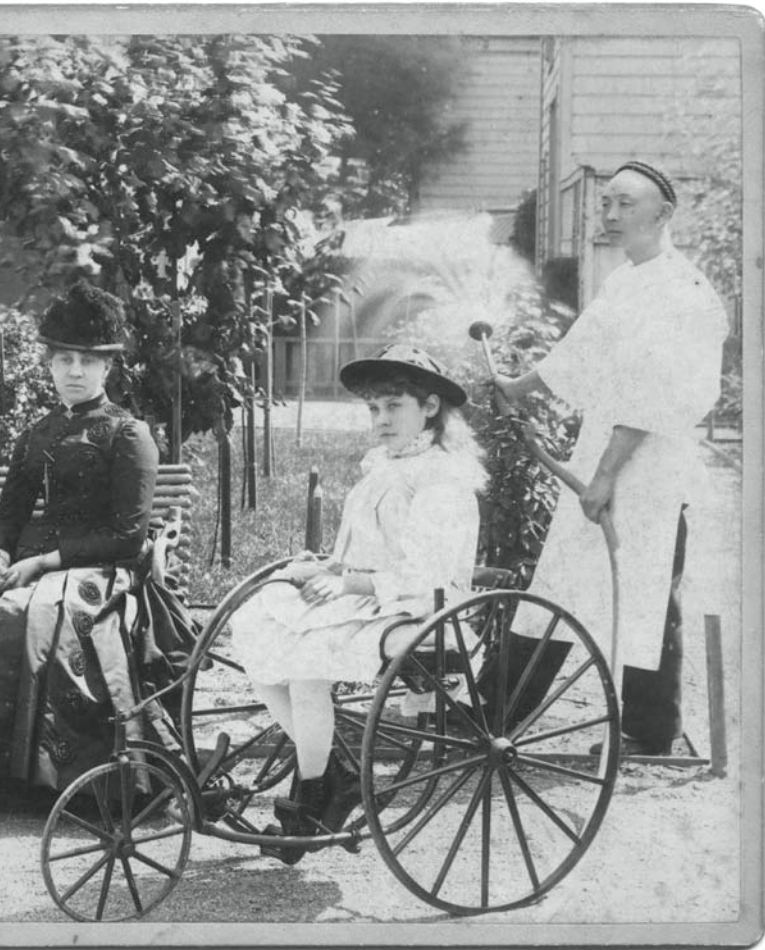
Gary F. Kurutz is curator of special collections for the State Library and executive director of the Foundation.

Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Queen Victoria. This represented a high honor for a California photographer. By the time the 1906 Earthquake and Fire struck, Taber had built the most successful photographic business in California. Tragically, the great holocaust destroyed his entire negative collection. Only days before the fire, Taber and the State Library were in contact concerning a significant donation. Sadly, Taber wrote the State Librarian that all had been lost.

Found in the Maslach-Cuneo gift are the actual medals that Taber won or received in recognition of his many accomplishments. That these survive demonstrate that these were among Taber's most prized and intimate possessions. Furthermore, since medals awarded to important nineteenth century California photographers are extremely rare they provide a most unusual source of documentation. The oldest is an 1871 silver medal awarded by the California Agricultural Society for the

best photograph. It is preserved in its original velvet presentation box. In 1880, Taber won the Gold Medal at the prestigious Mechanics Institute for best photographic display. The gold medal is protected by a leather over wood presentation box. International recognition came when he received the bronze medal at the Exposition Universelle in Paris in 1889. The heavy bronze award is preserved in its fitted leather pouch gold-stamped "E.U. 1889." Five years later when San Francisco hosted its first great fair, the Midwinter International Exposition, Taber set up a studio on the fair grounds and produced an impressive pictorial record of the event.** In recognition of his service, he received a gold medal with ribbon and bar. The sparkling award, preserved in its original box, features a golden eagle and grizzly bear surrounded by an ornate wreath.

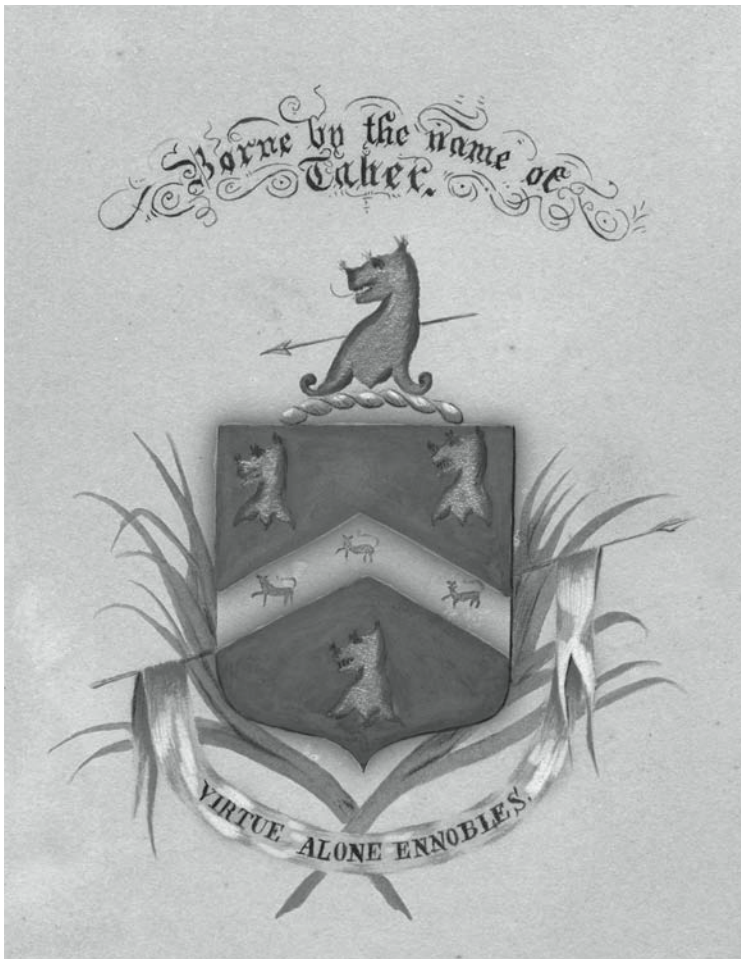
In addition to gaining worldwide recognition for his photography, Taber was a devoted family man blessed with a wife,



Left: The Taber family enjoy the pleasures of their Oakland backyard, circa 1884.

Right: A young Louise Taber posed for this glamorous portrait made at her father's studio.





The Taber family's coat-of-arms hand-painted by Taber himself.

Annie Slocum Taber, and two daughters, Daisy and Louise. All are represented by striking formal photographic portraits and more playful scenes at the various Taber homes in Oakland and San Francisco. Fortunately, the last Taber family home at 1715 McAllister Street containing these precious images escaped the flames of 1906. Two small cased photographs, one of his Annie and another of an infant daughter, may have been carried in the famed photographer's own pockets. Two formal studio portraits of Taber himself were actually taken by other photographers sometime in the 1890s. Both show him to be a handsome and elegant man. One other item of note is the Taber coat of arms painted by Taber himself. When in England to photograph Queen Victoria, he found the family coat of arms and created this version. It hung in the family home on McAllister Street. Taber also used the coat of arms for his logotype on the back of his commercial views.

Daughter Louise Eddy Taber (1883–1946) took an interest in the historic record of her father's profession and developed her own career as a writer and historian. Judging by her dramatic portraits, she exuded flamboyance. No doubt, the many fascinating personalities her father encountered imbued her with a sense of San Francisco's storied past. His travels too gave her an unusual and rich perspective. In 1926, she published her first novel, *The Flame*,

“an intense story of Love, Intrigue and Music” set in the “Magic City beside the Golden Gate.” The City's many colorful characters and events led her to write newspaper articles about the “old days.” This in turn led Louise to read her stories over the radio on Station KYA in the 1930s. Her engaging style and compelling subject matter attracted a wide listening audience. The scripts for these triweekly radio programs were later published in booklet form and sold by subscription under the titles of *California Gold Rush Days* and *The Mother Lode County*. She became known as the “historian of the air waves.” Publicity stills and advertisements for her radio programs and publications form part of this gift.

Louise Taber had one other passion: the opera. According to the Bonnett book, she developed an interest in the opera and opera performers while in her teens. Over the years, she met a number of the leading stars and wrote articles about operatic productions. Consequently, the Maslach-Cuneo Collection includes dozens of photographs of performers and various programs. Late in life, she also managed the San Francisco Community Opera Company.

This magnificent and noteworthy gift will be processed and made available for research in the Library's California History Room. Dan Flanagan of the Library's Preservation Office has constructed a beautiful box to house and protect the medals and lockets. ❀

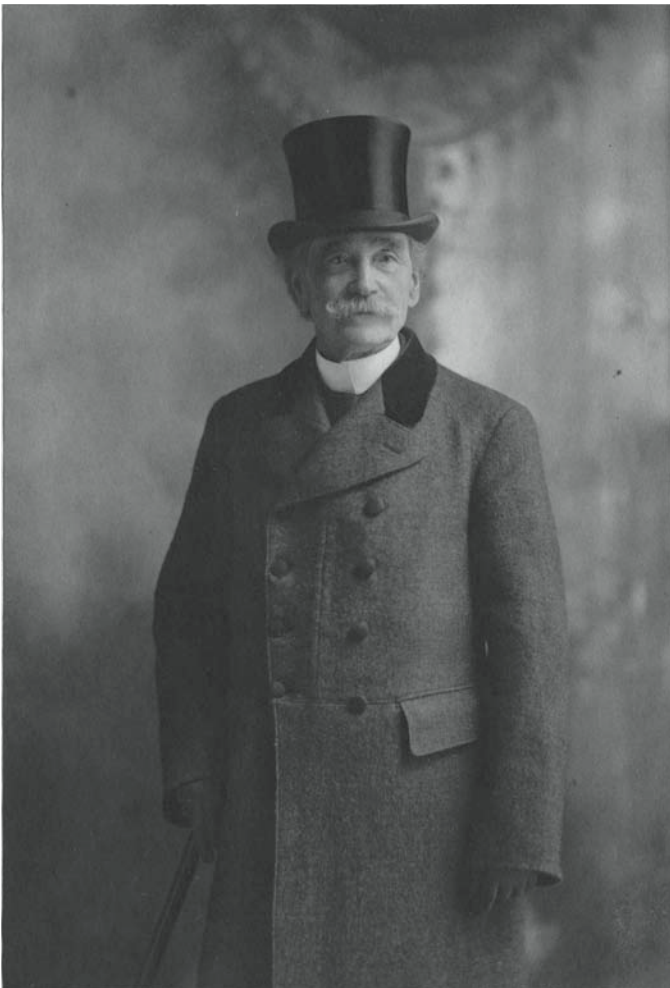


FOOTNOTES

- * *Taber: A Photographic Legacy* was published in 2004 and is illustrated throughout from photographs primarily from the Library's California History Room and Sutro Library. The handsome book also features many images from the Maslach-Cuneo Collection. It is available for purchase through the Foundation. The price is \$45 plus tax and shipping.
- ** Foundation Board Member Mead B. Kibbey donated to the Library a spectacular large folio volume of Taber's Midwinter Fair photographs. It is embellished with over eighty pages of original photographs pasted on the leaves, several of which are large format in size.



Front and back of the beautiful gold medal I. W. Taber won at the San Francisco Mechanic's Institute Industrial Exhibition in 1880 for “Best general display of photographs.”



Top left: A pensive I.W. Taber posed for this striking studio portrait sometime in the late 1890s.

Top right: "Louise and her first love." Taber made this portrait of his daughter with the family pet.

Bottom left: A distinguished looking I. W. Taber posed for this studio photograph in c. 1897.

Bottom right: Gold medal presented to Taber in recognition of his service at the 1894 California Midwinter International Exposition held in Golden Gate Park.

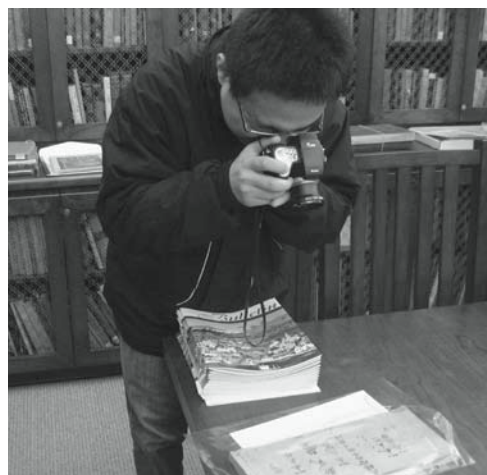


Foundation Notes

A Biblio-Baedeker: Tours of the State Library

In an ongoing effort to increase the visibility of the State Library and its special collections, board members and staff have hosted a number of tours and talks in recent weeks. On January 22, a group of eighteen Chinese business students who are taxation officials with the Hubei Province Local Taxation Bureau came to the Library. All spoke flawless English. The group is studying U.S. taxation systems and policy in the Business Administration program of Sacramento State University. Carla Vincent of the university's School of Continuing Education served as the students' liaison with the Library. Special Collections Curator Gary Kurutz and Foundation Board Member Mead Kibbey gave them a tour of the exhibit gallery, the California History Room, and the Preservation Office. In particular, the group wanted to see documentation on the Chinese experience in California. Kurutz selected a number of treasures to show the students, including a recently acquired collection of manuscripts, photographs, and artifacts from Chinese businesses in the Sierra and Nevada counties area. In addition, the attentive and enthusiastic students saw a rare, beautifully bound Chinese cookbook printed in San Francisco and the Library's famous daguerreotype documenting a group of Chinese miners in the gold fields near Auburn Ravine. As one impressed student put it, "We are the new gold rush."

A week later, Mr. Kibbey brought to the Library, the Sacramento Rotary Club's "Brown Bag Lunch." The lunch itself was held on the fifth floor break room of the Library & Courts II Building. The room has striking views of the State Capitol dome and downtown. Following lunch, the group received a fascinating tour of the Braille & Talking Book Library given by Mike Marlin, the manager of the department. Thereafter, the group climbed the stairs to the second floor and Mr. Kurutz continued the tour by highlighting Library treasures. In addition to such



One of the students photographing a 19th century Chinese California document purchased with the assistance of Mead Kibbey and the Foundation.

Chinese business students from Hubei Province enjoy the treasures of the Library's California History Section.



Sing Tan

English and Chinese Court house Language Book

歲次丙戌年此部唐番字話為衙門
通約之言用心畫出不用硬言是有話有
市字示字在于話中須用吹氣直出又見一
見字讀曰之邑之音見有打字加口一音唐
人之後言英國之話亦須讀番字有音如
不讀者講英中音小墨畧說

English and Chinese Language

No 1

Win	外
云	
Loat	輸
買	
Outset	初做事
斗 瓦	
W. idence	憑 君
份 示	affidavit 不認
See to money	口 供
科 欠 久 尔	
Post. poned	退 遲
請 示 告	
Prain. tiff	原 告
不 連 不 付	
De. fend. ant	被 告
尔 寬 款	
in. tend	欲 想
典 干	
Proce. p.	見 証
著 罗	
Fin. ed.	罰 了
罰 尔	
Bail	担 保
詳 見	
ar. rest	拿 住
臣 者 平	
ap. pear	現 出
西 至 了	
en. gage	請 狀
典 日 治	
tried	審 過
試 禮	
trial	審 事
又 見	
Judge	官 府
詳 見	

Chinese and English language book used in a California court house. This manuscript was viewed by the Chinese students visiting the Library.

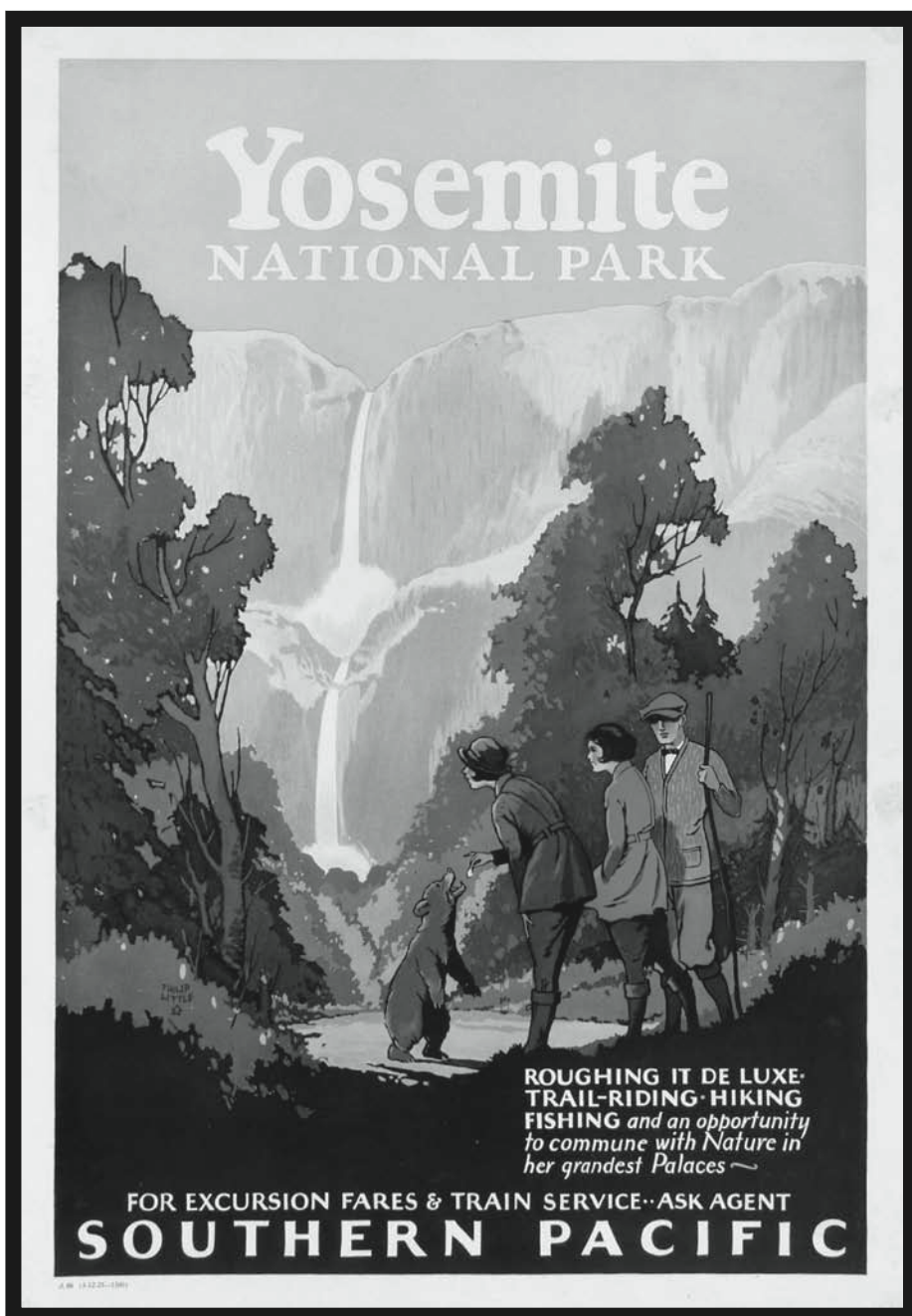
documents as a map of California as an island from 1666 and Marshall's hand-drawn map of the gold discovery site, Kurutz brought out a number of early business documents pertaining to Sacramento including the first city directory from 1851, the first account book of the Buffalo Brewery Company, and the manuscript bylaws of Breuner's Furniture Company. Mr. Kibbey added his own knowledgeable commentary. Many participants purchased a copy of the facsimile editions of the 1851 and 1853-54 business directories edited and annotated by Mr. Kibbey and published by the Foundation.

On February 14, Board Member Thomas Stallard led a group of thirty-five participants of "Leadership Sacramento" to the Library & Courts Building for a guided architectural tour and presentation on Library treasures. The Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce sponsors the leadership program and puts on an annual history day consisting of tours to local museums. Members enjoyed learning the story behind the Library & Courts Building that stands as one of the most beautiful buildings in all of Sacramento. Following this, the group assembled in the former Circulation Room on the third floor and where Kurutz told stories about the books and documents he brought to the room including one of the finest copies of the Nuremberg Chronicle (1493), a hand-colored book on tropical birds from the 1830s illustrated by Edward Lear, and the first newspaper carried across the continent by the Pony Express in 1860. According to Mr. Stallard, the visit to the Library was the highlight of the day-long program. Participants received a copy of the Foundation Bulletin.

On the evening of February 21, over eighty students from Roger Vail's Sacramento State University class on photographic methods visited the Library's California History Room. There students were given an overview of early photographic technologies by Mr. Kurutz. The session gave

the attentive students a chance to see up close actual daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, tintypes, stereographs, albumen mammoth plates from the 1870s along the Columbia River, glass orotones of Yosemite, and a glass autochrome from around 1905. The latter is the first successful form of color photography.

On the weekend of March 7-8, the California-Nevada Chapter of the Oregon and California Trails Association (OCTA) came to the Library to see materials related to overland trails. The Chapter was in Sacramento for its annual spring symposium. Since



Yosemite National Park by Little depicts a friendly bruin engaged with the tourists.

2002, the Library's California History Section has received donations to the Western Overland Trails Collection which was established by OCTA members. On Friday afternoon and evening Mr. Kurutz, ably assisted by Dan Flanagan of the Preservation Office, gave three tours in the California History Room. Over seventy members came and saw such remarkable items as manuscript trail journals and diaries from the Gold Rush, the geography book John Bidwell brought with him across the continent in 1841, an 1845 account book of Sutter's Fort main-

tained by pioneer P. B. Reading, overland trail guidebooks and maps from the 1840s and 1850s, and a selection of Gold Rush era daguerreotypes, prints, and drawings. All were impressed by the richness of the Library's holdings. The following day, Mr. Kurutz gave a well received talk to the general membership on the helter-skelter days of Sacramento during the Gold Rush.

Tours of special collections will be given in the late spring to the Art Deco Society of Sacramento, Sacramento County Historical Society, and California Historical Society. ❁

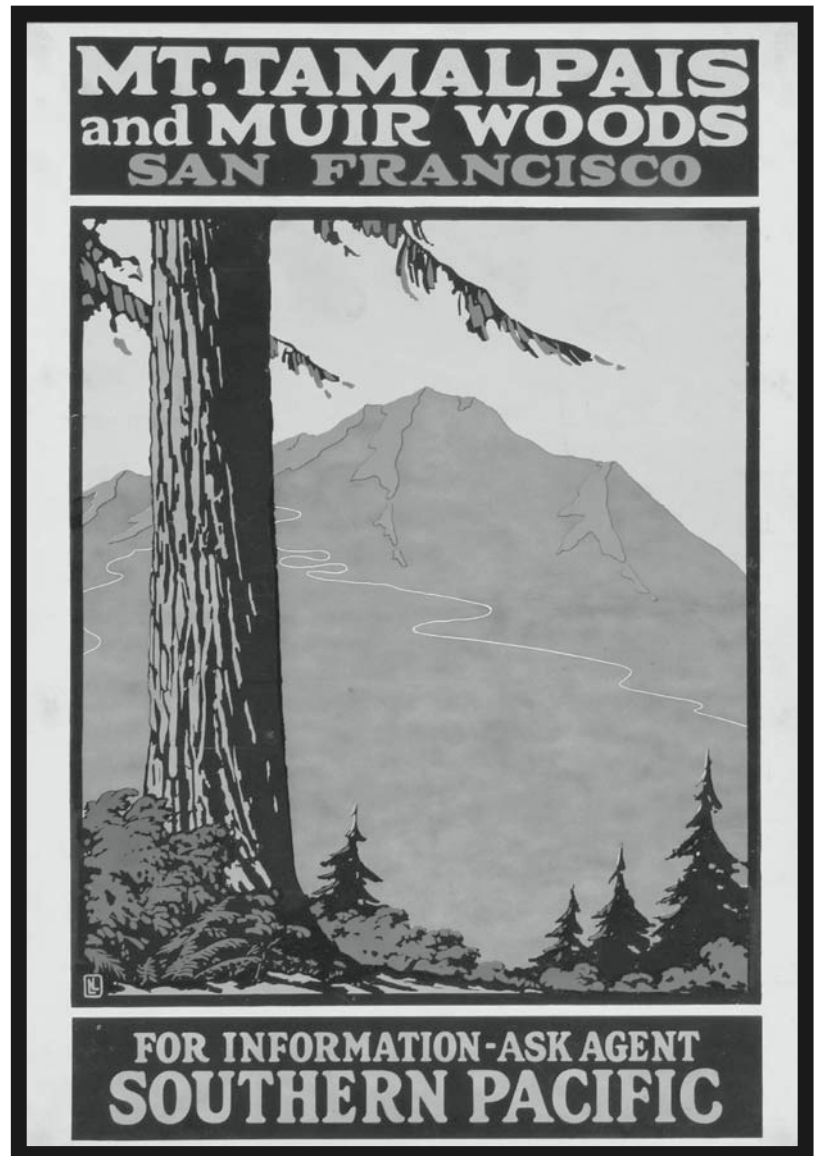
Spectacular Vintage California Travel Posters Acquired

The California History Section of the State Library with the assistance of the Foundation recently acquired an extraordinary collection of seven full-color Southern Pacific Railroad advertising posters from the 1920s inviting visitors to the Golden State. That roaring decade represented a golden age when tourists traveled in style in trains that provided every luxury. To attract customers, the Southern Pacific hired talented commercial artists and graphic designers to produce posters promoting the scenic wonders of California. These posters helped establish once remote California as a tourist destination easily accessible to the snowbound and humidity-plagued pleasure seekers from the eastern United States. All are superb examples of the commercial art that flourished during that prosperous decade.

Yosemite National Park, of course, represented the most famous tourist destination. A 1925 poster advertised the great granite chasm as a place for "Roughing It De Luxe" and an opportunity "to commune with Nature in her grandest Palaces." With Yosemite Falls as a background, artist Philip Little depicted three hikers feeding a smiling bear cub. Today, such a scene would never be depicted.

Noted California landscape artist Maurice Logan captured four nattily attired golfers enjoying the enchanting setting of the links at the Hotel Del Monte and Monterey Peninsula. Another poster by Logan shows a group of sightseers soaking up the beguiling scenery on the shores of Lake Tahoe. Logan was a prominent member of the Society of Six, a group of artists who espoused bright colors, a sense of region, and an Impressionist style. The Library has other examples of Logan's poster work as well as many travel brochures that he illustrated for railroad companies and tourist bureaus.

In close proximity to urban San Francisco, Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods represented an inviting destination for visitors.

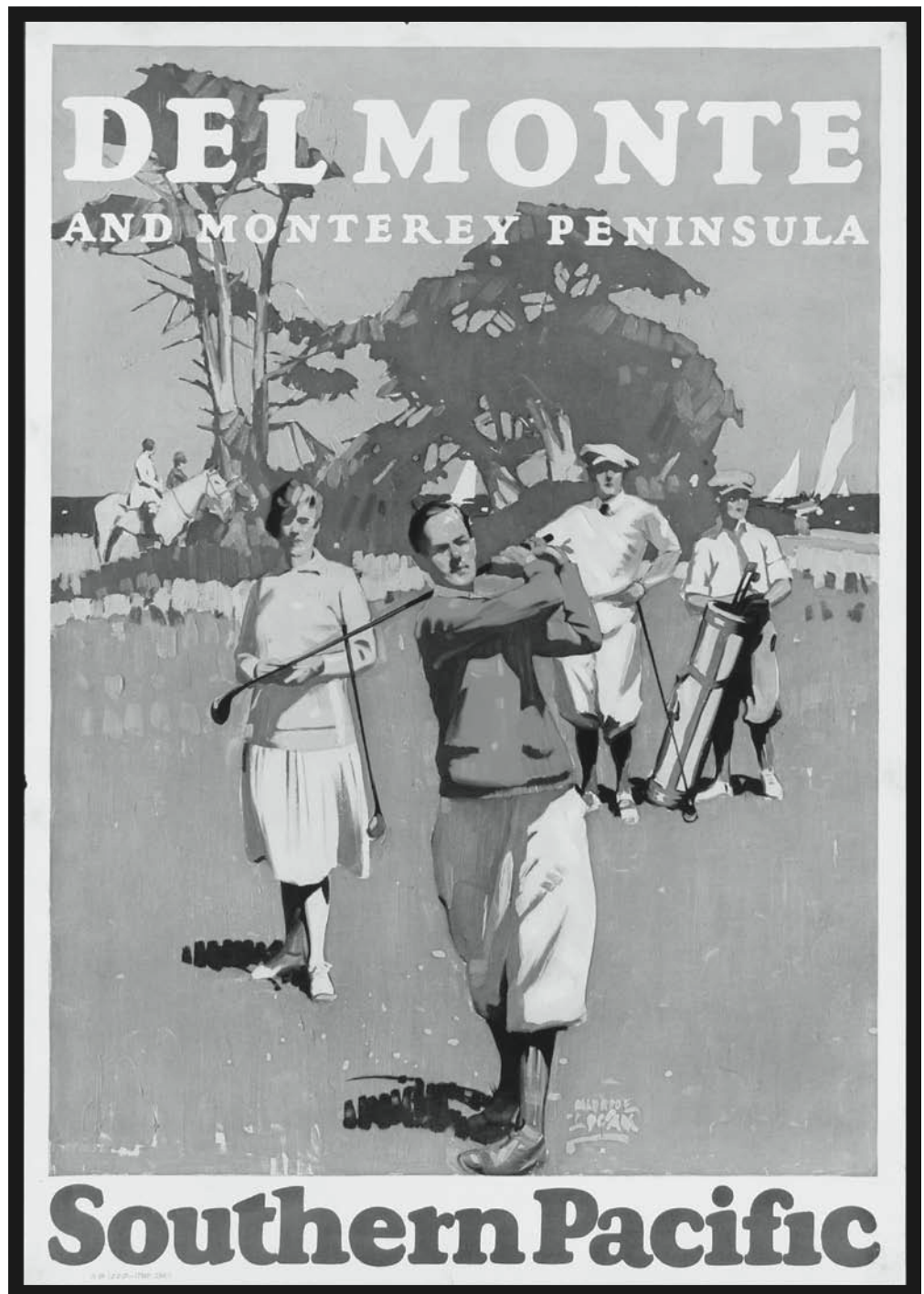


The other newly acquired posters feature Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods, California beaches, and the delights of Paso Robles Inn in San Luis Obispo. One poster, however, made ample use of words rather than relying entirely on the image. Entitled "The New Sunset Ltd on the Sunset Route," it touts the many amenities found on the luxury train that took passengers from the Crescent City of New Orleans to San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Printed in 1924, the poster shows a gorgeous Spanish mission style train station at sunset while at the same time promoting the Southern Pacific's club and observation car, ladies' lounge, and safe, steel sleeping cars. The New Sunset Ltd included valets, barbers, and maids. Interestingly, the railroad company proudly proclaimed that its train caused "No Smoke, No Cinders, No Dust." It was California's version of the Orient Express.

Today, vintage California posters rarely become available even though they were printed by the thousands. Tacked or pasted to walls, they were tossed when out of date and, consequently, few survive in good condition. In fact, vintage California travel and event posters are extraordinarily rare compared with those designed to promote tourist travel to Europe. These new additions will be digitized and made available for viewing on the Library's online Picture Catalog. In short order, reproductions will be available for sale via our electronic store, Zazzle.com.

This acquisition builds upon the California History Section's

outstanding collection of historic posters. Subjects range from the 1933 California State Fair to the 1897 Los Angeles Fiesta to the opening of the Yolo Causeway in 1916. A recent two-part keepsake on California travel posters published by The Book Club of California and authored by Victoria Dailey and Steve Turner reproduced a number of examples from the Library's collection. Many of these may be seen via the Library's online Picture Catalog or an exhibit found on the California State Library Foundation's web site at www.cslfdn.org. ☘



The Monterey Peninsula with its spectacular scenery, luxurious hotels, and beautiful golf courses attracted the beau monde. Maurice Logan was the artist for this poster.

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continued on next page

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