Sen. Vandenberg Papers

The Library has received the first shipment of Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg's papers, sent by his son in Florida. In his will the late senator suggested that if his children had no other plans for his papers he would like to see them deposited in the Clements Library.

The shipment consists of twenty-two scrapbooks, one for each year of his senatorial career, made up of newspaper and Congressional Record clippings, plus occasional letters, that chronicle Mr. Vandenberg's numerous activities and speeches. What gives them particular value is that every few months Senator Vandenberg typed out a commentary on what had taken place, where he had been misquoted, his private opinions, the inside news behind the news, etc. Consequently it is as if a biographer had sat down with the senator, reviewed his actions, and obtained his personal views on them.

The scrapbooks have been placed on public view in the west alcove. The late Mrs. Vandenberg left her dozen diaries to the Library under a ten-year seal. That time now having expired, they have been placed with her husband's scrapbooks.

Still to come from Arthur H. Vandenberg, Jr., is some loose correspondence and diaries, and papers relating to the senator's newspaper career in Grand Rapids.

The acquisition has stirred immediate interest, among political scientists, historians, and would-be biographers. The years covered by Senator Vandenberg's career, 1928-1950, involve significant changes in government and in our world position.


The annual Assembly of the Clements Library Associates and their friends has been set for Friday night, October 4. Please mark the date now. The Library's director, Howard H. Peckham, will speak on the opening of a special exhibition of Chief Pontiac's uprising in 1763, of which this is the bicentennial. The following day is a home football game with Navy.

Something Unique

Once in a great while a genuine "unknown" book comes along—not in any bibliography, no references to it, no other copies known. Such a book is Description de la Carolin(e) (Geneva 1684-85). Despite a price commensurate with its uniqueness, the Associates' Board of Governors decided that this was a book they should provide for the Library.

The first 33 pages are a French translation, rather free, of Samuel Wilson's Account of the Province of Carolina, published in London, 1682, a scarce book worth more than $1000 itself, which we own. The remaining 84 pages in our French work contain more recent information about the advantages of living and working in what is South Carolina.

Why such a book in French? Clearly it was meant for the French-speaking Swiss, and a few years later New Berne in North Carolina was settled. But the more likely audience was the French Huguenots (Protestants) in France itself. Louis XIV had grown more suspicious and intolerant of the Protestants and encouraged persecution and harassment. The "dragonnades" were open attacks on all Catholic heresies in these years, culminating in 1685 in the revocation of the edict of Nantes. Exercise of the reformed religion in France was forbidden, all children were to be educated in the Catholic faith, and emigration of dissenters was prohibited. Nevertheless, more than 50,000 families, including some of France's best brains, escaped from the country to settle elsewhere.

This is the beginning of the Huguenot settlement in South Carolina of such family names as Huger, Horry, Legaré, Porcher, Marion, etc. The only Huguenot church in America is in Charleston. No doubt this book influenced some Huguenots to try their fortunes in South Carolina. Copies were probably destroyed too. Our copy is in its original paper wrappers, untrimmed. We count it a real coup, the kind of acquisition that confers prestige and significance on the Library.
happy to display our best titles and most dramatic manuscripts and maps.

Staff members opened cases to show anything the members wished to see. A Xerox reproduction of a rare pamphlet of ours, courtesy of University Microfilms, Inc., was given to the visitors as a keepsake. Coffee was served to the group before they moved on to the Henry Ford Museum for luncheon.

Local members of the Grolier Club are John W. Edwards, Eugene Power, and Mr. Peckham. Renville Wheat, of the Committee of Management and a Detroit member, came out to add to the host strength.

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Stuart S. Wall
With great regret we must record the passing of Associate Stuart S. Wall on June 3. Former vice president and general counsel for the Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Co. of Toledo, Mr. Wall, 146, joined the Clements Library Associates in 1948 shortly after they were organized. He remained a faithful and interested member. In 1962 he was appointed by the Board of Regents to the Associates’ Board of Governors, but had served only about one year. His interests were broad, and he was unselfish in the time he gave to educational, medical, and fraternal affairs outside his professional activities. Board members feel that they have lost a colleague who was becoming increasingly useful in the Library’s development.

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Detroit Bicentennial
The director of the Library delivered the annual Lewis Cass Lecture before the Detroit Historical Society on April 29. It dealt with life in Detroit under Pontiac’s siege in 1769 and coincided with a splendid exhibition at the Detroit Historical Museum commemorating the bicentennial of this event in Detroit’s history. Later the director represented the Library at a reception given by the British consul general in Detroit to mark the precise anniversary of the beginning of the siege, May 7, and the victorious British defense of the fort.

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Grolier Club Visit
The Library was honored on May 3 by a visit of Grolier Club members making a tour of the Ohio Valley. Nearly fifty of these bibliophiles, with headquarters in New York, arrived for a general inspection of the Library and its special exhibition of choicest rarities, and of the University Library’s rare book room. Since these visitors recognized what they were viewing and had the most discriminating appreciation of our treasures, we were
John Locke

John Locke, English philosopher who had an advanced theory of political democracy, contributed to American thought the doctrine of natural rights. He argued that life, liberty, and property were inalienable rights, and that government should promote the happiness and security of individuals. If those ideas sound familiar to you, it is because the Revolutionary generation adopted them in their quarrel with the British Parliament.

Locke also believed in the social contract: that people delegated power to their government and hence could take it away, as in a revolution. This also made him popular with American rebels. All these ideas are found in his notable Essay Concerning Humane Understanding (London 1690). The proprietors of Carolina employed him to embody his political philosophy in a constitution for the new colony. The book is one the Library has long wanted; the Board of Governors bid on a copy at auction last fall and lost it, so they did not hesitate to pick up another copy that has just been offered (at less than the auction price).

Three More Purchases

After the Associates' successful appeal for extra funds last winter to purchase the correspondence of Sir Henry Clinton with the Duke of Gloucester, our goal was exceeded by $900. This money the Associates' Board has hung on to with a view to using it for something additional that seemed appropriate to the original purpose. One of the books the Board purchased at its meeting on June 7 was a rare edition of a reply to Sir Henry Clinton’s explanation of the defeat at Yorktown.

Two Other Books

Two other books were purchased, besides those separately noticed in these columns. One dealt with Aaron Burr's trial for treason in 1807. It took place before Chief Justice John Marshall. The Library had always lacked the New York edition, 1783, of the Reply to Sir Henry Clinton's Narrative. Now that a copy was available, the Board of Governors acted, devoting $300 of the $900 balance to this item because it is part of the Clinton story which is found so fully here.

Two other books were purchased, besides those separately noticed in these columns. One dealt with Aaron Burr’s trial for treason in 1807. It took place before Chief Justice John Marshall.

Two Principal Arguments of William Wirt (Richmond 1808) were the case for the prosecution. Wirt argued forcefully against the defendant’s claim that because he was not present on Blennerhassett Island when men assembled to “levy war” against the United States, he could not be deemed guilty of treason, however much he had advised or planned the assemblage. Justice Marshall ruled for the defense, adopting a narrow view of what constitutes treason. Wirt then argued for committing Burr to Kentucky to stand trial there, but the defense declared that treason has no locality and acquittal in one court (Virginia) meant acquittal in all courts. Again Marshall agreed with the defense, and Burr went free in a controversial and even politically suspect opinion. Wirt added to his arguments for publication and they are not well known.

The other book was William Smith’s A Brief History of the Rise and Progress of a Charitable Scheme (Philadelphia 1755), which refers to a society formed in England recently for “the relief and instruction of poor Germans settled in Pennsylvania.” As secretary of the trustees of the society, Provost Smith, of the future University of Pennsylvania, felt it politically advisable to assimilate the Germans through religion and education in German and English, for fear the French might attract them into modern Ohio. He solicited further funds in Pennsylvania. The pamphlet carries added value because it was printed by Franklin and Hall.

Secretary, Clements Library Associates

The University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

... Count me as an Associate. Here is my contribution ($5 minimum) for 1964. As a bonus I shall receive a reproduction copy of the Columbus Letter (1493) in Latin and English. (over)
Wagner-Camp bibliography of western books which Mr. Shearer has been acquiring for the Library. Harmon was a fur trader and partner in the North West Company who spent nineteen years among the Indians west of Lake Superior. He met several explorers of western Canada and John Tanner, the Indian captive who returned to civilization at Mackinac Island. The trick is to find the book with the halftitle, the portrait, the folding map, and the errata leaf; this copy has them. Walter O'Meara's novel *The Grand Portage* relates to Harmon.

James Schoff of New York, of Pennsylvania Dutch origin, was attracted to the *Chronicon Ephratense* (Ephrata, Pa., 1786), a history of the German community of Seventh Day Baptists (or Dunkards) who settled at Ephrata in 1735. The chronicle was begun by Brother Lamech and finished by John Peter Miller, the minister and head of the community. It was printed by their own press. Both the community and the press were important in early Pennsylvania. Although Dunkards no longer live in a communal group, the buildings of this first community remain a state memorial today. More than a century passed before an English translation of the *Chronicon* was attempted, and it does not have the historical standing or accuracy of the original source book.

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A Blaze of Color

In response to our note in the last Quarto, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Vawter II of Benton Harbor promptly offered us a large and splendid oriental rug, measuring 11' 4" by 17' 6". Although it does not fit in either alcove, it makes a striking pattern at the front door entrance, extending back between the exhibition cases. The Library is grateful to the Vawters for this generous gift. Mr. Vawter is the donor (twenty years ago) of our remarkable Theodore Roosevelt collection.

We still can use two more orientals in the alcoves of about 12 by 15 feet.

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Founder's Day

About 150 friends of the Library observed Founder's Day on April 1 and heard an eloquent address by Assistant Professor Charles R. O'Donnell on the Puritan and materialistic themes in our culture that survive in modern fiction. An exhibition of Associates' gifts and purchases was on display, and refreshments were served.

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Associates' Gift Book

Associates have received the 1963 gift book from the Library. It is a group of Revolutionary War letters by a Benjamin West of Massachusetts who traveled down to South Carolina to tutor the children of a planter and who joined the local militia, was captured by the British, and released. His observations of towns and manners in the several colonies are most interesting and revealing. The half-dozen descriptive letters were presented to the Library a couple of years ago by Associate James S. Schoff of New York on whom we prevailed to edit them for this publication, *Life in the South 1777-1779*.

Extra copies are available at two dollars each.

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To Err is Human

Since we are sensitive to typographical errors, we rejoiced to find recently that this is an ancient problem in printing. Equally sensitive authors and editors have been troubled by this kind of error and have sought to explain it by every excuse from learned apology to casual acceptance. Our Mrs. Haugh has turned up the following notes in some of our books:

From *Jus Divinum Regiminis Ecclesiastici: or The Divine Right of Church-government...* (London, 1646): “Kinde reader, The authors of this book being by multiplicity of imployments detained from meeting together to revise the whole before the impression was finished, the Errata swell to a greater number then may stand with the credit of the book, but if thou pleasest before the reading of it, with thy pen to correct these ensuing, we hope it will tend the more to thy satisfaction.”

From: *Sermons on the Moral Law.* (Hartford, 1795): “The greater part of this volume was printed at a distance from the author’s residence, and he had no opportunity to inspect the press. Several typographical errors are observable, which the candid reader is requested to correct:...”

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