Board of Governors
The Associates' Board of Governors met on May 22, in the afternoon after our notable Commencement at which President Johnson addressed the graduates. Board member Roscoe Bonisteel received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, an event that brought about special action in the Board meeting, as will be seen in another column.

Formal announcement was made of a handsome gift to the Associates' fund from Mrs. Stuart S. Wall of Toledo in memory of her husband, a former governor. Use of part of this fund was authorized, as indicated elsewhere in this Quarto.

Acknowledgment was made of two other gifts to the Library, from Associate Leo Norville of Chicago and from The George Foundation, Detroit, to finance the purchase of a collection of British cartoons of the Revolutionary period. A residue of $2,000 from the foundation gift remains in the hands of the Board as a "reserve fund."

The Board discussed aspects of the Library's collecting policy in the field of manuscripts. Questions were raised and discussion will be continued at the next Board meeting. The date of that meeting is November 6, before an evening assembly of the Associates and guests to open an exhibition marking the sesquicentennial of the War of 1812, at which Prof. Bradford Perkins will speak on events leading to the Treaty of Peace.

In authorizing purchases the Board made use for the first time of interest on the Directors Fund, established in memory of Dr. Adams.

Membership stands at 557, including 54 wives enrolled with their husbands. The fiscal year continues until September 30.

Royal Gazette
After the British captured Charleston, S.C., in May 1780, they held on to it until December 1782. Royal government was in force locally. A Tory newspaper, The Royal Gazette, was started on March 3, 1781, by Robert and John Wells; John was the printer, and Robert, formerly of Charleston, was living in England. It limped along for more than a year, coming out twice a week, but only one issue is known after the end of July 1782. The printer naturally decamped in December 1782 when the city was evacuated by the British.

The paper is extremely rare. The Charleston Library Society has a complete run, and the Library of Congress has an almost complete one. Other libraries have only scattered issues. The third best run, 74 issues, is now in the Clements Library, thanks to the Associates' Board. Ours begins with the first issue and runs through June 5, 1782, with a gap in the fall of 1781. It is full of war news and military proclamations and false hopes of British victory. It strengthens the Library in southern newspapers of the Revolution, where we were especially weak.

From the Directors Fund
Two books were purchased by the Board of Governors from accumulated income of the Directors Fund. This is the fund established by the Board in 1962 as an endowment to honor the first Library Director, Dr. Randolph G. Adams. Contributions are still welcome. A bookplate is being printed to mark the books purchased from the interest on this fund, now used for the first time.

One title is a book we should have had. The colonial under-secretary William Knox (whose papers we have) and George Grenville wrote in 1769 The Controversy Between Great-Britain and Her Colonies Reviewed. We have it, as well as a reply it provoked. We did not know until recently that Arthur Lee, a colonial agent in London, wrote another reply, anonymously. In his Observations on the Review of the Controversy between Great-Britain and Her Colonies (London 1769) he argued that the authors of the first booklet reviewed only part of the controversy and therefore came to the wrong conclusions. He traces the chain of reasoning by which the colonies arrived at a position of defiance of Parliament. In all the polemical literature preceding the Revolution, it is surprising that we had never acquired this title. We are sure Dr. Adams would have grabbed it.

The other booklet is a sermon, the Rev. William Boyd's God's Way the Best Way (Boston 1719). Boyd was a Presbyterian minister
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in Ireland who was sent to New England to gain permission for a colony of Presbyterians to settle. The Puritans of Massachusetts received him hospitably and although they did not welcome dissenters, were agreeable to having a group of pious, sober, industrious people come. Before leaving America, Boyd preached this sermon in Boston; when it was printed the Rev. Increase Mather contributed an approving preface. The author of the sketch of Boyd in the Dictionary of National Biography did not mention its existence. Only three other institutions were found to have copies.

A group of Presbyterians did come from Londonderry, Ireland, and founded Londonderry, New Hampshire. The woodcuts in the pamphlet are early and especially clear.

South Carolina Justified

The early colonists along the southeastern seaboard found themselves struggling not only against the forces of nature in a strange land and the Indians, but also against threats from rival colonies. From 1670, when the English colonists founded Charleston in South Carolina, to 1768, when Spain ceded Florida to the British, the story was one of repeated alarms and excursions by one side or the other.

In 1740 the doughty General Oglethorpe, one-man genius in establishing Georgia, mounted a preventive expedition against the Spanish fort of St. Augustine. For several reasons his limited forces were not successful, one factor being the poor performance of the South Carolina militia. In the disappointment and letdown that followed the high hopes, recriminations followed. To refurbish its escutcheon the South Carolina Assembly appointed a committee, in the best investigative fashion, to get at the facts. Not surprisingly the committee exonerated and commended the state's troops and harshly criticized the general from Georgia. A pamphlet war ensued. Oglethorpe brought some of his own guns to bear; he had had prepared an “anonymous” account of the expedition before the South Carolina Assembly reported, and two other essays appeared after that publication. These four titles will be displayed in an exhibition next year celebrating the 400th anniversary of the founding of St. Augustine.

The Report of the Committee of Both Houses of Assembly of the Province of South-Carolina was first printed in Charleston in 1742, but only one copy is known today. It was then reprinted in London in 1743, and four other copies are known besides the one we have just acquired. The Associates’ Board made the purchase from a fund provided by Mrs. Stuart S. Wall of Toledo in memory of her husband, a former member of the Board. The book will be so marked. Other exceptional titles will be purchased in the future from the same fund as part of a Library memorial.

Founder’s Day

Founder’s Day was observed on April 1 with tea and a fascinating talk by Assistant Professor William S. Hanna of the history department. Gifts from Associates and friends were on exhibition. About 130 guests helped mark the day.

Ordinances of 1784 and 1785

One of the questions before the new Congress of the United States was the orderly handling of the “western lands.” A number of legislative actions resulted from consideration of the problems. The best known of these was the “Ordinance of 1787,” providing for the government of the territory. A printed copy of this Northwest Ordinance came to the Library with Mr. Clements’ collection.

This important act was preceded by committee reports and Congressional resolutions in 1784 and 1785, carefully setting down principles in regard to the disposition of the land, culminating in the “Land Ordinance of 1785.” The Clements Library Associates purchased in 1952 a
supplement to this ordinance, issued in 1788. Now a printing of the ordinance itself has come our way.

The four-page leaflet contains two of the official declarations. The first dated April 29, 1784 is a Resolution, and the second reads: “May 24, 1785. An ordinance for ascertaining the mode of disposing of lands in the western territory.” This particular piece thus combines the Ordinance of 1784 and the Ordinance of 1785. This is the final form of the land ordinance of which John Dunlap, the official printer for the Continental Congress, issued 500 copies in New York in 1785. Our example, printed in Hartford by Hudson and Goodwin, is equally scarce. There are copies in the Library of Congress and the Connecticut Historical Society.

This enactment and the deliberations which led up to it established the pattern for the public land system of the U.S.

The circumstances of its acquisition are equally interesting. The Board of Governors of the Associates met on May 22 after the Commencement exercises at which Roscoe O. Bonisteel received the honorary degree Doctor of Laws. In tribute to him the other governors present—Messrs. Schoff, Scott, Shafroth, Shearer, Watkins, and Wheat—contributed to purchase the land ordinances for the Library. It was a splendid gesture, making the gift more valuable than ever.

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Educational Card Game

Recently the library acquired what appears to be an early American educational game. It consists of forty-six printed cards, and at first glance looks like a well-used bridge deck. On each card is printed the name of a country, or in the case of the United States, of a state or territory. Included in the information on each area is the geographical location, extent, boundaries, population, and principle cities. Although no dates are given on the cards, the population figures are from the census of 1800. As a method of teaching geography the game is early and unique.

The population of Michigan in 1800 was 3,206, the figure used on the card which is headed “Michigan Territory.” Michigan was granted territorial status in 1805, and its population in the 1810 census was 4,762. So with a bit of elementary sleuthing, we have assigned a date of 1809 to the deck. The printing on the cards is extremely interesting, with no less than eight different borders of typographical ornaments being combined in different ways.

The acquisition has fostered a certain amount of gaming fever among the staff of the library, especially with the advent of humid weather in Ann Arbor. Our tea breaks in the afternoon have become interesting, to say the least... Whist, anyone?

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Satire in Pictures

Early this year the Library was offered a collection of some fifty-five British cartoons gathered in Europe last fall and brought over by a New York dealer. They relate almost entirely to the Revolutionary period, starting with the Stamp Act and running through the war, the failure of peace overtures, the treaty and its aftermath. A handful jibe at our embargo difficulties and our performance in the War of 1812. Some are handcolored; others are in black and white. Better than critical pamphlets, perhaps, they demonstrate reaction in Britain to government policies. Some are favorable and some ridicule the unsuccessful efforts to conciliate or subdue the Americans. From them we gain some idea of how the Revolution appeared to the English man-in-the-street.

Such cartoons are scarce and expensive. The Library had only a handful to begin with. Occasional ones run $300 to $500. Still we were unwilling to give up this collection without an effort. An appeal to Associate Leo Norville of Chicago brought a generous check that served as a challenge. Then Associate Renville Wheat appealed to the George Foundation in Detroit, which contributed the balance. Thus we achieved a brilliant addition to our print collection.

A fitting commentary is that the same dealer has just returned from another visit to Europe looking for similar cartoons. He returned with just one.

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Slaver Jackson

We can hardly imagine today a presidential campaign in which the candidates did no campaigning. Actually, for a candidate to travel around and make speeches was a radical development in 1840, when William Henry Harrison ran against Martin Van Buren—and won. Previously each political party appointed some orators who spoke within a region for the candidate, while the
candidate stayed home and met visiting delegations.

Conduct was fairly dignified up to 1828, when Andrew Jackson, popular westerner, opposed a second term for John Quincy Adams. Things warmed up pretty fast. By and large it was the crude and boisterous West against the stiff and effete East, or so the rival press would have it. The problem of the Adams Whigs was to try to divide the West about Jackson. He was pretty solid in the South because he was “the hero of New Orleans,” 1815, and the victor in the Seminole War, 1819. But there were aspects of his career that might turn Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois against him. Anonymous pamphlets began to appear attacking Jackson.

First of all, Tennessee was reminded that early in 1815 General Jackson had courtmartialed six Tennessee militiamen for mutiny and approved their execution. The victims were now upheld as young volunteers who had aroused the cruel vindictiveness of the general. The second charge was that Jackson was a harsh slave master and dealer in slaves. This pamphlet was entitled A Brief Account of Gen. Jackson’s Dealings in Negroes (New York? 1828). It was addressed to the voters of New York and of course contrasted Jackson with the high moral integrity of Adams. What is more, it carries a marvelous full page woodcut of Jackson beating his slaves. This pivotal campaign is of great interest to the Library, and Associate James Schoff presented us with the rare pamphlet. It didn’t help; even New York went for Jackson, and he was elected.

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Futures in Books

This spring the financial world discovered the rare book market. In March The Wall Street Jour-

nal ran a feature article on the rare book market as a commodity market that operates in the millions of dollars, with frequent hundred percent profits. Obviously the whole business was an eye-opener to the staff writer.

He arrived at some interesting figures—which we certainly would never guarantee. Anyway, he said it is estimated that in 1969 $50 million was spent on rare books and manuscripts. Since so many transactions are private, this figure is indeed a guess, but the writer goes on to say that it compares with $30 million five years ago and $20 million ten years ago. Here his ratios may be correct. Part of this increase is inflation, and part of it is the activity of a larger number of collectors.

The New York Public Library, according to the article, spent $247,000 last year just on rare books and manuscripts. Indiana University probably spent as much or more. Harvard University’s Houghton Library spent $157,000. It is probable that Yale and the Huntington Library spent more than that, and what the Morgan Library spent is not known. All these figures are dwarfed by the recent announcement that the Newberry Library shelled out $2,675,000 for a rare book collection (by liquidating part of their endowment funds).

Barron’s for March 50 carried an article on the “Jump in Book Values.” It dealt with the rise in price of modern first editions. “Abroad as well as at home, the trend is up. Virtually each sale at Sotheby’s and Hodgson’s in London brings reports of fresh advances. The fact is that a vigorous bull market is in full swing in rare books,”

“Be that as it may,” cautions the writer, “rare books as an investment are not for widows and orphans.”

A writer in the London Times for April 19 wrote at length on the sale at auction of 17th and 18th century pamphlets and books from the library of the Countess of Seafied. He was able to trace some specific titles and their prices. Thus a book by Defoe which sold for £12 five years ago brought £20 or £25 a year ago; the Seafied copy sold for £50. Another book which sold for £18 in 1962 brought £50.

“The general advance in rare book prices can hardly have been less than 50 per cent in the last year, following on substantial but lesser rises in previous years.”

The English writer cited two reasons. He blamed American income tax laws and American millionaires, because they can give away books to institutions at little cost to themselves. While this is true, it has little effect on their purchasing in today’s market. The other reason, which is sounder, is that so many books are going into libraries that the flow to the market is drying up. In other words, rare books are getting scarcer, which many U.S. dealers have been crying. It reminds us of Arthur Swan’s warning to us several years ago (he was head of the Parke-Bernet Galleries) that the rare book market usually followed the art market, and that the astronomical rise in prices for all kinds of paintings, old masters and modern French and American, would inevitably pull up the book mart.

We should hate to see the boys who deal in corn futures invade the rare book market, and we don’t think they will. On the other hand, we honestly question the value of public libraries moving into this market and suspect it is a quest for dubious status. However, whatever we think is not going to affect the market. It is a reality we have to face with the help of the Associates.