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FRIENDS
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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

MESSENGER

Published Occasionally

Madison

No. 3, Nov., 1961

Gifts of 1960/61

The year has been a notable one for gifts.

Once again, Norman Bassett and R. E. Onstad of Madison, and Lloyd E. Smith of Racine, have given generously.

Mr. Bassett's gifts include Thackeray's, *Virginian* (in original parts); five Hemingway first editions; twenty-five items relating to O'Neill, including various first editions; *Ulysses* by Joyce, in the original edition printed in France; and a first edition of Hale's, *Man Without a Country*.

Mr. Onstad (of the Research Products Corporation) once again presented us with a year's subscription to an expensive Russian scientific journal in English translation.

In addition to various other gifts, Mr. Smith of Racine gave us a beautiful copy of Sugden's, *History of English Wallpaper*, and a complete file (79 issues) of the *New York State Mechanic*, a rare periodical of the early years of the 19th century.

Another notable gift (acquired with the help of the State Historical Society) was received from Mr. Edward Hunter of New York, author of *Brain Washing in Red China*. Included in this gift were releases from a Chinese Red news agency, propaganda periodicals and comic books, text books, and directories and guides to Chinese and South Asian cities.

From Thomas H. Dickinson, former member of our English department, came a valuable collection of books and photographs relating to the modern theatre. This collection is described elsewhere in these pages.

Marvin Sukov of Minneapolis contributed a number of rare "little magazines," a type of literature in which our library now excels.

The Wisconsin Society for Jewish Learning gave \$500 for the purchase of the *Catalog of the Jewish Collection* of the New York Public Library.

The Markesan Public Library contributed a goodly number of volumes of minor American 20th century fiction. From the La Crosse Public Library, we received on long-term deposit (technically not a gift) a fine collection of books described elsewhere in this issue.

Additional manuscripts were received from Miss Edna Ferber, and these were, with previous ones, deposited with the State Historical Society.

Microcard Editions donated 33 titles, which were helpful to our "exchange" program.

Lucien M. Hanks, Jr., gave a considerable number of books in fine condition on history, literature, economics, and politics. Here again, the University has reason to be thankful to this outstanding family.

From various citizens of Wisconsin came books of various kinds, too numerous to describe. Among these donors were (from Madison) Don Anderson, Mrs. Edward Bennett, Bishop H. Clifford Northcott, Mrs. Merle C. Palmer, and Mrs. George Rippen; and from Green Bay, Mrs. J. H. Wenberg, and from Platteville, Miss Betty Murley.

From farther parts come donations from Hiram E. Beebe (Hollywood); the Rebhausen estate (Chicago); and from Annamalai University (Madras).

Members of our faculty were also among our donors. These were David Baerreis, W. T. Bandy, P. T. Ellsworth, Louis Kaplan, David Mack, Harold Kubly, Frank Thayer and Andrew T. Weaver.

Louis Kaplan

The Arthur Beatty Collection

The Library is now the proud owner of over 1,000 volumes from the scholarly library of the late Professor Arthur Beatty. The gift of Hamilton Beatty of Cleveland,

Ohio, in memory of his father, these books will strengthen UW collections principally in the English poetry of the Romantic period.

Professor Beatty's personal library contains many early editions of the nineteenth century English poets and is valuable for its holdings in the works of Coleridge, Tennyson, and Swinburne; the prose of DeQuincey; and the folk poetry and ballads of Great Britain and Europe.

The most significant portion of the Beatty gift, however, is a collection in depth of works by and about William Wordsworth. Some 200 of the scarcer volumes have been described in a printing catalog, made possible by the generosity of Mr. Hamilton Beatty. Included are many early editions of *Lyrical Ballads*; successive early editions of Wordsworth's collected poems from 1807 on, including a set from the library of John Ruskin, with his annotations; first editions of *The Excursion*, *the Waggoner*, *Yarrow Revisited*, *The Prelude*, and many other titles; and works by such figures as James Hervey, Southey, William Hutchinson, James Beattie, Horace Walpole, Thomas Wharton, and Coleridge. Studies and editions by Professor Beatty make up a portion of the catalog, as do photographs, photostats, typescripts, and manuscript copies of rare or unique items important in Wordsworthian scholarship.

With the rise of "scientific" textual criticism and minute comparison of variant states and editions, the importance of contemporary volumes to the scholarly investigator cannot be over-

stressed. The acquisition of the Arthur Beatty library is, then, a stroke of special good fortune and will enrich UW collections in the stacks, in the Graduate Reading Room, and particularly in the Rare Book Department.

Lloyd W. Griffin

The Thomas H. Dickinson Collection

Of special interest to scholars and students of the American and European theater is an extensive collection recently received as the gift of Thomas H. Dickinson, former UW student and faculty member.

Born in Virginia, Mr. Dickinson received his doctorate from UW in 1906 and taught in the English Department from 1909 to 1916. He was a specialist in drama and one of the founders, with Zona Gale and William Ellery Leonard, of the Wisconsin Dramatic Society. A prolific critic, editor, and author, Mr. Dickinson was also a public servant and administrator, having been a member of the U.S. Food Administration, 1917-1918, the American Relief Administration, 1919-1922, and the U.N. Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, 1945-1946. The collection contains many of his own works, as well as diaries, photographs and memorabilia reminiscent of his activities in Paris, in Russia just after the first World War, and in National Socialist Germany, 1933-34.

Non-book materials comprise the diaries, memorabilia, photographs and ephemera mentioned above; and a sizeable collection

of materials—pictures, engravings, sketches—on stage design, the architecture of the theater, and the fine arts in general. One particular section contains 150 photographs of dramatic productions at the National Theater, Munich. Another contains photographs of the chief actors, actresses, producers, and stage designs of the Russian theater in the early years of the Revolution. Additional portfolios segregate photographic materials concerning the Spanish, French and Italian theater, and English and American playbills.

Included among the books are many rare volumes on the drama and theater of the United States, England, France, Spain, Germany, Italy, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Russia, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Austria and Japan. There are numerous volumes of plays of the 10's, 20's and 30's by leading playwrights, many inscribed to Mr. Dickinson by their authors. Books on dramatic history, stagecraft, theater architecture and stage design, many of them scarce and valuable, make up a significant portion of the collection; and there are individual author collections of French and German playwrights and of such Wisconsin authors as William Ellery Leonard and Zona Gale.

Lloyd W. Griffin

The Woodward Collection

The La Crosse Public Library has placed on permanent loan to the Memorial Library a collection of more than 400 volumes, assembled by the late Gilbert

Motier Woodward of La Crosse, Wisconsin. The authors and titles contained in that collection show a wide range of interest and an uncommon linguistic facility on the part of the collector. There are the classics of antiquity in Latin and Greek; grammars of Sanskrit, Anglo-Saxon, French, Italian, German, and Danish; treatises on Roman law and on French history in the original languages; some bibles and religious tracts; Goethe and Heine in German; two volumes of *Archives des missions scientifiques et litteraire*; books on travel and exploration; biographies in Italian, British memoirs; works on ancient and medieval philosophy; collections of Spanish plays in the original; the writings of the Earl of Rochester and the poetry of Villon; compendia on magic; and numerous tomes of jurisprudence. All the volumes bear signs of having been read and re-read, many have marginal notes. It is a working collection rather than an assembly of books for show. There are some first and early editions here, and some printed by famous printers, but this seems coincidence rather than design; it is apparent that Mr. Woodward did not collect editions for their own sake.

Even so, about two dozen of his books will go to our Rare Book Department, for example, two splendid copies printed by John Baskerville—Virgil's *Bucolica*, *Georgica et Aeneis* (Birmingham, 1757) and Terence's *Comoediae* (Birmingham, 1772). Or, speaking of famous printers, several Aldines, Frobens, and Elzevirs must be mentioned—works by Quintilianus (1522), Eras-

mus (1538), Seneca (1649), Lucanus (1669), Rufus (1673), etc. And there are some early American imprints, for instance the second American edition of John Locke's *Essary Concerning Human Understanding*, 3 volumes, Brattleboro, Vt., 1806; or *Travels in the Interior Districts of Africa: Performed under the Direction and Patronage of the African Association in the years 1795, 1796 and 1797*, by Mungo Park, Surgeon, Philadelphia, 1800; or a typical religious tract of the period *The Saint's Everlasting Rest—A Treatise of the Blessed State of the Saints in Their Enjoyment of God in Heaven*, written by the reverend, learned, and pious Mr. Richard Baxter, Charlestown, Massachusetts, 1811; or the first American edition of Juvenal's satires, published in 1814 in Philadelphia; or a 2 volume Greek-and-Latin edition of Homer's *Iliad* printed also in 1814 in a place called "Novi Eboraci" which turns out to be New York; and sundry others.

GILBERT M. WOODWARD emerges as an impressive personality from the obituary pages of La Crosse and Milwaukee newspapers. Born in Washington, D.C. on December 25, 1835, he first became a printer in Baltimore. In 1860 he moved to La Crosse and studied law, in the then usual fashion: by becoming an apprentice in a law firm. He was admitted to the bar a year later, but before he could open his own office, the Civil War had broken out and Woodward enlisted as a private in the Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He went through all the campaigns of the Army of

the Potomac, was wounded in the battle of Gettysburg, rose to Adjutant of the regiment (equivalent to the rank of Colonel), and returned to La Crosse in 1864. His rapid career both as a lawyer and as a civic-minded politician is evidenced in his successive titles of city attorney, district attorney, mayor of La Crosse, and member of Congress from the Seventh District. In 1886 he was the Democratic candidate for state governor, and two years later chairman of the Wisconsin delegation to the Democratic national convention. This, says one of the papers, ended his public service, "except for his being president of the police and fire commission of La Crosse for some seven years and until within a year of his death; a member of the state board of law examiners for ten years; president of Associated Charities for some years; and vice president of the Washburn library board since its creation." Another of his eulogists adds this sidelight: "Always a gold democrat, his retirement from an active part in the political world came about the time of the free silver issue."

But Gilbert Woodward appears to have been not merely a lawyer and politician, but a scholar and linguist of more than ordinary attainment. Although he had left school when he was 15 years of age, he had already at that age acquired some proficiency in Latin, French, and German, and continued the study in these and other languages throughout his life. As the marginalia in the volumes of his library indicate, he had a critical knowledge of Greek, Latin, French, German, Italian,

Spanish, and Danish, and to some extent of Norwegian and Swedish. His knowledge of old and modern history is said to have been extensive, and he was blessed with a remarkable memory which "fixed all he read, whether as a pastime or study, so that he had it readily at hand". Having time is perhaps always the mark of genius or near-genius (and his century in general had more of that commodity than seems to be around today), but one is somewhat awed to read that coupled with his studious habits and his busy professional and civic life was "an intense love of nature" that made him walk or drive almost every pleasant Sunday somewhere into the surrounding country, with the result that he knew "every vista of the hills and bluffs of La Crosse and Houston counties".

In 1868 he was instrumental in organizing the Y.M.C.A. and in founding the first public library in La Crosse. "To him, more than to any one else, was due the success with which the library was conducted until it was purchased by the Washburn Library Board and became the nucleus of the present public library" one paper testifies, and another adds, "So interested was he in this first library of pioneer La Crosse, that it was a not unusual sight to see him, with a number of books under his arm, walking down to replenish the library shelves."

When he died in March 1914, 78 years old, he received not only the praise of his lawyer colleagues who recalled his ability as well as his stringently ethical standards in the practice of his profession,

but also the gratitude and affection of the citizenry at large. His numerous friends in the town in which he had lived and worked for 44 years paid him fine tributes, but the simplest and rather enviable epitaph was written by one of his old-time comrades: "Gilbert Woodward seems to have lived the most sensible, perfect, and complete life of any man I have ever known."

Felix Pollak

The Tank Collection Again Honored

Mr. Gerald F. DeJong of the Department of Social Science at North Dakota Agricultural College has completed for publication a study of the "Tank" collection, originally given in 1867 to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and now shelved in the University Library.

The author describes the "Tank" books as a "unique collection of almost 5,000 books, most of which were published in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries." With regard to the history of Protestant thought, he writes: "Perhaps the greatest value of the Tank collection rests in the fact that it contains so many writers of lesser renown whose works are not otherwise easily accessible in the United States." He also writes: "Without a doubt the theological works constitute the most valuable portion of the collection, and include what is perhaps the best single set of works in the United States on Protestant

thought in the Netherlands during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries."

Norman Cousins on Libraries

In 1959, the well-known journalist, Mr. Cousins, spoke at the dedication of a new library building at Colgate University. Among his remarks were the following:

In taking its vow to honor, cherish, and support its library, Colgate also does honor to one of the oldest traditions of scholarship. There was a time, indeed, when a library was considered the greatest of all national treasures. We can remind ourselves that Demetrius Phalereus, who superintended the great library at Alexandria, held up a large shipment of supplies to Greece—not because he wanted more money but because he insisted that Egypt be paid by Greece in original manuscripts for the Alexandrian library. Phalereus held out for two folios by Aeschylus, one by Sophocles, and one by Euripides. Not even a lefthander or a switch-hitter to seal the bargain. Just a straight transaction of several dozen tons of wheat for a few pounds of manuscript.

And the importance attached to libraries in those early but otherwise advanced times may be apparent from the amount of time Cicero took away from his consulship to spend in the library. Every now and then, in fact, it became necessary for Cicero to

assure the people that he was not neglecting affairs of state in the pursuit of his hobby.

In any event, the Greeks and the Romans had a word for their books, a good word, and they attached to their libraries the same special feelings of satisfaction and awe that a more modern generation has sometimes applied to Fort Knox. Indeed, the Latin term *thesaurus* means, quite literally, a treasurehouse. A library was a state treasure. In any inventory of their national assets, the Romans counted their manuscripts even before they counted their edifices.

An Addition to the Memorial Library

At the present rate of growth, the book stack of the Memorial Library will be completely occupied by 1974. As the shelves become crowded, management of the book collection becomes difficult. Books are more likely to be mis-shelved, and the return of books to their proper places becomes less efficient. In some instances, the acquisition of a new set (say of 15 volumes) becomes the occasion for wholesale shifting of crowded shelves in order to accommodate the latest acquisition. For these reasons, I have informed the Campus Planning Commission of the need for an addition to the book stack by 1972.

The present book stack (which lengthwise runs from west to east) has a capacity of about

1,270,000 volumes. The stack is ten levels high plus a basement. Each of the ten levels has a capacity of one hundred thousand volumes. In the basement, with the use of "compact" shelves, the capacity is 270,000 volumes. Lesser used volumes will be put in these "compact" shelves in which many more books can be accommodated compared to the normal type of shelving.

The Memorial Library was opened in 1953, and was planned for a student body of 18,000. Some persons believed the library was "over-planned" but that was because few persons realized how quickly the student body would grow. Today with a student population of 20,000, the Memorial Library already shows considerable signs of inadequacy.

Not only is the student body growing, but students are more serious than in other years. This year the circulation of books is running about 25 percent ahead of last year, a phenomenal increase. And what is more, as additional dormitories are constructed near the library (on Johnson Street), the use of the library will be all the greater.

Obviously, we must find a way to serve students adequately in these new conditions. To duplicate the reading facilities in the present building (that is, the four large reading rooms on Langdon Street) is not enough, because that would give us only about 1,400 additional study spaces. I believe we need no less than

2,000, and for this reason, I am asking the Planning Commission to find a suitable location. In this connection, I believe the area underneath the Mall (between the two libraries) would be suitable, especially because the new unit could be connected underground with the Memorial Library.

Friends of the University Library ought to be aware of these facts. Unless the Legislature begins to spend considerably greater amounts for buildings, the addition to the Memorial Library will come much too late. Those of us who remember the ill-effects of an inadequate library building feel horror stricken at the thought of another such dismal period. At the moment, the situation appears one that calls for considerable concern.

Louis Kaplan

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CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE

GIFTS OF 1960/61

THE ARTHUR BEATTY COLLECTION
Lloyd W. Griffin

THE THOMAS H. DICKINSON
COLLECTION
Lloyd W. Griffin

THE WOODWARD COLLECTION
Felix Pollak

THE TANK COLLECTION AGAIN
HONORED

NORMAN COUSINS ON LIBRARIES
AN ADDITION TO THE MEMORIAL
LIBRARY
Louis Kaplan