

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

BY CLARK L. BECK, JR.

Books

The Library's collection of British imprints has been enhanced by a number of recent acquisitions, including *An Exact Collection of the Most Considerable Debates in the Honourable House of Commons* (London, 1681); *A Sober Inquiry. Whether It Can Be for the Interest Of Any Sort of People in England to Have the Pretended King James the Third Advanced to the Throne of This Kingdom* (London, 1704); George Smalridge, *A Sermon Preach'd . . . on Monday, January 31. 1708/9. Being the Anniversary of the Martyrdom of King Charles I* (London, 1709); *The Present State of the Republick of Letters* (London, 1732); George Savile, *A Character of King Charles the Second* (Dublin, 1750); John Trenchard and Thomas Gordon, *A Collection of Tracts* (London, 1751); and William Stukeley, *An Account of Richard of Cirencester, Monk of Westminster, and of His Works* (London, 1757). Continental imprints received were *Scriptores Rei Rusticae* (Florence, 1521) and Don Joseph Innocenceo, *Norte Fixo y Promptuario Seguro, para la más Clara, y Breve Inteligencia del Valor de Todas las Monedas Usuales, y Corrientes del Continente de España* (Madrid, 1741).

American imprints include Lucien Bonaparte, *Charlemagne; or The Church Delivered* (Philadelphia, 1815) and *Catalogue of the Library of the United States* (Washington, 1815). The latter is interesting as an early example of printing in the nation's capital and for the fact that the entire holdings of the Library of Congress could once be put on 170 pages!

Manuscripts

Considerable additions have been made to the Robert J. Alexander Papers. Corrected typescripts and galley proofs for several of his books and articles have been deposited, including *Agrarian Reform in Latin America* (1970), *Aprismo: the Ideas and Doctrines of Victor Raúl Haya de la Torre* (1972), *Argentina: Nation in Crisis* (1967), *Brazil's Emergence as a Major Power—a Study in Politics and Eco-*

nomic Development (1967), *Communism in Latin America* (1955), *The Communist Party of Venezuela* (1968), *Competing Economic Systems* (1965), *Labor in Franco Spain* (c.1952), *Norman Thomas* (1965), *Political Parties in Latin America* (c.1960), *Politics and Government of Latin America* (1971), *Progress and Prospects of Latin America* (1971), "Trotskyism in Latin America" (c.1970) and materials for his Ph.D. dissertation on labor relations in Chile (1947). Besides these drafts, Professor Alexander has donated transcripts of numerous interviews with current Latin American political leaders, labor leaders, businessmen, ordinary citizens, etc. (1971-1973). Additions to the collection total fifteen boxes of drafts and one box of interviews. These complement forty-five boxes of similar Alexander material, dating from 1948 to 1970, already in the Library. Dr. Alexander is recognized as one of the foremost authorities on Latin America, and his papers are a vital source for study in that field.

Last March a meeting was held at the Library for alumni of the Modern School of Stelton. Initiated by Paul Avrigh of New York University, the reunion was attended by an enthusiastic and overflowing throng. Among other purposes, the meeting was held to arrange for the establishment of a Modern School Collection at Rutgers. The material given was primarily associated with the school at Stelton, although it is expected that future additions will include items relevant to other Modern Schools. Included in the initial deposit are letters from School director Alexis C. Ferm to Jo Ann Burbank and Sema Lighter; Ferm's diary, thinly covering a period of more than fifty years; publications by Ferm and by Modern School pupils; notes, articles, etc., of Elizabeth Byrne Ferm; correspondence of former pupil Jo Ann Burbank; photographs; clippings; pupil's handicrafts, etc. The collection fills two manuscript cartons and covers the period between 1893 and 1970. The acquisition complements three boxes of Stelton material previously in the Library. Both deposits consist of donations by former pupils of the School.

The Modern School movement developed as an aftermath to the political execution of Francisco Ferrer (1859-1909), a Spanish progressive educator. Schools were set up in Mohegan, N.Y.; Philadelphia; and in Lakewood and Stelton, N.J. The Stelton school was the earliest and longest lived. The Modern Schools were progressive and

innovative, with strong libertarian influences. Although no formal link existed among the different schools, they had many teachers and pupils in common, and this provided for a limited degree of organization.

Mr. C. Stewart Hoagland has given some papers of his wife's family, the Gaston family of Somerville. Included are correspondence of Hugh M., Joseph, Frederick F., and Alexander K. Gaston, 1837-1847; letters received by Mrs. Evelyn Gaston Vander Veer, 1869-1919, primarily from a daughter serving as a canteen worker with the American Expeditionary Force in France; and miscellaneous letters by members of the Gaston and Vander Veer families. The collection comprises four boxes of material and dates between 1818 and 1919. Topics covered relate mostly to family matters, such as Hugh M. Gaston's proposed move West in the 1830's.

Other recent acquisitions are minutes of the Socialist Party of Bergen County, 1905-1909 (gift of Robert J. Alexander); a number of New Brunswick photographs, 1890-c.1915 (gift of Maurice T. Ayers); an anonymous butcher's ledger from Hackettstown, 1836-1837; and a guide to street names in Essex and Union Counties, c.1930. The Socialist Party minutes are a particularly welcome addition to a previous donation by Professor Alexander of minutes, directives, financial papers, membership rosters, etc., 1913-1937.