

The JOURNAL

OF THE RUTGERS UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

VOLUME XLIII

JUNE 1981

NUMBER 1

N.J. BECOMES *SINCLAIR*:

The Establishment of the Donald A. Sinclair New Jersey Collection

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DURING the fall of 1980 Donald Sinclair, head of the Department of Special Collections at the Rutgers University Libraries, completed three manuscripts for publication. These bibliographies are now in print, and they are a splendid demonstration of historical craftsmanship, bibliographical skill and great personal dedication, characteristics which are familiar to those who know Sinclair and his previous work.

Although born in Kansas, Sinclair has family roots in colonial New Jersey. He graduated from Rutgers in 1936, majoring in classics. Later he pursued graduate training in librarianship at Columbia and in history at Rutgers. After World War II, which gave him substantial training in Germanic languages, he joined Rutgers in 1946 as the University's first curator of special collections, a position he has held ever since.

Much has happened during Sinclair's tenure. The collections and services have grown at an unparalleled rate. Literally thousands of manuscript collections have been organized for use, numerous books, articles, theses and papers have been written with Sinclair's help, hundreds of Rutgers students, faculty and visiting scholars have been enlightened each year and many a young scholar and librarian has been effectively inspired to pursue a career in archives in historical collections. While the range of subjects in which material has been acquired throughout the years is very wide, the development of the New Jersey collec-

tions is of particular importance. The collections are rich in printed sources both in terms of New Jersey imprints as well as research dealing with the state. The manuscript collections include diaries, family and business papers, archives from social and religious organizations as well as those of municipalities and other official bodies. The map collection is unique, and includes many manuscripts. The collection of photographs, views and engravings is particularly noteworthy.

In recognition of Donald Sinclair's tireless and dedicated efforts on behalf of the collections and their users as well as the numerous organizations interested in New Jersey history, Rutgers is proud to dedicate formally the New Jersey collection to Donald A. Sinclair. From now on scholars, bibliographers and librarians throughout the world will see the indicator SINCLAIR above call numbers on catalog cards, computer screens and in bibliographies and catalogs. A special bookplate will be placed in each volume and, with Sinclair's indispensable help, Rutgers will prepare a comprehensive guide to the Donald A. Sinclair New Jersey Collection.

This new milestone by no means marks the end of Sinclair's activities. He has many more years of active scholarship ahead of him and Rutgers is looking forward to his continuing contributions to the collections, services, and fellowship. The three publications mentioned earlier are:

A Guide to Manuscript Diaries and Journals in the Special Collections Department, Rutgers University

Coad's New Jersey in the American Revolution: A Bibliography of Historical Fiction

Rockefeller's Books, Pamphlets, and Broadsides Printed or Published in New Jersey 1801-1819

All are available from the Publications Office, Rutgers University Libraries, New Brunswick, N. J. 08903.