

San Diegans elected to Council of Friends of UCSD Library

February 21, 1963

Twelve San Diegans were elected to the Council of the newly-formed Friends of the UCSD Library last week.

They are Mrs. Barbara Cole, Dr. R. F. Foster Copp, Mrs. George Heyneman, Mrs. Edward Longstreth, Mrs. Georgina Peyton, Mrs. Donald Pious, Mr. Richard Pourade, Mrs. Russell Raitt, Mrs. Fred Rohr Jr., Dr. Francis Smith, Mrs. David Tatman, and Professor Harold Urey.

The twelve were selected at a charter meeting attended by approximately 125 persons. Objective of the organization is to "bring together people who share a love of books as well as a concern that this campus have a first-rate library."

In addition to the twelve named, the following will serve ex-officio: Dr. Herbert York, Chancellor of UCSD; Dr. Roger Revelle, Director of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and University Dean of Research; Mr. Melvin Voigt, University Librarian; Dr. Stanly Mills, Chairman of the Library Committee; Mr. Thomas A. Manar, Public Information Manager; and Mr. John Newburn.

At the meeting, Mrs. Raitt described the formation of the Marine Biological Association of San Diego in the early 1900s. This was the organization which resulted in the establishment of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. She hoped that the newly-formed Friends of the UCSD Library might bare similarly far-reaching results.

Mr. Voigt discussed the growth of the Library from its present status of a specialized research collection of some 80,000 volumes to major University status, with several hundred thousand volumes. San Diego, he pointed out, is the only city of comparable size in this country which does not have located in it a major research library.

Principal speaker of the evening, Dr. James Hart, Professor of English at the Berkeley campus of the University, dealt with the essential role of manuscript collections in literary research. He said that while we tend to think of the printed book as a finished product, it is not that. It is the culmination of a long process, the product of a man's mind, and behind it lie the processes of creation. Valuable clues to the way an artist works can be seen in various drafts of his manuscripts, he said. He described some of his own discoveries of manuscripts, notably one of Nathaniel Hawthorne's diaries, which had lain unread for almost 50 years among a collection of anthropological specimens; and the gradual recovery, still continuing, of the manuscript of Frank Norris's "McTeague." One page of the original appeared in each set of a publisher's limited edition of Norris's collected works issued in the 1920s. They have been found as far afield as Sweden and Germany but Dr. Hart is confident that most of about 200 missing pages remain in California.