

Central Library displays exhibit on San Diego's 200th Anniversary

March 18, 1969

One of the county's finest and most colorful exhibits honoring San Diego's 200th Anniversary is located in the Central Library at the University of California, San Diego.

Included throughout the four-part exhibit are several old, rare and fine books from the Library's Mandeville Department of Special Collections. Combined with these are special materials distributed by the 200th Anniversary Committee.

Depicting the story of San Diego's history, the Central Library has made use of the works of Richard F. Pourade, editor emeritus of the San Diego Union. Pourade's series of history books, of which the UCSD Library has several sets, are published by the Copley Press.

The first section of the exhibit, located in low cases, is distinguished by a "200th mobile," which hangs above it. This section is entitled "The Discoverers" and includes information on the explorers--Cabrillo, Ulloa and Vizcaino-along with a 1769 chronology of events and a 1969 calendar of 200th events in San Diego.

The other three parts of the exhibit are located in tall, side cases. The second part, which is called "Spanish Period," emphasizes the establishment of the California missions. Of special interest in this section is Ettore DeGrazia's The Rose and the Robe, a book of the California travels and adventures of Father Junipero Serra.

"Mexican Period," the third section of the exhibit, concentrates on the ranchos in this area. In addition to a map of the 19th Century Spanish and Mexican land grant ranchos in San Diego County, there are several rare books from the Special Collections Department. Among these are Ryan's California, a personal adventure in upper and lower California in 1848-49; a first edition of Two Years Before the Mast by Richard Henry Dana Jr.—the famous narrative of life at sea and of the economic and social life of Mexican Southern California in the 1830s; and a copy of the personal narrative by James O. Pattie of the six-year expedition from St. Louis to California and Mexico.

The last section of the exhibit is "American Period" and depicts the growth of San Diego, by decade, from 1850 to 1969. Emphasized in this part is the population and "atmosphere" of each decade as San Diego grew from "old town vs. new town," with a population of 650 in 1850, to "a city in motion," with a population of 334,387 in 1950.

The 200th Anniversary Exhibit will be presented in the Central Library on the UCSD campus from March through June. The hours are: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 2:00 to 11:00 p.m.