

Books dealing with San Diego people and events given to UCSD Library

November 13, 1963

A collection of books dealing with San Diego people and events has been given to the Friends of the UCSD Library for the Library of the University of California, San Diego, Melvin J. Voigt, University Librarian, announced today.

The books were given by Mr. Wilmer Shields, who has collected one of the finest collections of San Diegiana in existence. The bulk of the collection, some 2,000 books, has been given to the San Diego City Public Library.

The hundred or so contributed to the Friends of the UCSD Library are duplicates.

The books include novels, poetry, travelogues, cookbooks, plays, textbooks, histories, religious and cosmological essays, and other works.

Several bear imprints citing private printings and cult presses. The more occult have been set aside to begin a special UCSD collection called "Esoterica."

Among the novelists in the San Diego collection are such familiar names as Wade Miller, Noel Loomis, A. S. Fleishman, and Jonathan Latimer. Representing San Diego history are such authors as Dr. Frank Love, May Chapman Starkey, Holland M. Smith, Fred B. Mitchell, Irving Outcalt, and Edwin Howard Clough.

Books privately printed for the Marcy family reflects its interest in preserving certain little-known literature.

Cookbooks include those printed for the San Diego Women's Club, the Women's Club of the Kensington Community Church, and The Social Service League of La Jolla, Inc.

Mr. Shields' own article, "A Young Man Comes to Town," which appeared in the San Diego Historical Quarterly of January 1957, is among the gifts.

Mr. Shields is associated with the San Diego Historical Society and is Secretary of the Serra Museum.

"Mr. Shields' generous gift will add considerably to the San Diegiana collection being developed by the Friends of the UCSD Library," said Mr. Voigt, "and will prove valuable to scholars in describing the sometimes eccentric but colorful and dynamic history of the city."

Among the volumes of poetry is an 1887 edition of "Ringing Ballads" by Rose Hartwick Thorpe, a San Diego authoress. It contains the elocutionary classic "Curfew Must Not Ring Tonight."