

Works of author Joseph Conrad presented to the UCSD Library

November 18, 1982

The works of author Joseph Conrad, reprinted in 20 volumes by Johnson Reprint Corporation of Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., have been presented to the University of California, San Diego Library by William Jovanovich, chairman of the renowned publishing firm.

In addition, a gift of \$50,000 has been presented to the library by Jovanovich for the purchase of books and journals.

Jovanovich, who has been in the publishing business for 35 years, announced the two gifts during the 18th annual meeting of the Friends of the UCSD Library, Thursday, November 11, 1982, at the La Valencia Hotel in La Jolla. Jovanovich, who served as guest speaker for the meeting, talked about his experiences in the publishing field.

The reprinting of the works of Joseph Conrad, completed in 1980, was limited to 780 sets of which 750 are numbered and for sale. Conrad, a Polish-born author who wrote in English, became famous for his novels and short stories about the sea. A member of the British Merchant Navy for 16 years, Conrad used the varied experiences of his life in many of his works including such masterpieces as "An Outcast of the Islands" (1896), "Lord Jim" (1900) and "Nostromo" (1904).

In 1921 William Heinemann of London published a limited commemorative edition of the Works of Joseph Conrad which Conrad himself read and corrected galley proofs and wrote new prefaces for many of the novels and collections of stories. Conrad intended it to be the authoritative publication of his life's work. Oversubscribed at publication, the edition has been largely unavailable for many years.

The 1980 reprint of the works is an elegant facsimile of the earlier publication. It was printed by offset at The Curwen Press, London, on 100 percent rag paper mouldmade at St. Cuthbert's Mill in Somerset with a "Conrad 1980" watermark. Each volume was full bound at Robert Hartnoll, Ltd., Cornwall, in dark blue Nigerian goatskin with raised bands, gilt top edge, deckle edge and gold stamping.

The work is not part of a larger series or library and will never be printed again.

Jovanovich began his publishing career in 1947 and seven years later, at the age of 34, was elected president of Harcourt, Brace & Company. The company adopted the name of Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc. in 1970. The operations of the company vary from publication of medical and scientific books and journals to the manufacture and distribution of school and office supplies.

Jovanovich, in addition to serving as chairman and chief executive officer of the publishing firm, is the author of numerous essays and three novels. He has served as a Regent for the State of New York and holds honorary doctorates from four universities and three colleges. He has served as a trustee of the New School in New York City and as a member of the Phi Beta Kappa editorial board.

Jovanovich was introduced at the annual meeting by UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson. In his remarks, Atkinson noted that the Friends of the UCSD Library has grown from 20 charter members in 1963 to nearly 2,000

members today with the membership doubling in the past five years. Since 1977, under the direction of president Kenneth E. Hill, the support group has raised and spent more than \$192,000 for the purchase of books and materials for the UCSD library.

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