

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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Documents Join Collection

The Beinecke Library at Yale University has the largest collection anywhere of manuscript material having to do with Robert Louis Stevenson. A series of volumes, not yet completed, contain the catalogue of this vast collection. As each volume comes off the press, a complimentary copy is sent to the Stevenson House in Monterey.

The fifth volume has just been issued, and Mrs. Anne Issler, curator of the Stevenson House, informs us that on page 2159 two documents (numbers 7357 and 7358) which she sent this library are described. One is the "Master List of the Robert Louis Stevenson Collections, Stevenson House State Historical Monument, Monterey, California," a document of 59 typewritten pages prepared by Mrs. Issler for the use of scholars at libraries likely to have inquiries about Stevenson.

In addition to the Beinecke Library at Yale, the following libraries received copies: Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley; Huntington Library at San Marino; New York Public Library; Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.; the National Library of Scotland at Edinburgh; and the British Museum in London.

The second document described (in the catalogue of the Beinecke collection, in Volume V just received) is the index "for scrapbooks II to VI of Stevenson's Mother". The catalogue states: "The five scrapbooks, owned by Stevenson House, Monterey, California, consist principally of reviews of Stevenson's writings cut from periodicals issued between 1881 and 1894."

Mrs. Issler also informs us that there are over 1,200 such book reviews and a lesser number of news and feature studies. Her personally - prepared index covers 55 pages, typewritten. She tells us that scrapbook No.1 seemingly was lost before the others were given by the Stevenson heirs. This is regrettable because Volume I undoubtedly contained material from Stevenson's California year, 1879-1880.

The famed two acres of wildflowers at Tiburon have been saved - at least temporarily - from leveling by bulldozers. The Landmarks Society, a charitable organization, has made a down payment of \$10,000 and is starting a state-wide campaign to raise another

\$355,000 representing the balance due for the society's purchase of the wildflower area.

Allen L. Chickering, sustaining member of the California Historical Society and western regional chairman of the USO, received a special Americanism award at the annual banquet of the China-Burma-India Veterans Assn. He was honored for his 20 years' service to the USO. He is a member of the board of governors and directs the service organizations activities in five Western states.