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In addition to the *Guide to Photocopied Historical Materials*, Hale published *Democratic France* (1941), *The Tercentenary History of the Roxbury Latin School* (1946), *Milton Academy, 1798-1948* (1948), *The Story of Bar Harbor* (1948), and *Britain, Her Peoples and the Commonwealth* (with Robert Eckles, 1954).

On February 24, 1976, Hale told Secretary of State Paul Guzzi of his intention to retire as archivist of the commonwealth, having served fifteen years. The next day, February 25, he suffered a stroke at home and died at Massachusetts General Hospital. He left his wife of thirty-five years, Elisabeth (Fairbanks) Hale, two sons, two daughters, and four grandchildren.

John B. Hench

#### PENROSE ROBINSON HOOPES

Penrose Robinson Hoopes was born on March 17, 1892, at St. David's, Pennsylvania, a Philadelphia Mainline suburb, the son of David Julian Hoopes and Margaret C. (Campbell) Hoopes. He was graduated from Radnor High School in 1911 and entered Pennsylvania State College with the Class of 1915. He left at the end of the first semester of his junior year, for one reason, because he felt that on-the-job training in engineering was more valuable than taking courses in boilermaking. When Clarence Brigham in later years asked what degree he had received Hoopes replied that 'my name will have to stand in the records naked and unadorned.' This lack of degree also gave rise to somebody's later saying that Hoopes's career was a perfect example of the uselessness of a college degree.

Hoopes worked from 1915 to 1917 in the engineering of-

fice of his uncle, Andrew C. Campbell, in Waterbury, Connecticut. The latter's father (and Hoopes's grandfather), Andrew Campbell, had been a manufacturer of printing presses. His 'Country Press' was widely used during the middle of the nineteenth century in the small newspaper offices of the period. At the Centennial Exposition of 1876 he had an extensive exhibit of presses for which he had borrowed this Society's Isaiah Thomas press. In 1953 Hoopes offered the Society Andrew Campbell's records and papers but Brigham wrote him that the material was too late for the Society's field of collecting.

During the next few years Hoopes worked in engineering offices mainly in Philadelphia (to which he had temporarily returned because of his father's final illness). In 1922, however, he moved to Hartford, Connecticut, to work with William Lorenz, a creative engineer. Before doing so, he married Beth Burritt on March 11, 1922, in Waterbury. To William Lorenz as well as to his uncle Hoopes attributed any subsequent success he might have had. Lorenz very shortly retired but urged Hoopes to continue their work. So it was that Hoopes first hung out his own professional shingle as 'Consulting Mechanical Engineer on Special Automatic Machinery.' For the next eight years or so he did an increasing amount of work in the design of such machinery for companies in Connecticut and further afield.

With the advent of the depression there was practically no consulting engineer work to be had and so Hoopes, now with two young daughters, moved to Philadelphia in 1932 to double up with his mother's family. After a couple of years of miscellaneous work he was able to open his office again—this time in Philadelphia; at the same time the family moved to Germantown, where they continued to live thereafter.

Hoopes continued as a designer of automatic machinery as well as a consultant in this field until his retirement in the late 1960s when his health began to fail. Among his clients

were many important companies in American industry, including Campbell Soup and American Machine and Foundry. During this period Hoopes also received a number of patents for inventions he made in his general field.

While in Hartford Hoopes had begun to get interested in the history and literature of his profession and was haunting the Watkinson Library and the Connecticut Historical Society. His first love in this field was horology, probably because, as he later wrote, clockmakers were 'members of a trade which more than any other, helped to prepare the ground work for the mechanical technology characteristic of American Life today.' Most clockmakers were also watch repairers, instrument makers, silversmiths, and brass founders. His early research resulted in the publication in 1930 by Dodd, Mead & Company in New York (and Edwin Valentine Mitchell in Hartford) of his *Connecticut Clockmakers of the Eighteenth Century*, dedicated to Beth Burritt Hoopes. Of this book an article in the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History* later said: 'So far as I know, but one really reliable book has ever been written on early American clockmakers and that deals only with Connecticut clocks. The author, Penrose R. Hoopes, a profound student of eighteenth century clocks, has destroyed many a cherished tradition, but he places the history of clockmaking on a firm basis of fact.' The book must still be the definitive work in the field because a new unchanged edition was issued by Dover Publications in 1974, with the addition of an appendix of 'Some Minor Connecticut Clockmakers' which Hoopes had written for *Antiques* in 1935. Another horological book appeared years later in 1958 when the Connecticut Historical Society published his *Shop Records of Daniel Burnap Clockmaker*.

Penrose Hoopes contributed two of the pamphlets in the important series of publications issued by the Tercentenary Commission of the State of Connecticut in the 1930s: *Early Clockmaking in Connecticut* (No. 23 in 1934) and *Connecticut's*

*Contributions to the Development of the Steamboat* (No. 53 in 1936).

From this early research grew his interest in the field of general scientific and technological subjects and his continuing visits to libraries all over the country and even in England. And from this interest began his great collection of early American books in the field. His collection was a pioneer effort; there were no bibliographies or lists to follow. Nobody knew the field as he did; even if he did not have the books himself he knew what they were and where they were to be found—he had himself examined them in library after library. This monumental collection found a fit resting place in the Eleutherian Mills Historical Library in Delaware, which acquired it in 1967. The library calls it one of the most important purchases in its history. The collection consisted of 535 books and pamphlets ranging from 1731 to 1850. Most refer to inventions and technologies but there were a number of works on general sciences such as astronomy and chemistry. The files of Hoopes's consulting engineering business also went to the library.

Hoopes left behind a manuscript entitled 'Technical Americana, A Bibliography of Original American Works on Invention, Scientific Discovery and Technology, Printed Before 1826.' It is very incomplete, has been brought up only to 1801, and is rather in the form of notes than otherwise, but all the items are extensively annotated, with details concerning publication, bibliography, and subject matter. With this work quite incomplete it is a pleasure to know that his collection is going to form the nucleus of a complete technological bibliography to be prepared by Eleutherian Mills.

Penrose Hoopes's earliest contact with the American Antiquarian Society, according to its files, seems to have been inquiries in late 1930 about possible bookplates of two prominent Connecticut clockmakers, but he must have consulted its library earlier, because he thanks the staff for its help in pre-

paring his *Connecticut Clockmakers*. Later in 1941 he wrote that he was working on the history of eighteenth-century American invention, and wished to know whether the Society had any original patent papers dated prior to 1800. Hoopes was elected to membership at the annual meeting in October 1958. He wrote Brigham that nothing had ever gratified him more; and he told another that it was the greatest honor he ever could receive. Until his health began to fail and he became more and more incapacitated, he attended meetings with some regularity. The last one was that at Winterthur Museum in April 1970. He also contributed to the annual funds, and substantially to the Development Fund.

In addition to the Antiquarian Society there were three other organizations that meant a great deal to Hoopes, particularly in his later years and before the failure of his health. He became a member of the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts (to give its correct legal name) in 1931 and before long probably knew every book on the shelves of its library. He was appointed a member of its library committee in 1948 and chairman thereof in 1950 and, except for a couple of years, continuously until his resignation in 1963. He did his best during these years to revitalize that part of the institute; shortly after his appointment he prepared a 'Proposed Policy for the Library of the Franklin Institute,' aiming to bring it into the twentieth century. He furnished extensive advice and suggestions in connection with the library's acquisitions. In 1951 he was responsible for obtaining for the library the horological collection of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors; and in 1957 he presented his own important collection in this field, making the institute's collection the most important in the country.

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania was another organization that meant much to Hoopes. He became a regular member in 1941 and a life member in 1943. He was elected

to the society's council in 1958 and then became secretary in 1961, which office he continued to hold until he resigned in 1970 because of ill health.

Of all the organizations with which Hoopes was connected, perhaps he got the most pleasure from the Franklin Inn Club. He was elected a member in 1952 and in 1956 secretary until 1961. At the time of his death he was an honorary member, elected in 1970. After he was first elected there were very few luncheons at which he was not to be found at the long table. When he was no longer able to appear his absence was sorely missed.

Penrose Hoopes's wife died on March 23, 1973, aged seventy-nine years, after having been incapacitated from a stroke for a year and a half. Her funeral was the last time that Penrose left the house. He himself died in Philadelphia on January 14, 1976, leaving a sister and two married daughters. Among his friends he will be remembered with affection. Extremely modest and unassuming as he was, one would never have realized that he was the great scholar of early American scientific and technological books.

Hamilton Vaughan Bail

#### GEORGE LESLIE MCKAY

George Leslie McKay, librarian and bibliographer, was born in Columbus Grove, Ohio, October 12, 1895, the son of a clergyman, George McKay, and his wife, Esther (Hood) McKay. After graduating from high school in Toledo, Ohio, he attended the College of Wooster. The First World War cut short his education there and McKay found himself a private in the Medical Department of the Thirty-Third Division, American Expeditionary Force, stationed in France from 1917 to 1919. While in France, McKay studied at the University of Paris. After returning to the United States, he

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