

attended a meeting of the Society and may never have visited AAS, he was a constant and generous donor to the annual fund. His gifts of friendship, enthusiasm, faithfulness to his beliefs, and devotion to his craft and its history constitute a legacy that will long be treasured in his adopted home town and state, and at the American Antiquarian Society.

Marcus A. McCorison

PAUL MARKHAM KAHN

Paul Markham Kahn, who was elected to the Society in 1987, died on March 10, 1997. He was born in San Francisco, California, in 1936 and was raised in nearby Marin County. A graduate of Stanford University in the class of 1956, he received an M.A. and Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Michigan.

Paul pursued his professional career as an actuary in New York City and later in Los Angeles and San Francisco. It was during these years that he made a comprehensive collection of historical books, manuscripts, engravings, maps, newspapers, and photographs about Hawaii.

Paul Kahn's interest in the field of Hawaiiiana began after visits to Honolulu relatives and friends of his mother, Alexandrina Markham Kahn. Her grandfather, William Archeson Markham, came to Hawaii in 1847 and was married to Konale Kapule of Kipuhulu, Maui.

'I bought my first books from the late San Francisco bookseller Warren Howell,' Paul said a few years ago. 'He was my principal advisor and dealer early on. He taught me to buy the best material available.' Paul Kahn was a farsighted collector. His interest in Hawaiian language imprints, an important part of his library, led him to purchase in 1969 part of the collection of the late Sir Lester Harmsworth.

Paul was methodical and usually acquired the best copy avail-

able. His Hawaiiana collection included works of Captain James Cook, other English and French discoverers in the Pacific, and geography, geology, natural history, biography, music, fiction, and poetry. In all, his collection grew to more than 4,000 acquisitions.

In 1990 the State of Hawaii purchased the Kahn collection for the State Archives. It ranks with the institutional holdings in such local collections as the University of Hawaii, the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, the Hawaiian Historical Society, and the Hawaiian Mission Childrens Society.

The collection was catalogued for research scholars and others by David Forbes, and its acquisition has served as a catalyst for new bibliographical work in Hawaii. The Kahn Collection reminded scholars, librarians, and teachers concerned with preserving the history of Hawaii that there is a lack of adequate bibliographical control of the many resources about Hawaii. Unlike Australia, New Zealand, and Tahiti, there is no published reference work about the book history of Hawaii.

However, interest and support created by the State Archives' acquisition of Paul Kahn's thoughtfully-formed collection has been behind the formation of an independent group that believes such a bibliography is feasible and has assumed responsibility for such a project.

Paul Kahn is survived by his wife Linda, who resides in San Francisco.

Barnes Riznik

MILTON PRINCE HIGGINS

Milton Prince Higgins died on April 19, 1997, at the age of ninety-three. He was elected to membership in AAS in 1948, one month after the death of his father, thereby keeping the association with the Society in the family. He attended the annual meetings of the Society faithfully from the time of his election, missing only a few years between 1949 and 1981.

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