

his theories were mistaken, for he was a most delightful raconteur. Seeing the faults of the South as clearly as its virtues, which he loved, "the Colonel" told dialect stories and gleefully pulled the leg of any innocent Northerner who came his way. While living in Williamsburg, Virginia, for two years after his retirement from Princeton, he used to carry a coil of rope in the back seat of his car, hoping that a gullible Yankee might ask its purpose and draw the answer, "Well, you never know when you might need it for a Nigra." If the Yankee turned pale, the Colonel's day was a success.

Although Wertenbaker was a very active member of the American Philosophical Society, and a president of the American Historical Society, our contacts with him actually decreased during his twenty years as a member of the American Antiquarian Society. We had completely lost touch with him long before his death. He is survived by his wife, Sarah Rossetter Marshall, and by one son, Thomas Jefferson Wertenbaker, Jr., of Albuquerque.

C. K. S.

### CARL IRVING WHEAT

Carl I. Wheat was born in Holliston, Massachusetts, to Frank Irving Wheat and his wife, Catherine Isabel Pearce, on December 5, 1892. In 1898 the family moved to California where Mr. Wheat served as minister of several Congregational Churches. Carl grew up and was educated in California, graduating with honors from Pomona College in 1915. After a tour of duty with the ambulance service in France in 1917, Wheat entered Harvard Law School from which he emerged in 1920, with a degree of LL.B. In 1959 Pomona College awarded him the honorary degree of LL.D., and he served that institution as a trustee.

His legal career was primarily involved with public and private utilities in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington. He joined the legal staff of the Railroad Commission of California in 1922, and became its chief counsel before leaving for private practice in 1929. From 1933 to 1936, he served as public utilities counsel for the City of Los Angeles and from 1936 to 1938, he was in Washington as a member of the legal staff of the Federal Communications Commission. In the early 1930's, he argued and won a reduction in California telephone rates and again in 1938, he obtained a national rate decrease from the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. Interspersed between and after these governmental appointments, he practiced privately in San Francisco until his retirement in 1957.

In 1922, or shortly thereafter, Mr. Wheat met Henry R. Wagner who soon had him involved in the pursuit of California history and with the California Historical Society. From December, 1927, through 1933, Wheat edited the *Quarterly* of that Society. Wheat returned to Los Angeles in that year and became active in the affairs of the Historical Society of Southern California and chairman of its publication committee. He was a frequent contributor to scholarly publications. His bibliography in 1960 listed 116 titles. His most significant work was the superb, five folio volumes of *Mapping the Transmississippi West, 1540-1861*, which appeared between the years 1957 and 1963. In 1949, he published the standard bibliography of *Books of the California Gold Rush*. In honor of these achievements, in January, 1959, he was named a fellow of the California Historical Society and in September of that year was awarded the Henry R. Wagner Memorial Medal. Earlier, in October, 1950, he had been elected to the American Antiquarian Society and in 1954, delivered

a paper, "Mapping the American West," at the Spring meeting.

The testimony of his many friends is ample evidence that Carl Wheat was a charming man and a delightful companion. Through his efforts such fellowships as the Roxburghe Club of San Francisco and the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus were formed and have flourished. Our regret is that we were unable to know him better.

Mr. Wheat died at his home in Menlo Park, California, on June 23, 1966. He is survived by his widow, Helen Mills-paugh Wheat, whom he married on September 22, 1919, and their sons, Francis Millspaugh Wheat, of Washington, and Dr. Richard Pierce Wheat, of Los Altos, California.

M. A. McC.

### ROBERT WILLIAM GLENROIE VAIL

Glen Vail, one of the most distinguished of American bibliographers, was born at Victor, New York, on March 26, 1890, a son of James Gardiner and Mary Elizabeth (Boughton) Vail. After taking his B.A. at Cornell, he attended the Columbia University Library School for two years, working at the same time in the New York Public Library. There he remained, with time out for a tour in the Coast Artillery, until 1920, when he became librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society. That position afforded the opportunity to collect for which he had longed, but in 1921 it was dwarfed by the opportunity to organize the library of the Roosevelt Memorial Association. Back in New York, he collected with joy and abandon, lectured and wrote, and edited the 24-volume *Memorial Edition of the Works of Theodore Roosevelt*. When the library was transferred to Harvard in 1928, he returned to the New York Public Library as General Assistant.

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.