Case Library gets major gifts from Arizona

Arizona contributors really came through for the Case Library with three major gifts encompassing hundreds of significant research items since the last issue of The Black Hills Historian. Reports Special Collections Librarian Dora Jones. They constituted the largest bequests since the initial allocation of Dr. Leland D. Case’s extensive collection to the library.

Mrs. Dora Mattison of Tucson, widow of the late Ray H. Mattison, distinguished national Park Service historian and author, donated material from her husband's comprehensive historical archives valued at over $3,000. Included were 205 volumes on a wide range of western history topics, 252 serials, several facsimiles, maps, reprints, and a very useful manuscript.

Mottison, who died at his Tucson home on Oct. 8, 1979, was a native of

Contributor list expanding fast

Boone County, Neb. He served as a historian for the National Park Service from 1961 to 1965. He was

John G. Neihardt Foundation of

Baneroso, Neb., and Dr. Watson Parker, also an energetic field

Army, Omaha District, Corps of

Engineers, Pierre; Mrs. Letitia

Stormo, Alpha Pi State President,

Aberdeen; Allen G. Wilson, Hot

Springs; Dana C. Jennings and Mrs.

Elizabeth Doolittle, both of Rapid

City; Rev. Gerhold Lembke and Bob

Lee, both of Sturgis; and S.

Cushman Clark, field historian,

Deadwood.

Ms. Jones acknowledged these much appreciated gifts in letters to

the donors and expressed the Library’s gratitude on behalf of the

college. It is apparent from the growing list of contributors, from

near and far, that the Library’s goal of becoming a major center of

western historical study is fast becoming a reality.

'81 history conference

described as 'best ever'

"The best ever!"

That’s the way Dr. Sever L. Eubank, chairman of the social

science division at BHSC, described the April 24-25 Black Hills History

Conference held at the Holiday Inn of the Northern Hills. It was the

eighth annual conference and attracted historians and history buffs

from throughout the entire region.

A wide range of area history was presented during five sessions, each

featuring two papers, and two

South Dakota T.V. Series” by Cliff

Jansen, Pierre, S.D., and “Settling in

the Black Hills at the Turn of the Century,” by Phil McCaulley of the

South Dakota School of Mines and

Technology at Rapid City.

“Redmen and Bison - 'Red Men

and Deutschmen’ was the theme for

the second session. Papers

presented were, “Buffalo and Indian

Policy in South Dakota in the

1850’s,” by Dr. David Miller, history

professor in BHSC’s social science

division,” and “At Home on the

Ex-student of late Dr. Camery tells why he'll never forget her

By Myrtle Hanson
Field Historian

Dr. Laura Camery, member of the Social Science faculty of Black Hills State College for 20 years, passed away in Tucson, Ariz., December 22, 1980, at the age of 79.

Laura Camery was born in Harlan, Ia. She attended Grinnell College in Grinnell, Ia., and received her B.A. degree from the University of Iowa. She received her Master's degree from Claremont University in California, and her Ph.D. from Stanford University. She taught Junior High School and High School in Iowa and California, and taught at Black Hills State College the last 20 years of her career. She retired in 1967 and went to Tucson to live in 1969.

Dr. Camery was a member of Phi Lambda Theta, a fraternity for women, the League of Women Voters, and the American Assn. of University Women. She was present at the meeting in San Francisco when the United Nations was formed. She was one of the original founders of the United Nations Supporters in South Dakota.

She is survived by a brother, Morgan Arthur Camery, Harlan, Ia. "I'll never forget Dr. Camery," says Jerome A. Greene of Denver, Colo., one of her former students now a National Park Service historian and field historian for the Case Library. "More than anyone else, she was responsible for refining my own interest in history from something more than idle curiosity into a fulfilling and disciplined endeavor."

"Some disliked her emphasis on hard work and productivity, yet all respected her greatly. Personally, I learned much from her—both just about history, but about life and the formulation of personal standards of performance. I know that I and countless other former students will forever owe Dr. Camery a debt of gratitude!"

Retired social worker stays busy aiding library

By Myrtle Hanson

GENIAL Marshall Truax of Hot Springs, S.D., Field Historian Extraordinaire, has been a guiding force in the development of the Leland D. Case Library for Western Historical Studies at Black Hills State College, Spearfish, S.D., since the library's inception. The former social worker and state senator served as a temporary president of the Friends of the Case Library and he was instrumental in the permanent organization of this vital support group of volunteers. In addition, he was the first "Sheriff" of the Jedediah Smith Corral of the Westerners. He was all smiles when seen at the Black Hills History Conference in April and actively engaged in rounding up more Friends for the library.
Abusy Field Historian

‘Cush’ Clark’s record keeping ‘comes naturally’

By Helen Rezatto

If you happen to observe Cushman Clark jotting down a memo on a small card, the subject is probably related to Black Hills history or the Boy Scouts or the Case Library, or perhaps the notation is a reminder of a Don’t-Forget-To-Do. Always, he carries these handy, dated mem-index cards in his pockets, and he never destroys them. Since 1930, for half a century, Cushman has filed away stacks of his daily jobs and titles.

He comes naturally by his record-keeping. His maternal grandmother, Indiana Sopris Cushman, who arrived in 1878 on the Deadwood stagecoach, brought the diary she had kept of her life in Colorado and the years when she had been the first school teacher in Denver.

His father, Horace Clark, a Black Hills Pioneer of 1878, had the habit of keeping brief notes in his pocket, both when he was a young man hiking up and down Boulder Canyon beside a loaded wagon for a freighting company; and later, when he became known as Mr. Real Estate of Deadwood and Lead.

Cushman’s mother, Charlotte Cushman Clark, was a Black Hills Pioneer of 1878. Known throughout the Hills as “The Last Pioneer,” she lived to be 102 years old and died in 1978. This remarkable lady did not begin writing her memoirs until she was in her 80’s and going blind. She wrote descriptively of fires and cyclones and floods in Deadwood’s early history, and one of her themes was that too much emphasis was placed on exploiting the “wild and woolly side of Deadwood” instead of publicizing the “educated solid citizens of the early days.”

Cushman’s aunt, Irene Cushman Wilson, kept a delightful diary about the social life and happenings in Deadwood in the late 19th century. With a heritage like that, it’s no wonder Cushman Clark feels he must keep things straight on his mem-index cards and is so dedicated to preserving the history of the Black Hills. Much of it concerns his own family.

Cushman Clark was born in Lead, attended the Lead schools, and became a civil engineering graduate of the School of Mines in Rapid City. For ten years he worked as an engineer for Union Carbide in New York City. He met Helen Baker, his sister’s charming roommate at Grinnell College, eventually he married her.

for the Case Library, she also worked as a Volunteer. She organized the photographs for the centennial archives in Deadwood’s Carnegie Library.

The Clarks have two sons and two daughters, all of whom are involved in higher education. Their son George is head librarian at Minot State College in North Dakota.

The Clarks are now semi-retired from the real estate business and have traveled extensively throughout the world: the Greek Islands, England, Spain, Italy, France, New Zealand, Australia, Mexico, and Guatemala. They just recently returned from a van-camping trip to California and the West Coast.

In their travels the Clarks love to visit museums and libraries. They have become more and more aware that organizations like Friends of the Case Library are needed to support the work of the libraries and museums throughout the world. They have a great hope for its success here in the Black Hills.

One of Cushman’s big interests is in computer indexing of newspapers which he hopes may eventually be used, at least on a trial basis, for the Case Library. Of course, indexing would be extremely helpful and time-saving to researchers.

If he has time, Cushman, a genuine son of the pioneers, would like to work on updating the history and records of the Society of Black Hills
Black Hills, and Cushman went into the real estate business with his father (Horace) and his brother (Roger) in Lead and Deadwood.

Through the years that Cushman has lived in the Twin Cities, he has been active in a variety of organizations. He is past president of the Society of Black Hills Pioneers and was secretary of that organization for nineteen years. He was organizer, president, and chairman of the board of directors and the marketing board of the Lawrence County Historical Society. He is a trustee of the Adams Memorial Museum and of the Mt. Rushmore Memorial Society.

He is currently vice president of the South Dakota State Historical Society. He is past president of the Black Hills Corral of the Westerners. He was chairman of the Lawrence County history book committee and of the historical research committee for the Deadwood-Lead Centennial.

The Boy Scouts have always been one of this historian’s major interests, and he has long served on the council for the Black Hills area Boy Scouts. This month he will be honored for his service and will receive a 30-year pin.

His work for the Case Library is many-faceted. During the time the Friends of the Case Library were getting organized, he served as temporary president and treasurer. A Field Historian, he is also a director on the Executive Board for the Friends.

The Clarks have lived in Deadwood since 1941. Helen Clark shares her husband’s interest in history. She is a librarian and organized the grade school library in Deadwood when the schools of the Twin Cities merged. She worked in this library for several years. A Field Historian

It’s a sure bet that if Cushman Clark completes that project, he will make a notation on a membership card to make an extra copy for the Case Library.
Blanche Fell of Spearfish, S.D., is among the volunteer workers at the Case Library. She confides it’s difficult to keep her mind on the assigned tasks when there’s so many interesting items in the stack area of the library.

History Writing Awards presented at conference

Winners of the annual Leland D. Case Western History Writing Contest were announced at the banquet program of the Eighth Annual Black Hills History Conference April 24 in the Holiday Inn of the Northern Hills, Spearfish, S.D.

First place in the Senior Category went to Caroline Hatten, school teacher at Spring River, S.D. She works part time as a volunteer at the Case Library.

Placing first in the Student Category was Juanita Firesteel, a graduate student at the University of Texas, whose essay told, “The Story of the Pacer Corporation,” a mining company in the Southern Black Hills. It won her a cash prize.

State College, as a freshman. She also works part time as a volunteer at the Case Library.

Shunk paces historians in gaining new ‘Friends’

Highlight of the Spring Meeting of the Friends of the Case Library, held April 25, 1981, at the Holiday Inn of the Northern Hills near Spearfish, was the announcement that 53 new members had been recruited since the previous meeting.

Field Historian Harold Shunk, Rapid City, was commended for the exceptional service he had performed as chairman of the membership committee. Shunk, single-handedly, had doubled the membership of the Friends this year through his own aggressive recruiting efforts.

Chairman Marian Hersrud, Sturgis, who presided, reported that Shunk will receive special recognition for his impressive service at the annual meeting of the Friends in September. She also announced that Marshall Truax, Hot Springs, and Cushman Clark, Deadwood, temporary president and treasurer, respectively, of the Friends during the organization’s formative stages, will also receive special recognition at the September meeting.

Dick Hart, Sturgis, presented the treasurer’s report. The Case Library and Exhibit Case report was given by Dora Jones, Spearfish.

Ms. Jones reported that many new books had been received and processed into the collection, that 193 persons had spent a total of 190 hours assisting in the Library.

She announced that the exhibit filled with displays of Leland D. Case memorabilia along with a history of the Black Hills History Conference.

Don Young, Spearfish, reported that after one of his field historians and speed up communications between his office and the Field Historians will be carried out through periodic telephone calls and follow-up letters.

Judy Larson, Spearfish, secretary, reported that three Board meetings had been held and that another would follow in late July.

Don Howe, Spearfish, chairman of the Book Fair Committee, urged members to contribute books for the Friends book sale which will be held on July 18 and 19 at the Park in Spearfish. New and used books are badly needed if the project is to succeed.

The proposed budget presented by Treasurer Dick Hart was approved.

The annual meeting will be held on September 19 and will honor Case Library Field Historians and writers of books and booklets about the region. Vice-President Phil McCauley will serve as chairman for the event.

Members were urged to respond to a letter from the Tucson Corral which announced a dinner on May 4 honoring Leland D. Case.

Because of high postage rates, minutes of the Spring Meeting will not be mailed to the Friends. Copies of the minutes will be available at
An Open Invitation

Those interested in becoming Friends of the CASE Library (everybody is welcome) are encouraged to "saddle up" with those already in the vanguard of enthusiastic supporters. Cash contributions as well as gifts of western historical material are earnestly solicited. Make checks payable to Friends of the CASE Library and mail to Richard Hart, treasurer, 1517 Davenport St., Sturgis, S.D. 57785.

Membership fees are:
Annual Sustaining ........................................... $7.50
Annual Contributing .................................. 30.00
Annual Endowing ........................................ 100.00 +
Life Fellowship ...................................... 1,000.00 +
Life Donor ....................................... 2,500.00 +
Life Benefactor ...................................... 5,000.00 +

Annual Endowing Memberships are cumulative; ten will bring a Life Fellowship

++ Funds become Endowment Principal (only income used).

"Best ever" history conference

(Continued from Page 1)

spoke on the theme, "The Ranching Heritage, Will It Endure?" (See separate article in this issue for a report on this presentation.) Iverson is the son-in-law of Alvin and Georgia Jensen, ranch couple from Whitewood, S.D.

Saturday's first session opened with two papers devoted to the theme, "That's the Way It Was." Tom Haberman, Pierre, opened it with a discussion of "Archaeological Fieldwork at the Dirt Lodge Village Site." It was followed by a report on "A Harding County Indian Sketchbook" by Charles Rambow, history teacher at the Meade School District at Sturgis and interpretative specialist at Bear Butte State Park near Sturgis.

The final session centered around the theme, "The Wild, Wild West?" Speakers were Keith Cochrun, Rapid City, who talked about "The Six Shooter and the West," and Paul Hennessey, grade school teacher from Belle Fourche, S.D., who explained, "Night Riders Weren't All Bad."

Dave Strain, basketball coach at Rapid City and a repeat program participant, closed the conference with a luncheon address on the topic, "Western Dakota Book Trails."

Dick Hart, treasurer of the Leland D. Case Library for Western Historical Studies Friends organization and a field historian for the library, manned a table with material about the library in the corridor outside the conference room on both days. He did a brisk business in enrolling new members in the Friends organization.

In addition, James McLaird and Lesta Turchen, faculty members of Dakota Wesleyan College at Mitchell, S.D., and co-owners of "The Bookkeeper" Book service, had an exhibit of rare and out-of-print books on Dakota and western history in the conference corridors. They disposed of many of these treasures in sales to the conference crowd.

Special guests at the conference were high school students from area communities who were sponsored by the Black Hills and Jiedlah Smith Corrals of the Westerners, headquartered at Sturgis and Hot Springs, S.D., respectively, and by the Old Fort Meade Museum and Historical Research Assn., and the historical societies of Lawrence and Butte counties. The students were selected by their history teachers and sponsorship was provided to give the students an awareness and appreciation of the rich historical heritage of the Black Hills region.

The conference came during Prom Night for several of the schools, but the students involved still managed to attend the daytime programs. The sponsored students will report on their impressions of the conference to their respective sponsors.

Dr. Eubank reported papers will soon be sought for next year's conference, a regional event that is growing in popularity with each passing year. The "best ever" accolade he bestowed on this year's conference is expected to be seriously challenged in 1982!
Pictorial highlights of 1981 Black Hills History Conference

Case Writing Contest Awards are presented; ‘Friends’ plan activities

Black Hills History Conference Chairman Paul Haivala with two of the Leland D. Case Western History Writing Contest winners - Caroline Hatten, left, and Juanita Friesiel.

The Westerners met for breakfast...

and chatted about coming Corral meetings, while...

The friends of the Case Library conferred about upgrading their membership.
A work-study student at the Case Library is Georgia Afdahl of Faith, S.D., seen here doing some cataloging. She works in the library for seven hours each week.

Blanche Fell, 68 BHSC “freshman,” was among the Leland D. Case Western History Writing Contest winners and received her cash award from Paul Haivala of the faculty selection committee.

Westerners
Breakfast now an annual event

Library volunteer among award winners

Sheriff Edna Long of the Black Hills Corral and “Double Barrel” Marshall Truax of the Jedediah Smith Corral with some of the students the Westerners sponsored to the Black Hills History Conference in April.
Conference speaker reports

Times are a changin' out on the western plains

by Bob Lee

"Our Ranching Heritage — Can It Endure?" That was the intriguing subject of an address by Pete Iverson, history professor at the University of Wyoming in Laramie, at the Black Hills History Conference in Spearfish last April. Iverson, the featured speaker at the banquet program that culminated the first day of the two-day conference, is the son-in-law of Alvin and Georgia Jensen, ranch couple from Whitewood, S.D. He confided he had learned much about the region's fascinating ranching heritage from them.

Prof. Iverson’s remarks were more relevant to Wyoming where he lives and teaches than to the neighboring states. But what is happening in Wyoming, he pointed out, might — and probably will — happen in these sister states too, insofar as the ranching environment is concerned. His comments left his audience with some serious concerns about the future of ranching in the Northern Plains states.

Iverson reminded that for many years the Northern Plains was considered to be part of the "Great American Desert" and it was inconceivable to most Americans that the region was suitable for anything but stock raising. "Here was a place where they hadn't spoiled things," he remarked, "where a person could look farther and see less than anywhere else in the country. It was a land that took hold of people and refused to let them go."

But now, the speaker commented, this ranching heritage is facing "unprecedented pressures" arising from the energy crisis in the United States. He reminded that much of the country’s mineral resources, especially coal and oil, are located in the Northern Plains region and national attention is centering on it. He said there is a new westward movement characterized more by massive earth-moving machines and oil rigs than by Conestoga wagons and Red River carts.

Wyoming’s population increased by a phenomenal 41 percent during the 1970s. Prof. Iverson reported, principally because of the energy boom. This influx has brought many transient workers into the state who don’t know anything about ranching or care much about it. Even in the Wyoming Legislature, he commented, "the cowboy has begun to pale in comparison to the mining interests." He said the rapid growth of the mining industry poses a serious threat to the stock raising industry, pointing out the state’s mineral wealth makes it a "national sacrifice area" insofar as the environment is concerned.

"Some legislators are determined to give away our water for industrial purposes," he charged. The speaker apparently referred to permits granted by the Legislature which authorize pipeline companies to drill into the Medicine formation, major

haustible. Who will be left to use the land that remains after the developers are gone? We can still be a land where the individual matters and where he can be heard, where the land is unspoiled. But time is running out."
The speaker noted that the cowboy was the "last frontiersman" in this environment of vast spaces, harsh weather and isolation. He said the cowboy was the "last American to live a life of seemingly complete freedom," but he was actually captive to the land, subject to exploitation by eastern capitalists and at the mercy of eastern markets. Many of the corporations buying up western lands for mineral exploitation constitute a new form of conflict for the ranching industry. He speculated that it may be the corporations that will be raising beef in the Northern Plains when the small ranchers are forced off the land by low cattle and sheep prices, high interest rates and inflated land prices.

"If consumers will accept mass-produced chickens and turkeys," Prof. Iverson asked, "will they accept corporate steaks too?"

Iverson pointed out that farm and ranch costs are "staggering" and that it's getting increasingly difficult for farmers and ranchers to stay on the land. He said it's possible — and frightening — that the region may also be entering into a new dry cycle like those that drove so many people off the land during the Great Depression.

"When the United States began," Iverson recalled, "it started out as a small nation of farmers. We're a big country now with a big population, many of its people far removed from their agrarian heritage. How can they understand something they don't know anything about?"

He described the Northern Plains ranchers as being like the Indians of the past who were believed to have reached the end of their trail because they weren't using the land to its best potential, and consequently lost it to the white man. "But the Indians didn't disappear," he
That's Preacher Smith in the background of this photo of Director Anderson with the bronze casting of James Earle Fraser's famous, "End of the Trail," statue now on exhibit at the Friends of the Middle Border Museum in Mitchell, S.D.

Director William Anderson of the Friends of the Middle Border Museum at Mitchell, S.D., admires a painting on display there of Dr. Leland D. Case.

Bronze cast of world-famous statue comes to S.D.

One of only two casts of James Earle Fraser's immortal "End of the Trail" statue is now on display at the Friends of the Middle Border Museum in Mitchell, S.D. Georgia college commissioned two casts of the white plaster statue of a warrior bending over the back of his tired horse, one of Fraser's most famous works. The other was presented to the University of Georgia. Dr. Case co-founded the Friends of the Middle Border in 1937 along with Hamlin Garland, John Dewey, W.R. Ronald, Gutzon Borglum, Strong and Frank E. Lockridge.

Fraser, a native of Winona, Minn., spent his boyhood in Mitchell where his father was a newspaper publisher.
William W. Anderson, museum director, reported the east came to the museum as a gift from the LaGrange College in Georgia in honor of Dr. Leland D. Case of Tucson, Ariz., one of the museum’s founders, and his wife, Dr. Josephine Case. The original as at the Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center in Oklahoma City, Okla. One of the casts was retained for display at LaGrange and the other sent to the South Dakota museum in Mitchell.

An oil portrait of Dr. Case, also a gift from the Georgia college, is prominently displayed at the Mitchell museum.

The talk of the town

Deadwood’s infamous ‘Purple Door’ sparks ‘dialogue’

A Community Dialogue on “The Effects of a Century of Illegal Prostitution in Deadwood” was presented last November in the Franklin Hotel, Deadwood.

The two-hour program featured a varied panel: Sociologist Dr. Keith Jewitt of BHSC; English Professor Dr. Ruth Alexander of SDSU; Episcopal minister, Rev. Ron Hennessy of Deadwood; Lawrence County States Attorney Craig Grotenhuis; the former madam of the Purple Door brothel in Deadwood, Pam Holiday; and a Deadwood businessman, Orville (French) Bryan was moderator.

The community dialogue was not a debate among the panelists nor did they concentrate on whether prostitution is good or bad; instead, two academic humanists explained prostitution as a social consequence and prostitution as it has been depicted in American literature.

All of the panelists, assisted by the audience, attempted to understand the century-old effects of prostitution on Deadwood’s quality of life, examined reactions and attitudes, raised questions about the values, responsibilities, and rights of the citizenry.

The closing of Deadwood’s brothels last fall received national and international attention. Throughout the years prostitution has elicited conflicting responses from Deadwood citizens. The widespread publicity added to the confusing and contradictory attitudes held by many Deadwood people. They did not know whether to be proud or ashamed of the notoriety.

Questions considered by the panelists and the audience included these: How has prostitution affected the moral climate of Deadwood? Is there any validity to the oft-quoted statement that “prostitution keeps the streets safe and the young girls from being raped?” Have the brothels been responsible for frequent conflicts between “the sporting fraternity” and religious leaders? Does the presence of brothels increase crime? Was the presence of illegal prostitution unfair to lawbreakers in other categories? If prostitution had been legalized, would its effects have been different?

This Community Dialogue was funded by the South Dakota Committee on the Humanities. The Humanities are a group of academic disciplines concerned with man, his values, and the human experience, including aspects of the social sciences involving historical and philosophic approaches.

The objectives of the state humanities program were to involve humanities scholars, public officials, and the general citizenry in programs pertaining to public concerns, interests and issues. This Community Dialogue was aimed at public understanding of issues and background influences, not direct action at solving problems.

Does G. A. Custer still live?

Historians have speculated, pro and con, for years that the colorful George Armstrong Custer coveted the lofty role of President of the United States. It was that ambition, the believers contend, that inspired the flamboyant “Boy General” of Civil War fame to seek national hero status again by his daring attack on the Sioux and Cheyenne camps on the Little Big Horn valley of Montana on that fateful morning of June 25, 1876, in the face of overwhelming odds.

Custer’s untimely demise on that historic battlefield denied him the role he may have cherished. He did achieve a measure of glory, though, and, thanks to numerous books, articles and movies about his spectacular military career, a measure of immortality. He was portrayed alternately as a hero and a villain by a large number of Hollywood’s leading men, most notably the late Errol Flynn, in a spate of films about the taming of the West.

One actor who depicted the dashing Custer on film did realize the controversial soldier’s suspected ambition, though. He is Ronald Reagan who played the part in “Santa Fe Trail.” The portrayal, according to George N. Fenig and William K. Everson, authors of “The Western — From Silentos to Cinorama,” Bonanza Books, New York, depicted Custer as “a quiet, sincere and dedicated soldier.” It was, undoubtedly, one of the many films President Reagan says he regrets ever making.

Die-hard Custer fans who believe in reincarnation are expected to proclaim any day now that “Custer still lives!”
They’re still writing about Calamity Jane—calamitously

There’s been more information (and misinformation) written about Calamity Jane than perhaps any other frontier character in the colorful history of the Black Hills, and there seems to be no end to it.

Now comes a letter from E.P. Harwood of Dublin, Ireland, published in the “Swappin’ Yarns” letter to the editor column of the venerable Arizona weekly, “The Tombstone Epitaph,” which states, in part:

“She was the wife of the famous James Butler ‘Wild Bill’ Hickok and, for once, was not with ‘Wild Bill’ in Deadwood, Dakota Territory, when he was shot in the back of the head in Saloon 58 by a saddle tramp, Jack McCall, on August 2nd, 1896, during a card game…”

Harwood’s letter also states, “she (Calamity Jane) died in 1903 and was buried in the cemetery in Deadwood. Her grave lies close to that of her husband, ‘Wild Bill’ Hickok.

Not only did the Irishman err in describing Calamity as the wife of Wild Bill, he also missed the number of the saloon where Hickok was killed by 58 and the year of the fatal celebrated shooting by 30 years. He should have consulted Joseph G. Rosa of London, England, author of They Called Him Wild Bill: The Life and Adventures of James Butler Hickok, who accurately reported the relationship between Calamity and Wild Bill and the details of the famed frontier gunman’s untimely death.

Rosa wrote his book before visiting Deadwood (with the editor of The Historian) and it is considered to be definitive on the subject. Its documentation is unchallenged.

But perhaps Harwood can be excused for mistating the facts. He may have gotten them from Calamity herself, widely recognized as the most inaccurate writers and informants on her own life.

The birth of a tradition

A Westerners breakfast at the annual Black Hills History Conference in Spearfish is becoming traditional.

For the second consecutive year members of the Black Hills and Jedediah Smith corrals of Westerners International met for breakfast Saturday morning of the two-day Black Hills History Conference held in April at the Holiday Inn of the Northern Hills. The informal early morning get-together enabled members of the two corrals to exchange views about their separate projects and their comments about the ongoing history conference.

In addition, it permitted the ad hoc committee appointed by Sheriff Edna Long of the Black Hills to meet with representatives of the Jed Smith at Corral to begin preliminary plans for a joint meeting of the two corrals later this summer. The committee consists of Phil McCauley, Harold Shunk and Bob Lee, Marshall Truax, former sheriff of the Hot Springs Corral and field historian for the Case Library, served as that Corral’s one-man committee.

Tentative plans include meeting on “neutral ground,” probablly at the School of Mines cafeteria in Rapid City, and booking a prominent speaker who would talk on a subject of interest to both corrals—which should be easy because of their similar interests.

Sheriff Long took time out from her busy schedule as director of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at Sturgis to attend the breakfast meeting. Truax and wife were there as escorts for the high school student selected to attend the history conference under sponsorship of the Jed Smith Corral. She also attended the breakfast meeting as a guest.

Members traditionally schedule a breakfast meeting during the annual meetings of the Western History Assn. and the practice gave birth to the one now held every year at Spearfish.

Symposium explores realities of literature on the High Plains

Editor Bob Lee of The Black Hills Historian was a moderator at a Symposium on the topic, “Realities of Regionalism in Literature,” at the University of South Dakota.

The two-day event, funded by the South Dakota Committee on the Humanities, featured William Stafford, a National Book Award for Poetry recipient; Frederick Manfred, author of 25 books, including the well-known Lord Grizzly; Lois Hudson, author of two books set in writing only about the harsh life of the Great Plains environment and pioneer people, and the reluctance of regional publishers to promote and distribute their books beyond their borders.

“Faulkner and Steinbeck were, in a sense, regional writers too,” Moderator Lee observed, “along with Sinclair Lewis and numerous other widely-heralded authors. But their themes, while centered on specific regions of the country, had universal appeal too and their publishers made the most of it in

Friends of the Case Library

BOOK FAIR

FEBRUARY 8 & 9, 20XX

The Case Library, Spearfish
Gilbert Fite, author of Mount Rushmore and numerous other books, who is currently writing a book about the Great Plains.

The "realities of regionalism," as developed by consensus during the Symposium, according to Moderator Lee, include the difficulty of writers from the Midwest gaining recognition from the eastern publishing centers, overcoming the stereotype

AN OPEN INVITATION

We'd like to invite new members to the Friends of the Case Library. Everyone is welcome and we encourage you to saddle up with our other enthusiastic supporters. Join Us Today!

Cash contributions and gifts of western historical material are welcomed.

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE:

Annual Sustaining ............................................ $7.50
Annual Contributing ........................................ $50.00
Annual Endowing ........................................... $100.00+
Life Fellowship ............................................ $1,000.00+
Life Donor .................................................... $2,500.00+
Life Benefactor ............................................. $5,000.00+
++ Annual Endowing Memberships are cumulative; ten earn a Life Fellowship.
+++ Funds become Endowment principal (only income used)

Make Check Payable To:
Friends of the Case Library
Mail To: Richard Hart, Treasurer
1517 Davenport St.
Sturgis, S.D. 57785

July 18 & 19
Spearfish, S.D.

(Book donations are welcome . . .
volunteers, too!)

For More Information Contact:
Don Howe
940 - 8th
Spearfish, S.D. 57783 605-642-2837
Friends to sponsor Book Fair in July, host authors in Sept.

The Friends of the Case Library will sponsor two new projects this year. On July 18 and 19, the Friends will hold a Book Fair in conjunction with Art in the Park in Spearfish. Art in the Park attracts hundreds of visitors each year, and this book sale will thus acquaint many people with the Case Library.

New members will be solicited, books will be sold - it promises to be a productive two days.

Don Howe, chairman, will place attractive book depositories in northern Black Hills communities, and everyone is urged to fill them. No subject categories have been selected, all books are welcome! Don needs book pricers and booth workers. Please contact Don Howe, Spearfish, if you can assist with this exciting event.

On September 19, the annual meeting of the Friends will honor Case Library Field Historians and authors of books and booklets about the region. The luncheon will be held at the Holiday Inn in Spearfish at 1 p.m. Following the luncheon program, there will be a short meeting of the Friends which will include the selection of next year's officers.

Chairman Phil McCauley requests help in locating potential honored guests. Please send their names, addresses, and lists of their published works to Mr. McCauley at the library of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Rapid City.

Woman heads Black Hills Corral of Westerners in Northern Hills

Mrs. Edna Grubi Long, Sturgis, is the new "sheriff" of the Black Hills Corral of The Westerners following its annual election meeting.

William Danley, Rapid City, was elected "deputy sheriff" and Mrs. Helen Schneider, Sturgis, was re-elected "keeper of marks and brands." The officers corresponding to president, vice-president and secretary treasurer, respectively.

The Case Library is the repository for the records of this Corral, No. 8 in the galaxy of over 100 such chapters scattered throughout the United States and several foreign countries, including England, Japan, Germany, France and Norway. It was formed in 1952 and is the oldest of the South Dakota Corrals.

Dr. Case is ‘surprised, speechless’ by secretly planned Tucson event

A surprised (and delighted) Leland D. Case displays the "Old Joe" plaque he received when honored recently at a meeting of the Tucson, Ariz., Corral of The Westerners. "Old Joe," the buffalo, is the registered logo of Westerners International which Dr. Case was instrumental in founding.

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Tucson, Ariz., (Special) -- Leland D. Case, the co-founder of Westerners International and donor of the Case Library for Western Historical Studies at Black Hills State College, was honored at a surprise portion of a Westerners meeting here recently.

Bob Benen, president of the International organization, spoke briefly outlining Case’s professional life as a journalist, co-author of a journalism text, and as editor of The Rotarian Magazine (1935 - 1950), then later as editor of the Methodist magazine Together. After that he established a Western History department at the University of the Pacific at Stockton, Calif. He brought the headquarters of Westerners International to Tucson in 1970.

Jarvis Harriman, executive vice-president, presented Case with an album of letters which were written praising Case for his work in the interest of preserving Western history. While most of them were from friends in the United States, letters came from Westerners in England, France, Germany, Mexico and Japan.

There were other gifts, too. He was given a one-of-a-kind sculpture of a buffalo head, the work of Mark Rossi, who is the son of Paul Rossi, creator of the “Old Joe” bola ties which Westerners wear. And, John Walgren, Sheriff of the San Dimas, Calif., group, flew in that day with a framed hand-tooled leather plaque.

It was the best kept secret of the century, as far as Case was concerned. It left him almost speechless.

High Plains Heritage Society honors editor

The High Plains Heritage Society presented its Citizen Award for Distinguished Service in Journalism to Bob Lee, editor of the Black Hills Historian, at its annual Air Fair in May.

The Society, which is building a Center on the edge of Spearfish to commemorate the people who developed the Old West Region states of Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska and the two Dakotas, cited Lee for his work as a journalist and historian in that five-state region.

Lee, editor of The Tri-State Livestock News at Sturgis, S.D., was a Stars and Stripes reporter in Italy during World War II and since has worked on The Minneapolis Tribune, the Rapid City, S.D., Journal, The Rocky Mountain News in Denver, and for 20 years edited The Sturgis Tribune and Black Hills Press.

He is past president of the South Dakota State Historical Society, has authored several historical books and is editor of a number of organizational newspapers.

The Air Fair is an annual benefit event co-sponsored by the Society, the City of Spearfish and the Spearfish Chamber of Commerce to raise funds for completion of the Heritage Center. It is expected to open next spring.

Others are headquartered at Aberdeen, Sioux Falls and Hot Springs.

Leland D. Case of Tucson, Ariz., headquarters of Westerners International, benefactor of the Case Library at BHSC, was founding member of Corral No. 1 established in Chicago, Ill., in 1948. The larger Corrals, such as at Chicago, Los Angeles, and Denver, periodically publish “Brand Books” which contain the best papers on western history presented at their monthly meetings.

The Black Hills Corral, which draws its membership from Rapid City and the Northern Hills, goes into “dry gulch” for the winter months because of the unpredictability of travel conditions during the period and resumes monthly meetings in March. The Jedediah Smith Corral at Hot Springs serves members in the Southern Hills region and from Chadron, Nebr.

Plans are afoot to organize another Corral at Newcastle, Wyo., with sparkplugs from the two existing Black Hills Corrals providing the encouragement.

Other Westerner Corrals are invited to designate the Case Library as the repository for their historical papers and chapter records too. It’s a “natural” considering Case’s major role in establishing both institutions.

Westerners International traditionally hosts the breakfast meeting of the annual convention of Western History Assn. and meets concurrently with it.