

BOOK SALE TO BENEFIT HISTORIC LIBRARY

More than a thousand books, on maybe a thousand different topics, will be sold Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and 27, by The Temple of the People in the village of Halcyon, located on Halcyon Road near Arroyo Grande. Halcyon, a community founded in 1903 on the principles of Theosophy, is a state and federal historic district.

The sale, starting at 9 a.m. on both days, includes books gleaned from the community's historic William Quan Judge Library, which is being re-purposed as a research center for Theosophy, Halcyon, and the local area's history and authors. Most books, dating from the 1800s to contemporary paperbacks, will be sold on a “make an offer” basis. A large selection of art history and art how-to books, the legacy of a number of past resident artists, will be available. Most were in the collections of the late Halcyon artists Harold Forgostein, Frances Campbell, and Maryalice Mankins.

The sale is being held at the Hiawatha Lodge meeting hall at 3065 Temple Street, one block from the Blue Star Memorial Temple and just off Halcyon Road. All proceeds will benefit the library project, a key effort of which is to create an online presence for historically important books.

The Temple of the People's William Quan Judge Library was established in 1930, and since 1960 has been located in the first floor of the large two-story office building off Halcyon Road at La Due Street, across from the Halcyon Store which currently houses Ron's Nursery. The collection began in the late 1890s as a part of the Temple Book Concern, which still sells Temple writings. It has been open to visitors at regular times, but now will be available for research on an appointment-only basis.

Temple members are being aided in the library realignment project by Paul Eli Ivey, professor in the College of Fine Arts at the University of Arizona, and author of *Radiance From Halcyon*, a history of the community that carries the subtitle: “A Utopian Experiment in Religion and Science.” Professor Ivey visited Halcyon to lead the project. He explained that “the WQJ Library collection ... will encompass Theosophy and allied religious, philosophical and spiritual disciplines, including libraries of the founders and other early members, and items that explore social science, science, music and other areas,” with a focus on the years 1880-1940.

The library is to serve as what Ivey called “a unique historical collection” for The

Temple, the communities of the Five Cities, and anyone interested in researching their rich histories.

Temple Guardian in Chief Rick London noted that, in addition to the William Quan Judge Library's vast collection, the Temple of the People has, since 1898, published three volumes of *Teachings of the Temple* and three volumes of messages under the title *From the Mountain Top*. Other prominent Temple writings include *Temple Messages* and *Theogenesis*. Three basic tenets of the Temple to be discovered in all Temple writings are: creeds disappear, hearts remain; do unto others as you would have them do unto you; and judge not lest ye be judged. For nearly one hundred years these basic tenets have been shared 365 days a year during the twenty-minute Noon Healing Service in the Blue Star Memorial Temple. All are welcome.