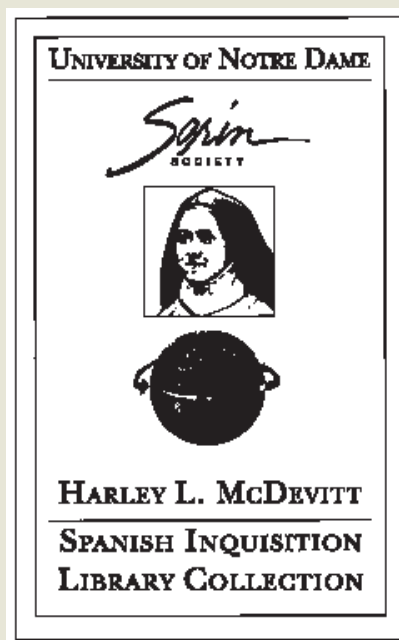


## THE HARLEY L. MCDEVITT SPANISH INQUISITION LIBRARY COLLECTION

**G**raduating from the University of Notre Dame in 1929, Harley L. McDevitt was a philosophy and Spanish major who also served as the business manager for the weekly campus newspaper, *Scholastic*. After graduation, Harley received a graduate degree in Corporate Law and in 1933 became director of advertising at the National Geographic Society, where he worked for 35 years until his retirement in 1968. In 1942 Harley joined the Navy. Before being honorably discharged in 1945 as a lieutenant commander, he served as executive officer of the Naval School of Military Government and as officer-in-charge of Navy civilian orientation courses. Harley was a member of the University's Edward Frederick Sorin Society and Badin Guild. He was also extremely devoted to the Little Flower. A world traveler, Harley was a passenger on no less than 61 different ships throughout his lifetime. A resident of Montclair, New Jersey, Harley left a portion



of his estate to Notre Dame upon his death in August 1996.

Fifty years ago, Libreria Porrúa, possibly the best known rare book dealer in Spain, purchased a collection of books on the Spanish Inquisition from a private collector. Understanding the importance of this purchase, the Porrúa family continued to acquire materials to enhance it until their number reached 550 items and their quality as a collection complemented and built upon the nationally known Inquisition collections at the University of Pennsylvania and Indian University. In November 1996, through the estate gift of

Harley McDevitt, the University Libraries acquired this important research tool for scholarship at Notre Dame.

The Harley L. McDevitt Spanish Inquisition Library Collection, consisting of manuscripts and primary and secondary sources, can be divided into distinct sets of materials: the Holy Office's manuals of instructions, indexes of banned books, *autos de fe*, certificates of familiars of the Holy Office, trial proceedings, early works commenting on the Inquisition, and a selection of secondary works from the 1960s to the present. Immensely strong in itself, the McDevitt Collection continues to draw scholars and graduate students here at Notre Dame and attract visiting scholars from around the world. It becomes an even richer resource as a consequence of other related Hispanic collections at the University with which it is intellectually compatible. Now, and as it grows, it is making and will continue to make a major difference in the research capabilities at many levels and in a number of disciplines at the University of Notre Dame.