
Collections

NOTABLE Additions to the Collections.

The British Museum

Apart from the current accessions which often include important incunabula and early printed books from English or Continental presses, the outstanding additions to the collections since the war have been the Hirsch Music Library¹ and the selection of books from the Earl of Leicester's Collection at Holkham.² A catalog of the music from the Hirsch Collection was published as a separate part of the series of accessions in 1951. The books from the Holkham Collection have been included in the general catalog. Large numbers of books accumulated during the war in local salvage drives have been received. These add materially to the collections of 19th century editions of English literature. Another important acquisition is the collection of hymnological books formed by John Julian, compiler of *A Dictionary of Hymnology*.

The National Library of Wales

A description of the Monmouthshire and South Wales Coalowners' Association Records from 1864 to the present have been received on deposit.³

These records consist of a vast bulk of bound manuscript and typescript volumes, box files, newspaper cuttings, and miscellaneous papers, which taken together constitute an unique source of information for students of industrial relations in the South Wales coalfield and also throw much light on commercial policy and the economic development of the industry from the period of its great expansion in the latter half of the nineteenth century until its nationalization. The deposit also contains a valuable collection of Government reports and printed material concerning the coal industry in Great Britain in general with many important works relating to the special conditions prevailing in South Wales.

Leabharlann Naisiunta na hÉireann (National Library of Ireland)

The Ormonde Archives, a collection of bound manuscripts, deeds, letters, etc. relating to the Ormonde family and the history of Ireland from the 12th to the 18th centuries containing about 50,000 items.

Microfilms of almost all the manuscripts of Irish interest in the British Museum, London, the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Archives Nationales, Paris, and the Archive General de Simancas, and microfilms of large numbers of medieval manuscripts of Irish interest in Vienna, Munich, Rome, Berlin, and many other European cities.

Bibliothèque Nationale, France

Notable in this period was the formal acceptance in 1949 of the Baron James de Rothschild collection of books, manuscripts and autographs of early French literature. It has been installed in a special room, constructed from the woodwork from the Chateau de la Muette, holding five thousand volumes. An exposition of the five hundred choicest items was held upon the opening of the room.

Another major bequest is the Straus collection of eight hundred modern novels in original editions.

Many fine and valuable additions of maps, music, letters, and prints too numerous to mention are described in the 1945-1951 *Rapports*.⁴

Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Florence

Rich private collections have been acquired such as the Landau-Finally collection, the Commune of Florence collection, the Benn collection, and the Franchetti collection.

Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Netherlands

Notable additions to the manuscript collections include: Genealogy of the Kings of England from Brutus to Edward I (roll, c. 1300, in Old French); Valerius Maximus, *Des faits et des paroles mémorables* (XIVd, once in the Imperial Library at St. Petersburg); three Books of Hours in Dutch with Utrecht calendar (XVa, XVB, 1484); Plutarch, *Des très illustres vies des aucuns capitaines très prestanz Rommains* (c. 1500, once in the Imperial Library at St. Petersburg); Prayer-Book in Latin, written at Sint Truiden (XVIA); album amicorum of Bernardus Paludanus (used 1578-1629); Diary of [? Robert] Col [? e] man for the expeditions of 1794-1795 to the Netherlands and Hanover, and of 1796-1797 to the West Indies; Notes on the Colony of Surinam (1800, by Bourdois?); the manuscripts of the works of the composer

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Willem Pijper and the poet Hendrik Marsman (XXA); for printed books: Van Kan collection (Jeanne d'Arc); Niemeijer collection (chess); Swaen collection (falconry); Hamerster collection (Hinduism, Buddhism, H. P. Blavatsky, Baconian heresy); Van Baak collection (early printed books); further the facsimile of the Book of Kells, and a set of the Kelmscott Press, complete except for the small pamphlets, in a special bookcase from the Morris workshop. This is necessarily a selection; the list could easily be extended by the titles of a quantity of rare and often unique works. A full account is given in the annual reports published by the Library.

Schweizerische Landesbibliothek, Switzerland

The outstanding addition to the funds was the donation, in 1951, of a most important collection of Rilke documents, containing 432 unpublished letters of the poet to the donor, Mrs. Wunderly-Volkart, and numerous other documents which Rilke⁵ left when he died.

Millî Kütüphane, Ankara

An effort is being made to persuade individuals to donate their outstanding private collections. As a consequence, the Millî Kütüphane has been given the private library of educational books formed by the late Ihsan Sungu, a fine library of medical literature assembled by the late Dr. Galip Ataç, the notable collection of the late Saffet Arıkan, and the law library of the late Professor Esat Arsebük.

The Jewish National and University Library, Israel

The Library has made systematic and prolonged efforts to salvage Judaica and Hebraica from collections gathered throughout the years by Jewish communities in Europe. Up to now, some 35,000 volumes have been incorporated in the collection, among them Hebrew incunabula and a good collection of Judaica Latina. Other subjects are also well represented.

Included is the library of the Jewish German philosopher, Hermann Cohen. This is a rich philosophical collection, containing runs of periodicals as well as important monographs.

In 1951, the Library received the collection of Harry Friedenwald, of Baltimore, comprising some 3,000 volumes. Part of the collection was cataloged by Friedenwald himself in his book, *Jewish Luminaries in Medical History*. Most of the books deal with the history of medicine, especially among Jews. There are many manuscripts and incunabula, such as a convolute (c. 1450) containing Latin manuscripts

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of medical works by Maimonides which are not found elsewhere in Latin translation; a manuscript *Articella*; a Hebrew manuscript code containing works of the medieval Jewish physicians, Asaph and Donnolo; the Hebrew *Canon Medicinæ* of Avicenna, Neapoli, 1491-1492; Isaac Israeli's *De Particularibus Dietis*, Padua, 1487; and many others. The Library is continuing to add to this collection.

The Library has received by gift the private collection of European music formed by the late conductor, Serge Koussevitsky; 430 Yemenite and 120 Moroccan manuscripts; a Judaic collection, mostly in French, donated by Mr. Namir, of Paris; and an important collection of Española Judaica, including rare material on the Spanish Inquisition, presented by Ignacio Bauer, formerly of Madrid.

Other sizable acquisitions include several hundreds of Rooseveltiana, a large collection of works published in Western Germany during the past few years, presented by the Börsenverein Deutscher Verleger-und Buchhändler-Vereine and part of the famous collection of Rabbi Dr. M. Gaster, of London, including valuable Hebraica, Judaica and Yiddish literature.

In addition to the medical collection in the main library, which is called the Dr. Julius Jarcho Medical Library, there are twenty-one branch medical libraries under the jurisdiction of the Jewish National and University Library. Eleven of these were organized after the establishment of the State of Israel. All of the twenty-two collections owe their existence to the initiative of Julius Jarcho, New York surgeon, who still contributes in large measure to their maintenance. The library of the chemist, Michael Melamid, added valuable material to the Chemistry Department Library. There are in it first editions, no longer available on the market, the most important standard chemical works, and long runs of periodicals.

The Jewish National and University Library salvaged a great number of Arab books during the War of Independence. These are held in trust by the Library pending a general settlement.

The National Diet Library, Japan

The following may be counted among the more distinguished accessions:

1. The Manchurian Railway Company Collection: foreign books and periodicals relating to law, politics, economics, industry, and social science, ranging from the early part of the 20th century to the outbreak of World War II, published in various areas of the world,

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and assembled by the company's former East Asia Economic Research Bureau. About 8,000 volumes.

2. The Fujiyama Bunko: fundamental works on China, formerly in the possession of Aiichiro Fujiyama. About 52,000 volumes.

3. The East Asiatic Institution Collection: material on law, politics, economics, and social conditions in China. About 28,000 volumes.

4. The Nakanishi Collection: books donated by Torao Nakanishi, formerly professor at Tokyo University, relating to Marxist economics and including a copy of the first edition of *Das Kapital*. About 2,000 volumes.

5. The Kameda Bunko: books formerly in the collection of the late Jiro Kameda, student of the national language, containing such rare and excellent works as *Inkyo* and *Setsuyo-shu*. About 4,000 volumes.

6. The Harima Bunko: Russian documents and other publications, collected by the late Yukichi Harima. About 1,200 volumes.

7. The Meiji Collection: documents and other materials relating to the Meiji Constitution and ancillary subjects, formerly in the possession of the heroes of the Meiji era, including Sanjo, Iwakura, Ito, Okubo, Katsura, Inouye, and Makino. About 100,000 volumes.

8. The Shidehara Peace Library: books relating to politics and diplomacy, collected in memory of the late Kijuro Shidehara, former Speaker of the House of Representatives and Prime Minister, as a contribution to international peace. About 2,000 volumes.

9. The Rockefeller Foundation Gift: selected American publications issued since 1940, including books on literature, the natural sciences and the social sciences. [No count].

10. The British Publishers Association Gift: primarily publications issued in the period 1945-1950, relating to various subject fields. About 2,000 volumes.

11. The Slavic Study Collection: American, British, French, and German publications, selected by the Library of Congress, and donated by the Rockefeller Foundation to assist Slavic studies in Japan. About 500 volumes.

12. The Publications Board Reports: purchased by the Library, in the hope of promoting industrial and technical studies, from the Publications Board of the United States Department of Commerce. These are produced in the medium of microfilm and photostat. About 100,000 items. Another 3,000 items are on order.

13. Atomic Energy Materials: the Library is now attempting to collect all materials on atomic energy, published by governments, institutes and other organizations throughout the world. Up to now

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books in 1,500 volumes, reports and pamphlets consisting of 2,700 pieces, and 250 periodicals in 27,000 volumes are listed in the Atomic Energy Material Reading Room.

Biblioteca Nacional, Cuba

Recent important additions have included basic technical manuals in science and technology.

Biblioteca Nacional de Guatemala

Special mention must be made of the Valenzuela Collection, made up preponderantly of pamphlets and single leaves, recently purchased for 12,000 quetzales (\$12,000), through the efforts of Directors Castañeda and Chinchilla. Some of its contents are of incalculable value.

Biblioteca Nacional, Peru

The Biblioteca has been constantly concerned with increasing the manuscript collection, and is trying to gather the largest possible number of documents relating to Peruvian history and literature. In the past six years, the number of manuscripts acquired has increased prodigiously. Probably the most important and valuable is the *Toledo Codex*, which is a collection of the ordinances and decrees of Viceroy Francisco de Toledo; the compilation was ordered by Viceroy Velasco, who was one of Toledo's immediate successors. The work is signed by him and by several notaries of Lima. This codex, for the most part unpublished, is a source of the first order for research not only in the history of Peru, but in the history of America and Spanish colonial policy in the Indies as well.

South African Public Library, Cape Town

During the past few years, the most important acquisitions have been in the field of private and political papers, such as the Molteno Papers, the papers of former Prime Minister W. P. Schreiner, and the letters of Lady Anne Barnard at the beginning of the 19th century. Other notable acquisitions have included the Springbok Collection, containing a number of finely printed private press works; the C. L. Leipoldt and Hilda Gerber Cookery Collections; the sketch-books of the astronomer and scientist Sir John Herschel who lived at the Cape from 1834-38; and the Jurgens Collection of Postal Africana, comprising 20 volumes of franked and hand-stamped covers dating from the settlement of the Cape by Jan van Riebeeck in 1652. In 1953 the

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Library acquired the John Armstrong Collection of vocal music, consisting of more than 1,000 items.

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