Notes to A.C.R.L.
Board Members and Officers

The following memorandum, sent to A.C.R.L. board members and officers on May 11, is published here with the thought that it may be of interest to all the members of the division. Please send your comments and suggestions to N. Orwin Rush, Executive Secretary, A.C.R.L., 50 East Huron St., Chicago 11, Ill.

To A.C.R.L. Board Members and Officers:

In a survey undertaken in 1947 by an A.C.R.L. committee to obtain membership opinion as to the most important activities of the association, publications ranked highest on the list.

With this information in mind I have made a special effort to encourage and initiate work along this line whenever possible. So that we may know what is actually underway or being considered for publication in the college, university and reference field, I list herewith items that have come to my attention.

It was my thought that if we had before us such a list we could better determine where the gaps are. Will you, therefore, please study this list and let me have your suggestions for needed publications not covered here.

Projects now under way

Administration. Guy Lyle is working on a second edition of his book. It will probably be published next fall.

Administration-Small Library. E. Hugh Behymer is writing a book on the administrative techniques for the small liberal arts college library.

Administration—Technical Processes. Maurice Tauber is at work on a book dealing with administration of technical services in libraries.

Archives—Manual. Librarian and archivist collaborating.


Book List—Basic Reference Books. Louis Shores has completed the manuscript for a third edition of his book, and it is being examined.


Cataloging—Special Collection—Rare Books. A manuscript is in Mr. Fontaine’s hands and is being examined by critics.

Circulation Work. Manuscript promised A.L.A. for spring or early summer of 1949. This will be a book of principles with illustrations drawn from various types of libraries so as to give the book general application.

Index—Guide to Comparative Literature. This is a project of the A.L.A., A.C.E., and the College Section of N.C.T.E. About 175 scholars are contributing to this work. Manuscript due at A.L.A. within a few months.

Order Work. Manuscript due at A.L.A. within next few months.

Reference Work—Study of Evaluation and Costs. Something under way at Columbia. Approach has been made to four other graduate library schools to see if ways can be found for attacking this problem.


Resources—American Library. Robert Downs is working on a guide.

Shelf Work. William Jesse is now at work on the manuscript.

Other Proposals

Book List—Books and Serials for A and M Colleges. This suggestion, by Donald Thompson, has been referred to the A.C.R.L. Publications Committee.
Book List—Junior Colleges. This suggestion is now being studied by the Junior College Libraries Section and the American Association of Junior Colleges.

Circulation—Interlibrary Loans. Carl Melinat is working on a Master’s thesis out of which might grow a manuscript for publication.

College Libraries—Instruction and Book Use. B. Lamar Johnson may draw up a project for foundation financing. By survey, questionnaire, etc., he would try to determine and report on what is going on to integrate the teaching program with the use of library materials.

Finance and Accounting—College Libraries. This book was proposed some time ago by Donald Thompson.

Index—Learned Society Publications. Louis Shores has done some work on this and expects to give it more attention now that the manuscript for the third edition of Basic Reference Books is completed.

Serials Work—Manual. The A.L.A. Editorial Committee has received suggestions from a number of official groups regarding the need for and content of such a manual. As yet no one has been found to write it.

Statistics—Manual. Very little actual work has yet been done but a good deal of thought has gone into this project on which A.L.A. has been working since 1935. The A.L.A. Editorial Committee has decided that this should not be a book about statistics but a compendium of applications of statistical methods to library situations and library data. The introduction will have only enough theory to make the applications understandable. Edward Wight and G. Flint Purdy will attempt to develop the manuscript.

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