College and Research Libraries

The Librarians' Agenda of Unfinished Business
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New Periodicals of 1951
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Development of the Book Collection in the College Library

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Association of College and Reference Libraries
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**October, 1951**

**Volume XII, Number 4**
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Times Square, New York 18, N. Y.
The Librarians’ Agenda of Unfinished Business

By LUTHER H. EVANS

Dr. Evans is Librarian of Congress.

It gives me much pleasure to meet with you on the occasion of the dedication of this magnificent library addition. It is a resource of which Ohio State University can be proud. It marks a further step forward in the recognition of the library as a vital center in university and community life. It has been a long and uphill climb to the concept of the library serving as the laboratory of the scholar and the investigator, with the librarian having a vital responsibility in the processes of research by acquiring, processing and servicing the record of the successes and failures of all previous researches. And in many quarters the goal has not been reached.

Librarians today have greater collections, faster processes, better buildings, more and better trained personnel and larger budgets than ever before. The building we are dedicating today recognizes and makes a place for these advances and achievements. Yet these things are mere steps in a path of progress which has long stretches ahead. The resources and the capacities librarians now have at their command are such that by responding energetically to the needs which are pressing upon them, they can make a great stride forward in the usefulness of their services and make a great demonstration of their intimate involvement in all aspects of intellectual activity and growth. The present recognition of the library’s role is sufficient, it seems to me, to assure that the librarians of this country will be called upon in the years immediately ahead to expand their services far more rapidly than it will be possible for them to increase their individual collections, or their space, or their personnel. They can increase their performance greatly, I am convinced, if they will do what they can realistically do to make of their total resources a single resource and of their services an integrated national service. The way will be open for such an achievement only if we librarians complete a great many pieces of unfinished business. It is to some of these items of our common affairs that I should like to direct your attention.

The major areas of library activity in which basic problems await solution by cooperative library effort seem to me to be four in number: library resources, reference services, administration, and international activities.

First, there is the unending problem of strengthening our library resources, both in terms of our collections and the tools which provide immediate and convenient access to them. For several years now librarians have been seriously discussing the waste of duplication in our library collecting activities, and the resultant lack of comprehensive coverage of materials, particularly foreign publications, which are required for present and prospective research programs. The beginning of a cooperative attempt to
correct this situation is, of course, represented by the Farmington Plan, but further measures will be required if we are to achieve even the preliminary target of having in this country at least one copy of all materials of research value, no matter where published. We will have to go even further than that before we can justifiably be satisfied that we can provide researchers readily with what they require in work they are performing in the national interest. That, as you know, is a large order, and one which cannot be filled without continuing and increasing cooperation on the part of the entire library profession. The success of the Documents Expediting Project, which was organized a few years ago to facilitate the distribution of difficult-to-get U.S. government documents to American research libraries, is an example of what can be done by a unified but cooperative acquisitions effort.

It is time for librarians to give more attention to the question: “What should be the over-all acquisitions policy of our research libraries?” What needs to be acquired in terms of the total collections of our research libraries? Obviously, we will have no firm framework within which to make cooperative arrangements until we have agreed upon a comprehensive answer to this question. The Library of Congress, despite its own enormous acquisitions responsibilities and its highly advantageous opportunities for acquiring foreign publications, is very much aware of the essential need for the cooperative determination of a national program and the assignment of parts of the total responsibility to many institutions, with itself taking only a part, even though that part may be greater than that of any other single library. The current critical situation of our nation compels us to bestir ourselves to face this problem squarely and realistically. Every day we delay action represents irretrievable opportunities lost. At this very moment events are occurring in other parts of the world which will prevent the acquisition of published data, basic to our understanding of some problem we must face, which could have been secured yesterday.

As I see the situation, the unsatisfied research needs of our country today are principally in two fields. The first is science, and the second concerns those areas of the world about which we have not bothered much before, particularly the Slavic, the Middle Eastern and the Far Eastern countries. Already we are paying the penalty for years of failure in building comprehensive and current collections in these fields. Some of us have been aware of these weaknesses, and have made considerable progress to correct them.

An important step was taken recently to develop a workable national program in the appointment by the Association of Research Libraries of a Committee on National Needs. Under the able chairmanship of Donald Coney, librarian of the University of California (Berkeley), this committee has had a two-day meeting in Washington where it discussed with officers of government their urgent research requirements. From there the committee will proceed to the discovery of deficiencies in present capacity to meet the requirements, and measures for dealing with them.

Perhaps as important as resources of material are the tools of access to the material. In the Library of Congress (and you will pardon me for the ignorance which requires me to select most of these illustrations from my own institution) we have attempted to meet this need in part by the publication of the list of *Serial Titles Newly Received* (the future of which is still undecided in view of inadequate financial support of this publication) and the
Checklist of Russian Accessions, first inaugurated to meet demands from federal agencies, but which has since proved its value to scholars outside the government working with Soviet materials.

Serials have long presented complex problems to libraries, and the need for a revised and up-to-date union list has long been recognized. It is the matter of finding a quick and economical method of compiling such a list that stumps the experts. Some of you may be familiar with the exploratory work that has been done looking toward the possibility of producing such a union list on punched cards. The response to feelers on this subject has been encouraging, and it is hoped soon to lay more concrete proposals for cooperative effort before the library profession. I believe a great step forward in subject bibliography as well as location services can be made by a determined, cooperative effort along the lines we have been exploring.

Adequate catalog controls and bibliographical apparatus are as important resources of a library as are the collections. Processing problems, like processing arrearages, seem to be constant on the librarians’ agenda of business for tomorrow. We librarians have made significant strides forward in our battle with classification schedules and classification codes. We have worried long and late about devising cataloging short cuts, simpler descriptive entries, fewer cross references and less cumbersome subject headings. In this my colleagues at the Library of Congress have actively participated. They have experimented with full cataloging, brief cataloging, deferred cataloging, and some of the materials they are simply piling up, uncataloged, to struggle with in the future. The hard work of thinking our collective way through these problems to more adequate solutions must proceed, and it must proceed in a democratic and cooperative context.

Indexing, too, is gaining a higher place in the list of bibliographical problems with which librarians must deal. The time has not arrived yet when librarians in general are willing to admit indexing as one of their leading responsibilities. For too long this vital bibliographical function has been left almost entirely to the uncoordinated, partial, and to some degree unprofessional efforts of commercial enterprise, company interests and voluntary organizations of scholars and professional workers, with the result that we have failed to provide tools which will enable scholars in all important subject areas to find late material which has appeared in a pamphlet, a periodical, or a government document. The special librarians, bless them, have done far more than librarians in general to recognize the value and importance of current indexing controls, and indeed the necessity of leadership by the library profession in this work.

Abstracting, likewise, has been a neglected function. We all know that the abstracting of current literature in individual subject fields is woefully inadequate in coverage, and in general far from current. I say that librarians have a responsibility to see that a better job is done, and that the task is not left to a few organizations and groups. We must accept the fact that this is a problem world-wide in scope, and that in preparation for dealing with it effectively in terms of coordinated effort with other countries, we must put our own house in order.

Unesco has done much in a short time to call attention to the importance of adequate bibliographical controls. It has given activities in this field an important place in its program and has organized an international committee on bibliography and
documentation. But vision and support from all librarians is necessary if we are to make the essential progress in an area in which we have yet to discover a wholly practical and comprehensive plan of action. In the past two years a bibliographical seminar has been meeting with me in the Library of Congress and we have had some interesting discussions about the degree to which nations should accept responsibilities for developing current national bibliographies of their respective publications. The library takes pride in the contribution to this objective which its own new publications, the Subject Catalog and the Author Catalog, represent.

At this moment in our history when maximum economies and maximum controls over material are both of great importance, it is the responsibility of every major library to plan its cataloging and bibliographical program in such a way that its products will provide the greatest possible contribution to both national and universal bibliographical control.

As important though perhaps not as neglected an area of library activity is the matter of the services we give on our resources. The service function is usually one of the last activities to feel the effect of reduced budgets and personnel cuts. We may have to curtail our acquisitions program; more books may go into cataloging arrearages than to assigned places on the shelves; yet most of us are inclined to the view that materials must keep moving from shelf to reader, even though they may not be the latest or best materials, if we are to continue to have support from our users.

During the past year we have had to face this problem squarely at the Library of Congress. When the Appropriations Committee decided nearly a year ago that we should strengthen our small corps of area specialists and make a beginning on the science front by internal readjustments, my colleagues and I came to the conclusion, very reluctantly I must admit, that the ax would have to fall heaviest on the hours of public service. Accordingly, schedules were rearranged and service of materials from the shelves was discontinued after 5:30 P.M. Reading rooms remained open until 10:00 P.M., however, and readers could arrange in advance to have books left for them to pick up at the service desks. There were complaints of course, but fewer than had been expected, and the change has been fairly well accepted.

Another unsolved problem having to do with service is the matter of defining the area of unpaid and paid reference service. Perhaps I am more conscious of this than some of you because sometimes when I go before congressional committees in support of the library's budget requests, somebody asks me this question: "Doctor, why can't you ask these people to pay you for the special services you render them?" We have struggled with the problem and recognize that much useful service could be given (service which must now be refused and which in general libraries expect users to do for themselves) if a workable system of financing it could be developed.

We need to give more thought also to providing greater facilities to serious investigators pursuing studies at a high level, often in connection with a federal or university-sponsored program. This is one of our most pressing problems at the Library of Congress. Researchers from important agencies of government have been accommodated, with space and materials, but the space available has not always been the most conducive to scholarly work and the materials on hand were not always recent materials. There needs to be a systematic attack on achieving a better coordination between our acquisitions policies,
our cataloging and bibliographical controls, and the needs of those who labor at our study desks and in our study rooms.

The urgency of such an effort is well demonstrated today. In any time of crisis we will see shifts in the foci of research interests in our universities and in our laboratories which will affect the programs of libraries. We must make certain that our institutions anticipate new requirements and equip themselves to meet them, in advance of the critical stage.

Turning now to the large area of administration, we are confronted immediately with the unpleasant but ever-present problem of securing adequate financial support for library activities. It is obvious that the goals we have set for ourselves cannot be achieved without more money, and thus we come to the problem of determining our financial needs and how best to justify them. Here it is essential that libraries give full attention to a re-evaluation of their objectives and to a realistic scheduling of priorities for carrying them out. They must study their essential services and resources and be able to defend fully, and fight for when necessary, appropriations adequate to maintain or strengthen these services and resources at a time when every expenditure is bound to be closely scrutinized. It is the individual library's responsibility to see that its funds are sufficient to meet the urgent need. There must be willingness to call to the attention of appropriating bodies those important areas where resources and services are pathetically poor or nonexistent. Explanations of needs must be presented on the basis of the best thinking available in the library profession. Arguments must become so compelling that boards of trustees and other appropriating bodies will sympathetically listen to and quickly appreciate the validity of the library's claims for more funds.

Salaries of librarians, still disgracefully low in many parts of the country, can be lifted only by the constant and courageous effort of fellow librarians. Much can be done by comparison of salary tables to determine standards of compensation which appropriation agencies will respect.

Buildings and equipment required for the best kind of library service should be a matter of vigilant study. The relation of working environment to productivity has taken on a new significance in recent years and librarians, no less than other administrators, must become aware of the improvements in service and increases in production which can be traced to a new shade of paint, a new style of furniture, or a new resolution of the problem of noise or light. We have become so modern in the Library of Congress that we have even considered the possibility of installing Muzak in the Card Division to speed up the filling of card orders for other libraries. The Congress has not yet decided to let us make the experiment, but according to the surveys of routine operations where such installations have been made, card drawing would pick up considerably if accompanied by some syncopated rhythm or even be-bop, although there are some who wonder if the right cards would be drawn!

Then there are matters of library organization, training of library personnel, developing manuals of procedures, arranging for more adequate reporting of library activities (including statistics!), all of which require continuing attention if we are to make the greatest possible progress.

We come then to the last broad area—the matter of international relations—an area in which libraries are having to face an increasingly important responsibility. More people in more parts of the world are willing to admit that libraries are vital

(Continued on page 364)
A Turn in the Course of the University Library

Dr. White is director of libraries and dean of the School of Library Service, Columbia University.

A stream does not follow a straight line. It cuts its path to the sea by twisting and turning to the lay of the land. It is the same with the development of the university library. It cuts a course of its own making except that it too twists and turns to pressures it strikes along the way.

It will vivify this idea and possibly set my later remarks in better historical perspective if we cite an illustration or two. Our university libraries take great pride in the source material they are accumulating daily to support historical and humanistic research. To describe the total volume of these holdings, we would have to resort to such metrical units as miles or acres of shelves. Contrast the collecting policy which is producing this bibliographical acreage with that intimated by Joseph Story in his Phi Beta Kappa oration spoken almost in ear shot of the Harvard campus in 1826: "There is not," the eminent jurist complained, "perhaps a single library in America sufficiently copious to have enabled Gibbon to have verified the authority for his immortal history of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire." This is a rather startling pronouncement when read today, but George Livermore, an antiquarian not given to inaccuracy, did not think it was strong enough to describe the situation a quarter of a century later, in 1850. Pointing out that even the Gibbon illustration did not originate with Story, Livermore went on to say that "not one, nor all the libraries in this country combined, would furnish sufficient materials for writing a complete history of that little book... which has had such a mighty influence in moulding the character and creed of former generations, 'The New England Primer'". These testimonials tell something about the plight of letters and learning in the young republic, but they tell us also that rocklike pressures were rising up to force a change in the course of the scholarly library.

Another illustration: The second half of the nineteenth century produced an extraordinary series of international exhibitions. When the first one opened in London's Crystal Palace in 1851, no one had any idea that it was going to produce such intense rivalry among nations, but the times were just right. Human work of all kinds, from making cloth to making machines, was being revolutionized. The name we apply to the phenomenon is the Industrial Revolution. No aspect of this revolution was more singular than the way it stemmed from investing all kinds of ordinary work—industry—with greater intelligence. Each civilized nation, quick to see

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1 Paper presented at meeting of University Libraries Section, ACRL, July 11, 1951, Chicago.
2 Story, Joseph. A Discourse Pronounced before the Phi Beta Kappa Society at the Anniversary Celebration on the Thirty First Day of August, 1826. Boston, Hilliard, Gray, Little, and Wilkins, 1826, p. 49.
that its future in international trade was bound up with the use of this modern principle, avidly seized upon the international exposition as a kind of testing device for its industrial sinews and know-how. New institutions and new departments in universities arose to enlarge and transmit bodies of knowledge found to have industrial uses. A new era of material progress dawned. And since this modern industrial era rested as it were on libraries of scientific information, a new social policy supporting the extension and application of knowledge soon gained popular favor. These new uses of science and technology gave a new twist to library development, and the university libraries were among those most deeply affected.

We need not dwell longer on the past. My thesis is that terrain is being struck in our time which will force still another important turn in the course. The precise direction eventually taken is going to depend partly on factors beyond our control, partly on how well this generation understands what is taking place and particularly, I suspect, on the number and the stature of those who join together to take thought of the morrow.

There are several relevant factors which are beyond our control; the bulkiness of the graphic record of the mind which it is essential to preserve for research purposes; the expanding rate at which new research materials are being produced, thus further enlarging the basic record; the expanding proportion of the total population which depends on good research library facilities; the ballooning of costs for materials, space and labor; the increasing specialization of interests served by libraries; trends in the distribution of wealth; inflation; and the number and magnitude of other important problems which the public has to think about these days.

These and related influences are precipitating what I shall with your leave refer to as the mid-century crisis of the research library. Universities carry so heavy a share of the burden for present research that we are talking about something singularly important to their libraries, but standing alongside them and equally affected are the research libraries not connected with universities, so the more inclusive term seems to be preferable. This critical situation is being described nowadays by far-seeing observers in language such as the following: “... I see nothing which in coming years is to stand between the librarian and an issue of books upon books, so vast and so uninterrupted that unless he brings the benefit of something like science to his aid, he will be overwhelmed and buried in their very mass.” It may surprise you to know that the words just quoted were uttered by the President of the Pennsylvania Historical Society in his address of welcome to the Conference of Librarians which organized the American Library Association in 1876.

I pick an older statement of the problem, first, to help avoid any hysterical wringing of hands. A crisis is something to be met, not something to excite hysteria. I pick it also to emphasize the fact that this crisis is new in certain particulars only. To be sure, it is serious, but it has been serious at other times, too, notably in the fifteenth and the nineteenth centuries. I have no doubt that twentieth-century man will meet the situation as resolutely as his predecessors did.

In meeting what you are to allow me to call, for short, the research library crisis, we can move in one of three directions. First, we can depend on going straight ahead. We can stick to a tradition which has come down from much simpler times, let each library go its own sweet way, collect exactly as its budget and local needs prescribe

* Library Journal, 1:92, Nov. 30, 1876.
and disregard any regional or national problems not met adequately by the unsupplemented efforts of individual research libraries acting each without reference to the others. Second, we can depend on reorganization. We can let the individual library continue to use its budget to meet local needs, as it sees them, but isolate those functions or activities which lend themselves to being institutionalized and which can be done more efficiently or more economically if thus centralized. We can then create a central agency—a regional library of a new type—to support these special functions and use voluntary cooperation to get the regional library going and get it independently financed. Third, we can depend solely on what we can do through voluntary cooperation, paying no thought to questions of reorganization otherwise. That is, we can call on each library not merely to serve the clientage it is chartered to serve, but to take on a fair share of whatever additional responsibilities are deemed to be in the regional or the national interest and finance the supra- or extra-local responsibility out of savings made through voluntary cooperative agreements on collecting and storing material; and if these savings are not enough, out of funds added to the local library budget to enable it to bear its share of the extra cost.

There may be other alternatives to these, but no others have so far articulated themselves, so we seem justified in confining the present discussion to these three. Up to a point, the second and third courses are not mutually exclusive, but they involve such different methods of attack and will yield such different results in the end that they deserve to be considered separately.

The first alternative need not detain us long. As late as the medieval period, the whole literature available to an age was embodied in no more than a few hundred works. Libraries of record thereafter were able to continue to collect everything of importance for research till around the beginning of the twentieth century. The British Museum, for example, gave up trying to do that in the first quarter of the century and, before or afterward, every research library in existence found it necessary to follow suit. In consequence, we have today no bona fide library of record, and the probability daily becomes more remote that we shall ever have anything of the kind again. In consequence, only a stray professor and no librarian I know believes any longer that our libraries can each go it alone and get us far enough. Even if each research library could single-handedly serve its own clientage well enough, the sum of these single-handed efforts would not add up to a sound research library program for the total society of which the library is a part.

This brings us to the second alternative, reorganization. The goal immediately ahead would be a regional library which would stand on its own feet financially and have its own work to do for the region and the nation. Its relation to existing libraries would be that of an ally or auxiliary, not that of a competitor. It would not be a “super-library” in aspiring to outdo existing libraries and secure for itself a copy of every publication required for research in the region. Its aspirations would be different and less local, less self-centered. It would be charged with helping organize regional coverage of the kind just suggested, would in fact assume heavy responsibility to make such coverage a reality, but would leave as much to other libraries as the latter can dependably handle on their own. In thus rounding out and “sparking” a regional program, this library would be a new organ distinctive enough, important enough and alive enough to encourage a network of re-
gional activities to grow up around it. It would seek to institutionalize the handling of activities necessary to create the interdependence of a regional system where no system now exists. It would promote such interdependence better than voluntary commitments will do because it would have back of the commitments it made in the public interest enough public support to inspire confidence on the part of other institutions in its capacity to make good on those commitments.

One can already find in the South, in New England and the Midwest centers which could possibly be developed into regional libraries with the kind of program and the independent support just described. The name of the Midwest Inter-Library Center certainly suggests a search for a program broader than interlibrary dependence on warehouse space for sloughed-off books; whereas the Joint University Libraries is, I suppose, as good an example as we could find of an existing local library which could adopt the nonstorage conception outlined in the preceding paragraph and take on larger regional responsibilities, provided it had at its disposal special funds supplied for the purpose of keeping these regional responsibilities from losing out to local needs in the competition for the funds now at its disposal. But if such possibilities reside in existing centers, others are better equipped than I to speak of the fact, so I shall have recourse to ideas and language current in the Northeast where plans are maturing which, if perfected and given the necessary public support, promise to meet successfully the research library crisis as it affects that region. Certain directors of libraries lying mainly along the Atlantic seaboard are working together on this plan, but I shall need for present purposes to refer only to the work of an overlapping group, a New York City steering committee on library cooperation which in the last two years has worn out more chair cushions in discussing this highly complex problem than the most industrious patrons of the New York Public Library in the same building where our meetings have been held.

Most of our time in 1950-51 was devoted to the kind of acquisitions program a northeastern regional library should have, and the results are embodied in a statement prepared by Jerome K. Wilcox entitled "The Acquisition Program of the Regional Auxiliary Library." Here are some of the highlights of that document. The regional library would take as much responsibility for foreign material now coming to the region as it is asked to do. It would accept from other libraries material which they no longer wish to keep but which should be preserved in the region. It would not collect incunabula, Americana or other rarities. It would be prepared to assume heavy responsibility for rounding out regional acquisition of current publications in the following categories: official publications of the U.S. government (federal, state, municipal, county), of foreign governments, international organizations; periodicals and other serial publications which are out of the way but significantly document contemporary life (publications of bar associations, of law societies; administrative publications of institutions of higher learning; publications of state and local historical societies; proceedings, reports, journals and other publications of learned, scientific and technical societies, U.S. and foreign; publications, reports, journals and other publications of trade unions, commercial organizations, religious bodies, national patriotic societies and veterans organizations, etc.); and finally, certain miscellaneous publications such as foreign dissertations and trade catalogs. Current material in these various categories would be systematically collected.
by the regional library, but it would not expect to get back files of such limited-audience publications except by taking over back files already in the region. Files of material intended for larger audiences and still actively used by many readers would be left to other libraries to build up.

The Wilcox statement is part of an interim report for 1950-51 prepared by the committee covering such additional points about a northeastern regional library as location, control, method of financing and services. It would take us too far afield to consider such matters here. The narrower object at the moment is to suggest a turn which it is possible for the development of research library service to take as a means of coping with a crisis in which an adequate acquisitions program is crucial. Perhaps, therefore, enough has been said to indicate that one way out is reorganization of the pattern of research library service whereby greater interdependence and greater total strength will be fostered among the various libraries of a region by inserting a new mechanism in the total set-up; or, to borrow a figure from biology to express the same idea, by inserting a new organ the function of which will be to give the region better health and strength bibliographically by developing new tissues of interdependence where genuine interdependence can now hardly be said to exist.

It can be urged against this course that it is too bold, too much of a break with the past and ahead of our times. If these prove too much for us we can still depend on voluntary cooperation to take us as far as it can, and that is the third alternative.

The audience knows well how fruitful voluntary cooperation has been in research library development. What would be more natural or more proper than to fall back on it once more when, somewhere between the depression and the present, we saw the research library heading into this midcentury crisis? First came the New England Deposit Library. It was a pioneer development in cooperative storage, perhaps best described as an off-the-premises warehouse or annex designed to serve not one library but all libraries in a region which chose at the outset, or which choose later, to come into the cooperative arrangement. Its main purpose was to provide cheap storage. It was located far enough away from any of the libraries, from coffee shops and hotel facilities to underline the idea of pooling warehouse facilities, but it was at the same time a way of reaching out to find something more than storage, which was correctly seen to be only a piece of a solution to the threatening crisis. It was hoped that "cooperation between the libraries connected with the new institution will (1) do away with a good deal of unnecessary duplication that has already taken place, (2) prevent additional unnecessary duplication in the future, (3) provide for the advantageous disposal of the unnecessary duplicates, (4) help to bring about a suitable division of fields between the cooperating libraries as far as research material is concerned, and (5) make readily available to all the libraries the little-used books of any one of them."

Then came the Farmington Plan which is as close to a national program as research libraries have thus far devised. Worked out a few years after the first cooperative storage library was created, the Farmington Plan made specific provision for division of fields and for the fixing of responsibility for developing them. The plan calls on each cooperating library for four things: (1) To continue the support of its local program of instruction and research; (2) To accept in addition primary responsibility for developing certain fields; (3) To unite with other

libraries in this and other ways to insure serious readers throughout the nation access to at least one copy of each foreign work deemed important for research; and (4) To join in determining whether enough savings cannot be effected through such efforts to hold library costs to approximately their present level. The storage-Farmington formula, if this short-cut expression is acceptable, thus yields when considered as a unit a coherent program for meeting the research library crisis. It draws a bead on two targets in plain sight—the costs of space and material. It is the essence of simplicity, involves a minimum adjustment of our habits, a minimum new money and essentially no channels of action not provided automatically by volunteer institutions.

Here, then, are three courses open to us as we head into the second half of the twentieth century. Which one are we going to take? As indicated, the choice is mainly between the second and the third. Since research libraries have already committed themselves experimentally to the third, is it any good to discuss the other? I believe so, and suggest five reasons why.

First, the advantage of continual appraisal of what we are doing. We shall wish to support the Farmington Plan until some improvement is worked out, but it is up to us to find out where improvement is possible. A reasonable attitude to take toward our commitments as members and friends of the Association of Research Libraries might be borrowed from an eminent American who in another connection wrapped up the spirit of loyalty and the spirit of sympathetic criticism in one package by saying, "I am for my country right or wrong; if right to keep it right; if wrong, to set it right."

Second, the lack of dependability in present volunteer commitments. When a university library volunteers cooperation in helping round out the research facilities of the region or nation, it does so with the implied understanding that if the going gets rough financially and supporting the supra- or extra-university program conflicts with supporting the university program itself, the conflict will be resolved in favor of the university program. The spirit of the volunteer is willing enough but his flesh is too weak to give trustees of other universities assurance that if they modify their own collecting policies and depend on the volunteers, they will be on safe ground.

Third, the hoped-for savings from participating in the Farmington Plan have not yet materialized. It is too early to tell whether greater savings will not come in due course, particularly if supplemented by cheap storage. Will they be great enough, even so, to freeze budgets where they are, as hoped at the outset? Possibly, but for the library system which was already buying selectively when it entered the present cooperative arrangements, the signs are not very encouraging. They point rather to the likelihood that the public will be called on to pay a larger bill for research library service or accept a lower standard of service which will cost heavily in other ways. If increased costs cannot be skirted by savings through cooperative arrangements, it will pay us to give more thought than we have given since inaugurating the Farmington Plan to developing new support. A regional library of the kind here envisaged would tap new support and at the same time keep the total bill for research library costs below the costs required to maintain the same standards of service without a central agency of this kind.

Fourth, the need of bolder measures for the long pull. We are now fighting what amounts to a rear-guard action. This is good enough as a rescue measure, but not
good enough to cope with a crisis that requires us, as this one does, to do something besides waiting on what happens next.

Fifth, the practical limits of volunteer action in a situation of this kind. In the Dunkerque rescue of 1940, the British threw in every seaworthy vessel in reach—tugboats, yachts, fishing boats, everything. His Majesty's Navy rose to exceptional heights by calling on civilian facilities and personnel to do double duty. More recently, we saw in the army of the Dalai Lama, the god-king of Tibet, an instance where double-duty measures were applied more consistently as a matter of public policy. In organizing resistance to the advancing Communists, the nation leaned heavily on young nobles who, like their counterparts in the West in feudal times, marshalled each his own retinue of servants and went out to help fight the common enemy.

The thing that strikes us as unusual in the Dunkerque “navy” and the Tibet army is not the evident civilian willingness to cooperate to the point of doing double duty but the use of volunteered support as a method—a method of getting action when, where and in the amount needed. Mobilization for total warfare nowadays depends no less on a willingness to cooperate, but it uses a very different method of organizing the joint undertaking in order to get action when, where and in the amount needed. To seek to achieve the smooth fighting effectiveness of a modern nation through the feudal methods of the Dunkerque navy or the Tibet army would be to strain, to overextend the practical limits of voluntary cooperation.

This paper will have served its purpose if it shows that the university library—more broadly, the research library—is striking pressures in our time which will force a turn in its course, and if it promotes fruitful discussion of alternatives. Some libraries will undoubtedly seek to forge a course straight ahead and may succeed in doing so to their own satisfaction; but the burden of the argument here is that an adequate national research policy—an adequate program for the institution, the research library—cannot be worked out along this line. If we are to maintain the standards of library service which America’s research interests have come to rely upon, it seems necessary to institute reorganization proceedings of some kind or turn to a circle of hard-pressed institutions to volunteer to carry an ever-larger share of mounting supra- or extra-local responsibilities. Both courses make use of joint effort, but in different ways and on a different scale. The central problem is how society can, through its representatives, find the best way to enlist cooperation on the scale necessary to meet the crisis. The most fruitful course seems to call for a new division of labor which will transfer to a regional library created for the purpose extra-local responsibilities which local research libraries more and more now find themselves bearing. This course would not only keep the contributions of the present hard-pressed institutions within practical limits they can stand, but would at the same time open the way for individual citizens, private organizations and public bodies, having a stake in the outcome but no direct interest in the institutions now shouldering the load, to join in the cooperative effort.
The Librarian Looks at the Publisher

Dr. Hirsch is librarian and professor of history at Bard College.

The relations between the publisher and the librarian as guardian of his readers' interests need constant re-emphasizing, even though it is evident that libraries are not the most important factor for the American book business. The following remarks, while not uncritical of the publishing trade, are meant to help bridge the gap between publisher and librarian. In making his comments, the author is fully aware of the difficult situation in which the American book trade finds itself today. So able an analyst as J. K. Lasser has recently spoken of publishing as "a large, but ailing business" and has claimed that those trade book publishers who are clients of his accounting firm, have annual total earnings of less than 3 per cent after taxes have been paid. Also another unbiased observer, William Miller, has taken a rather gloomy view of this industry and its prospects.

Libraries as Customers

Before looking at the publisher, a quick glance at the librarian may be in order. First of all, how significant are libraries actually as customers of the book trade? According to William Miller, all American libraries spent in 1948 about $32,000,000 for books and periodicals. Public libraries alone absorbed $8,400,000 worth or nine per cent of the trade publishing. College and university libraries may have a more limited clientele, but are also important customers. According to the latest statistics, some outstanding large institutions like Harvard and Yale, but also some small ones, such as Wells and Bard, spend annually about $30.00 or more per capita for books, periodicals and binding. These are impressive figures, but librarians, and especially academic librarians, should endeavor to raise their sights still more. They should have no inhibitions when it comes to lobbying for better book budgets, for the last $1000 really decides whether a librarian can buy only the "must" books or also those which would help to improve the level of the collection.

Secondly, librarians should ask themselves whether or not they always select books which combine timeliness with enduring value. In choosing new titles, do they merely follow the trends of best sellerdom or are they striving to uphold the best standards? If librarians just try to meet the average demands for the popular book—good, bad or indifferent—they will be of little help to that publisher who aims to present unusual titles of high merit. William Miller's contention "that most libraries (i.e. public libraries) do not and, indeed, cannot buy many serious titles and..."
that those that buy a few cannot buy many copies of them," if correct, would be a grave reflection on the situation of present-day libraries.

Thirdly, and above all, do librarians work hard enough to convince their clientele that there is no greater joy than to build up a collection of one's own? This writer concurs with the Swiss librarian Marcel Godet who said: "It cannot be doubted that the book one has bought and owns, has, intellectually speaking, greater value than the book one borrows." Therefore, it is one of the librarian's noblest functions to promote the development of private collections, be they small or large. No librarian active along these lines need fear that he is endangering the business of his library thereby. Bernard Berelson has just presented statistical evidence that "the larger the home collection, the more use is made of the public library." Librarians working in educational institutions often make the same observation. The students whom they help informally in getting started on a collection of their own do not cease to be good library customers for that reason. There are many effective ways of promoting this worthy cause. In a small institution like Bard the library staff can do this job in friendly conversations; in larger places more elaborate methods of encouragement are desirable. Some college libraries award cash prizes to the students whose private collections are outstanding in a campus-wide contest. In Rockford College the librarian arranges a "reprint tea" in the early fall. She says: "It must be admitted that the lure of tea and cookies often brings a bigger crowd than would a library talk alone, but frequently those who come to enjoy the tea, are known to leave with an interest in the what and where of bookbuying." In a way librarians shoulder here, as an honorary task, what is in Europe the regular function of the bookseller, and I wish that American bookstores would see in them only their unselfish friends, not their competitors.

What Kind of Reprints?

The topic of reprints leads directly to the first suggestion which is offered here to American publishers. They are at present thinking of new ways to widen their markets, for it is evident that some of them may not survive if their business does not expand considerably. This writer grew up in Germany where some publishers realized, long before the first World War, that young people of modest means could buy only inexpensive books, but that these should be so well manufactured that they could become part of a lifetime library. For the equivalent of a quarter, the Inselbuch was available with attractive hard covers; its contents were invariably of high literary or artistic merit. Often an Inselbuch would consist only of art reproductions, woodcuts, etchings, and later on also of paintings in multicolors. How many of us received our first introduction to Dürer and Holbein from these wonderful little books! It is encouraging to see that Pocket Books are now experimenting with very well-done art volumes. It should be possible to sell such books by the hundreds of thousands to a generation that is so much more art-conscious than its forefathers were. Otherwise, the experiences with 25-cent books have not always been gratifying to librarians.6

6 Miller, op. cit., p. 124.
8 Munthe offers in his second chapter some very pertinent comments on books and reading in America and in Europe.
ians. For every good book available in such inexpensive editions there are too many that are plain tripe, while Inselbücherei, Reclam's Universal-Bibliothek and similar collections avoided concessions to vulgar tastes.

Good Books for a Dollar!

The second series with which this writer grew up and whose slender volumes, bound solidly in light brown cloth, he still treasures after 30 years or more, is the Sammlung Göschen. It consists of about 1000 volumes, priced at the equivalent of 60¢ or 70¢, covering almost all fields of knowledge and written by experts, but as a rule in nontechnical language. There can be little doubt that we have an enormous potential market for books of this kind in the U.S.A. The English have developed similar large-scale enterprises which serve the purposes of adult education and help to introduce students elegantly to important subjects. The Home University Library, which contains some first-rate volumes contributed by world-renowned British scholars, is one of these series. More recently the Teach Yourself History Library, ably edited by A. L. Rowse, has made its appearance; its volumes are excellent for the beginner, whether adult or of college age. This series is published in England, according to the Cumulative Book Index, at 5s, i.e. 70¢ per volume, but sells in this country at $2.00—(though actually printed in Great Britain). Would not a wise publisher, anxious to approach a wider market, pass on such currency difference to his customers? This splendid series certainly would enjoy much wider sales if the price were down to $1.00.

In the reprint field some series have been very effective along these lines, although at times the selection might benefit from a more catholic taste. The new American edition of Everyman's Library looks perhaps most appealing from the point of view of the private reader. Binding, printing and paper seem attractive; to own St. Augustine's Confessions or Hobbes' Leviathan in this edition is nothing to be ashamed of. This American edition of Everyman's suits also the needs of libraries for additional copies of great books. This collection is eventually to grow to 250 titles. It is too early to compare its standards of selection with those of the Modern Library, whose binding and paper have not always been pleasing. Many instructors and librarians have great expectations for the new college edition of the Modern Library. Another excellent series, the Viking Portable Library, unfortunately has just gone up in price. This may affect its popularity among the less well-to-do. William Miller, by the way, offers a number of suggestions in the reprint field which might be applied also by college and university librarians. For instance, he mentions the possibility that a large number of libraries or the ALA might "rent plates from publishers at the same low rates given commercial clubs, then produce their own books and distribute them almost at cost to member libraries." He also thinks of groups of libraries or the ALA guaranteeing to publishers a considerable minimum of sales for new books with uncertain market appeal and, finally, of purchasing reprint rights to books in great demand at libraries and issuing them in pocket-size paper-bound editions.

Inexpensive Art Books

American publishing has not yet caught up with Europe in still another area, that of art books. There is potentially an enormous demand for good medium-priced art books in this country. The fact that hundreds of thousands went to see the exhibitions of the German and Austrian master-

11 Miller, op. cit., p. 129.
To the Van Gogh show and many similar events, demonstrates beyond a reasonable doubt that the hunger for good art is ever growing in the USA. But our publishers, with a few laudable exceptions, have not yet mastered the technique of bringing out art books that could compare in quality and price, e.g., with the output of the Phaidon Press in London. This affiliate of the Oxford University Press issues volumes containing many first-rate reproductions in giant size, at $5.00, and pocket editions of some great works of art history at $2.50. It is true that labor and materials are more costly in this country than in England, France (with her Hyperion Press), or Germany, but America surpasses all of them in production methods. If we can bring out on the assembly line millions of comparatively inexpensive cars, refrigerators and television sets, why not also reasonably priced art books? It is a record of failure on the part of publishers and printers that only relatively few worth-while American art publications sell at less than $8.00 or $10.00; therefore, many of these art books never reach the people who would appreciate them most.

Another market with great potentialities has not yet been opened up either. Every public librarian knows that there are many millions of adults whose education has been so limited that the books available on library shelves are far above their level of reading comprehension. These people don't want to read children's books. They are mature citizens, merely underprivileged in their education and thus handicapped in their reading abilities. If public libraries had enough books especially designed to meet their needs, they might become their loyal customers instead of bypassing the library buildings, but the publishing trade has not yet seized this opportunity. College librarians and instructors are also familiar with freshmen who have reading difficulties. As this writer has frequently observed, not all these students are poor risks. Among them are some who will make the grade if they receive proper guidance and if there are enough rather simply-written books around from which to get started.

"Immediate Important Sales"

Could book prices come down in general? The publishers believe they cannot cut the prices; on the contrary, they will insist that they have been too cautious in raising them since the end of World War II. Perhaps they are correct in their protestations, as long as certain pernicious tendencies in the book business cannot be arrested. The fact must be faced that many, if not most, trade books in America are dead after one season. Everybody shares in the responsibility for this deplorable situation. The public is fickle in its tastes and follows fashions or fads to a considerable extent in its book purchases. A work like Worlds in Collision has enormous sales, although experts were highly critical of it from the beginning, and at present we observe with dismay the equally amazing boom of Dianetics. Librarians do not always aim at the proper standards either, although the previews in the Library Journal, written by their own colleagues, and various other noncommercial reviewing tools could save them from many a misspent dollar. The publishers finally, knowing the market situation with all the risks of costly storage and excessive capital investments, aim too much at "immediate important sales," as one of them put it to this writer sometime ago.

All of us should work together to find ways in which the life of those books would be prolonged that have been worth publishing. If his memory does not betray this
writer, books in Europe, generally speaking, had a much longer life in his time over there. This would save librarians, for instance, from many of the headaches they have today with out-of-print books. A noted English expert, L. Stanley Jast, former head of the Manchester Public Library, has said so aptly: "The burial of a living person is a horror. The burial of a living book is a tragedy, made the deeper by the many births of dead ones." Publishers probably would raise their standards of selection and concern themselves less with the sale of their rights to book clubs, to the movies, to periodicals for serialization, and to reprint houses, if the normal good book would have a longer life expectancy and if they could rely on more revenue from their backlist. Maybe librarians should help them, as William Miller proposes, by guaranteeing a considerable minimum of sales for older items (needed for replacements) which would otherwise be allowed to go out of print.

Vital Books from Abroad

There could be quite a saving on over-editing. Let the responsibility for the proper presentation of a book rest squarely with the author! Don't pad, don't rewrite his books! Let the editor gain more time for talent scouting, especially for canvassing the whole range of good foreign books! American publishers, excepting Knopf, Viking, Norton, a few others, and some university presses, have not made enough effort to bring the most significant books from abroad in adequate translations to the attention of the American public. A few examples, chosen at random, may suffice to prove this point. When the Swiss novelist Hermann Hesse received the Nobel Prize in Literature, even the learned editor of the New York Times expressed surprise about the choice: "The literary award . . . creates an international fame where none existed before." This writer took the liberty to correct the editor in a letter which was printed at once, stating that it was a reflection on the American publishing business, if Hesse was little known in this country; only a few books from his large oeuvre had been translated, whereas in Europe all his works were sold by the tens or hundreds of thousands. Is it not ridiculous that most of Max Weber's sociological writings were made accessible to American students only a generation after his death? Also that the one monumental Bismarck biography written in our time, that by Erich Eyck (published in Switzerland during World War II), has been presented to the Anglo-Saxon world only now, in a terribly condensed version, while so many recent light-weight biographies from abroad appeared on the market immediately and unabridged?

As to world affairs, are our publishers really doing all that can be expected of them in an era when America has become a superpower and is shouldering such heavy responsibilities abroad? Again a characteristic example: Two, and only two, first-rate books were published in Germany shortly after the Third Reich collapsed; they revealed more about the German frame of mind than loads of "quickies" written by self-styled American experts on the subject. One was Friedrich Meinecke's German Catastrophe. It was published, at last, in January 1950 by the Harvard University Press, when it was already dated in spots. The other, Eugen Kogon's Theory and Practice of Hell (German title: Der S. S. Staat), was on the list of Farrar, Strauss 14

13 Miller, op. cit., p. 129.
15 For further comments on this topic see Hirsch, Felix E. Beyond All Frontiers. Current History, 14:90-94, February 1948.
for Fall 1950, when Nazi concentration camps had lost some of their timely interest for the general reader. American publishing houses should be and could be much more alert in this respect.

Long is the list of sins of omission regarding Slavic civilization. Many of the great Russian authors have been available only in poor, if not abominable translations. Only recently have publishers begun to think of presenting Turgenev and some other past masters in the dignified form they deserve. It needed the Russian translation project of the American Council of Learned Societies to bring at least a taste of modern Russian scholarship to American readers. University presses, though well-intentioned, are not always too effective when it comes to widening the horizon of the American public. A fair critic, the historian Geoffrey Bruun, stated recently that “in a year when the history of other nations should attract millions of American readers, it is discouraging to find the offerings of the university presses in this field a matter for more regrets than congratulations.”

Again, here is a wide and constantly expanding market for enterprising, far-sighted publishers. Many hundreds, if not some thousands, of American libraries would buy up (possibly even guarantee to buy) every single good, solid, unsensational book on international affairs that publishers would have vision enough to bring out. How urgently are more sound and up-to-date books on southeast Asia needed, not to speak of Korea! Also at least one observer is convinced that in the production of world atlases we are still behind our ablest foreign competitors. Bartholomew’s Advanced Atlas of Modern Geography, in its latest revision, costs in England only the equivalent of $4.00; its maps of the non-American areas are vastly superior to what is offered in more expensive atlases made in the USA.

More Truthful Publicity!

If more books are to be sold, we need more truthful publicity for them. Librarians have become hesitant when they see exaggerated praise of forthcoming books in publishers’ advertisements or circulars. Those librarians who, for geographic reasons, cannot always examine the books themselves in good stores before the orders go out, feel especially annoyed by the ballyhoo of promotion campaigns by which they are misled. They dislike publishers’ blurbs when they don’t describe book and author accurately. The other day this writer perused with amusement a new book whose author was said to have been “long recognized as America’s leading student of the economic, social and political problems of our industrial age.” What an exaggeration! Would it not have been so much more honest and, for many people, more appetizing, if the blurb had just said that the author is a very able young economist?

Since we are on the subject of truth, it may seem permissible to ask American publishers to be more cautious when using the term “revised edition.” Only too often the reader or librarian who has bought a revised edition on the strength of a publisher’s advertisement finds out to his distress that actually just some minor flaws have been corrected; at best, a few pages have been appended in the last chapter to bring the text somehow up-to-date. It should be clearly understood whether a book has a new printing with some minor corrections or has been carefully revised throughout.

Librarians are entitled to precise bibliographic information, and the recent recommendations of the ALA Book Acquisitions Committee to the American Book Publishers Council deserve emphatic endorsement.
Continuous Revision

This writer takes even stronger exception to a related term, “continuous revision,” as used by some highly-respectable encyclopedia makers. This term creates exaggerated expectations in the minds of individual readers, and also of many librarians. For instance, the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* claims to have revised or added 42,074 articles in the period 1932-1950. This sounds impressive. The reader who examines the 1950 printing of the *Britannica*, while admiring its enduring qualities, finds that much remains to be desired. Many topics of vital importance have not been properly revised and the bibliographies are in dire need of overhauling. The articles on some of the world’s greatest danger-spots, such as Austria and Korea, are far from up-to-date. Franklin D. Roosevelt’s biography devotes nine lines to his last nine years of office, and the article on him occupies only one third of the space allotted to Theodore Roosevelt—certainly a lack of historical proportion. These are but a few examples from a long list of desiderata. Walter Yust, the editor of the *Britannica*, states emphatically in a circular: “There will be no 15th edition.” Librarians can only reply: “The 15th edition is needed.”

Compliments are deserved by many American publishers for their efforts to improve book-making in the narrower sense of the word. A steady tendency toward more legible and more attractive printing may be detected, thanks to the educating influence of such pioneers as F. W. Goudy, Bruce Rogers, etc. The average American book of today has a more pleasing appearance than did the output of the printing presses a few decades ago. The efforts of publishers like Knopf, Random House, Viking and some others in this respect deserve the highest admiration. Even books of the university presses, many of which used to look rather dull, now measure up to high standards of design. That does not exclude occasional lapses, when unsolid binding, poor paper and narrow margins annoy the librarian. Also index-making and bibliographic information have improved.

In conclusion, it may be fairly said that as librarians we cannot always agree with the policies and practices of American publishers. We believe, however, that most of our grievances can be corrected and that the publishing business in the United States will be more prosperous and exert a more salutary influence, if it works hand in hand with its true friends, the librarians.

College and University Library Statistics

The ACRL Statistics Committee hopes to complete its work on the 1950-51 statistics (with salary and certain budget information for the year 1951-52) by Nov. 15, 1951. The involved task of typesetting and proofreading these figures will be pushed as fast as possible and the material should appear in the January issue of *College and Research Libraries* instead of April, as formerly.

ACRL Headquarters will order preprints or extra proofs of the statistics if there is substantial demand for them. These preprints or proofs can probably be mailed out before January 1, several weeks before the January issue. A charge (not more than a dollar) will be made for this service. If for budget planning or other reasons you are eager to secure a preprint as soon as possible, please send a note to that effect to the ACRL Executive Secretary, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago 11, Ill.

OCTOBER, 1951
By HARRIET D. MACPHERSON

The Role of Biography as a Literary Form

Dr. MacPherson is dean, School of Library Science, Drexel Institute of Technology.

As librarians you are likely to deal with biographies in several different ways. You select and order books representing this form of literature; you catalog and classify them; you recommend and lend them over the desk; you use biographies as reference tools for yielding detailed information when the occasion arises; and last—sometimes quite voluntarily—you even read them.

The following remarks are concerned mainly with the content of biographies, the style and form in which they are written, the approach of their authors. The subject will be treated more or less historically so as to show some of the changes that have developed in biographical writing from the earliest times up to the present. Certain centuries will be handled in detail whenever marked characteristics in biographical style are evident. There will also be an attempt to evaluate and compare some outstanding examples of biographies that have stood the test of time, as well as a few of our own day that seem likely to prove of lasting merit.

From this introduction it can be seen that the approach to the subject is to be from the point of view of the reader rather than that of the practicing librarian. It is possible, however, that an investigation and analysis of trends in biography may heighten your interest and intelligence in the professional handling of works belonging to this class of literature.

Historically, the writing of biography may be said to go back to Plutarch’s Lives in the first century A.D.; some critics would place the date a hundred years or so earlier. The discussion of biography as an art or distinct form of literature did not, however, become of much importance until the present century. Since World War I, the number of biographies produced annually has increased surprisingly, and the style of their writing has become more readable. Other changes relate to the more lifelike portrayal of the subjects, and to the more individualistic manner in which biographers handle their material. Writers and readers alike soon became aware of an awakening movement, and it was not strange that a considerable literature on the nature of biography should have arisen.

Beginning with the nineteen twenties, numerous publications have appeared, particularly in the United States and Great Britain, which deal with the history, analysis and criticism of the writing of biography. Some of these contributions assume the form of entire volumes. Others constitute introductory essays to selections from the works of several biographers. Still others represent articles in periodicals. A few that might be cited as noteworthy examples are: Wilbur L. Cross’ An Outline of Biography; André Maurois’ Aspects of Biography; Edgar Johnson’s One Mighty...

**Classification**

Most of these authors have attempted to classify existing biographies. The resulting divisions do not agree in every detail, chiefly because biography as a subject is so complex and so capable of being broken down in several directions. Nevertheless, a certain pattern develops which covers specimens that have been appearing during the past 2000 years.

As to amount of coverage, biographies may be classified as individual or collective. As to authenticity, they may be deemed scholarly or popular. As to authorship, they may be divided into autobiographies, or true biographies where the writer is a different person from the subject. As to point of view, they may be regarded as factual or critical, or as works combining both these elements. As to length of treatment, they may range from brief articles to comprehensive studies. Fictional biography and biographical fiction remain on the fringe because opinion differs as to where they belong.

Some types of literature which are generally included under the term *biography* are illustrated almost exclusively by specimens of autobiography. Aside from a few collections consisting of excerpts from the writings of several autobiographers, these types are regarded as peculiar to individual autobiography. They include such literary forms as diaries, journals, memoirs, letters, correspondence, reminiscences and confessions.

In both individual and collective biography an author may deal with his subject as a whole, or with some particular aspect on which he concentrates. Diaries and journals are likewise often confined to certain years of an author’s life, though letters and correspondence may run from early in life until the very day of death.

The author of collective biography often finds it practical to select his subjects because of some point which binds them together, such as period or profession. This is true of Lytton Strachey’s *Eminent Victorians* and of Eleanor S. Duckett’s *Anglo-Saxon Saints and Sinners*.

Brief collective biographies of recent years have come to be known as “short biographies.” Literally speaking, most collective biographies present brief treatments of several people, unless the author limits himself to two or three lives or extends his material to monumental proportions. Yet the number of volumes devoted to brief sketches of several people has been increasing steadily. A book published in 1935, by Marston Balch, *Modern Short Biographies*, emphasizes this trend.

Individual and collective biographies that deal with attainments of people in a critical or evaluative sense rather than in true biographical fashion are difficult to classify. Often it is a problem as to whether such books can be considered biography, as the chronological facts in a subject’s life may be handled very incidentally. While more illustrations come to mind in the field of literature, examples may be found also among biographies dealing with artists, musicians, scientists and men of business.

**Authorship of Biographies and Autobiographies**

The part played by the author of a biography is considerable. His genuine interest in and knowledge of his subject, his style, his reputation as a writer, his objectivity, the age and country in which he lives, the relative importance of his subject in world
events—all of these elements have important bearing on the book produced. Many excellent biographies have a narrow appeal because the person written about was renowned for too specialized a contribution. Not a few works, while important factually, remain almost unread because of their cumbersome style. Some books suffer and others gain in importance because the authors were related to or worked closely with their subjects.

Why does an author undertake to write a biography? Probably for as many reasons as people set out to write anything. The following would seem to outline the chief objectives: (1) to cover a definite need in the field; (2) to produce a by-product of intensive research already completed by an author, in the area of his specialty; (3) to answer public demand that he undertake the work because he has been deemed the best qualified person from one or several points of view; (4) to use biography as a vehicle for propaganda; (5) to commemorate the anniversary of a subject's birth, death or offering to the world of some particular achievement; (6) to make money; (7) to launch or further a literary reputation; and (8) to fulfill an honest desire to increase the subject's importance by bringing him into the public eye.

Some of the qualifications of a biographer, such as ability to write and interest in his subject, have already been suggested. There are many others. Today, a scholarly biography must be well documented. This means that the writer must have read widely and have acknowledged in his work primary as well as secondary sources. If the subject has already been treated by other biographers, the new work is judged largely from the extent to which additional facts have been presented.

When the biography concerns a person who is still living or who has died recently, the author must contact friends and relatives who can furnish special information. This often involves much correspondence and considerable travel. Visits to the haunts of the biographee must also be considered whenever possible. Travel may also be involved in gaining access to manuscript collections and other special types of source material.

If the subject of a biography has become the center of controversy—involving personal immorality, questionable political standards, a secret marriage or a dozen other factors—the author must be careful in handling such details. Many lawsuits have resulted from the supposed defamation of a famous character. The biographer must also be on guard against publishing data from material which may have been shown to him confidentially.

In addition, a biographer must have perseverance, energy, optimism and discrimination. Needless to say, he must also possess the attributes of any research worker in a specialized field: background knowledge, accuracy, and in many instances, considerable ability at reading foreign languages. When he has at last finished his task, this paragon of writers should be prepared to hope for the best and prepare for the worst, in getting a publisher and having his book well acclaimed by readers.

Qualifications of an Autobiographer

Does a person who undertakes the writing of his own life history need to possess all the above-mentioned virtues? Perhaps not, but he must be able to write well and in an interesting fashion. Also, he must have something unusual to say, whatever his walk of life. A sense of humor likewise seems more necessary when a man is presenting himself in a book than when he is writing of others. Since many autobiographies are undertaken in old age or in late middle life, memory alone can seldom be relied upon. Reference to diaries, letters
and certain texts may be necessary, as well as consultation with friends and relatives. This is particularly true when a man has led a very busy or varied life, or if he proceeds to delve into his ancestry. Of course there are instances where an autobiographer purposely misrepresents facts or omits necessary statements, but sooner or later such perversion of the truth will generally come to light.

Trends in Historical Development of Biographical Writings

To trace in entirety the historical development of the art of biography would prove an arduous, complicated undertaking. An examination of the literature of every civilized nation would be necessary, and then a concentration on all biographical texts available. Albert Britt’s *The Great Biographers* is one of the few over-all outlines, and the work contains many gaps. A more adequate job has been done by writers who have focused on one period or one country, such as Donald A. Stauffer, in his *The Art of Biography in Eighteenth Century England*, published in 1941, and its earlier counterpart, *English Biography before 1700*, published in 1930.

The present author will aim to show trends from the earliest times up to the present, illustrating the different periods by mention of a few outstanding authors and titles. Beginning with the eighteenth century, selection becomes increasingly difficult, as the number of published biographies began to assume huge proportions. During the past decade, with hundreds of titles to choose from every year, one person’s opinion as to outstanding writers seems as good as another’s. The *Publisher’s Weekly* for Jan. 21, 1950, states that the biographical titles published in the United States in 1949 showed an increase of 16 per cent over the preceding year. In 1948 there had appeared 460 new biographical titles and 53 new editions, making a total for the year of 513 works. The year 1949 showed 526 new titles and 69 new editions, totaling 595 biographical titles in all. And these figures cover only American publications!

Ancient Times

In ancient times, before the fall of Rome in 476 A.D., biographical titles were not large in number. Yet if we begin with Plutarch, in the first century, A.D., certain prototypes of today may be found. Plutarch himself, through his *Lives*, presents an excellent example of collective biography. He covers 46 Greek and Roman leaders, arranging many of them in pairs, for the sake of contrast. Persons included represent such varied walks of life as emperors, statesmen, military leaders, philosophers and men of letters. Though many of his sources of information have been lost, a considerable number of the lives are documented, very often in the text itself. Plutarch had a modern conception of the difference between history and biography, and the fact that the individuality of a man must be emphasized in treating of him as a person.

Tacitus and Suetonius, who were both Roman historians of the second century, likewise proved themselves masters of the art of biography. Tacitus wrote one of the first individual biographies of note, when he produced the life of his father-in-law, Agricola. The latter emerges as a real individual, with a clear-cut personality. Moreover, Tacitus furnishes us with an excellent sketch of Britain under the Romans, so that Agricola is fitted into his particular background of place and time. The style of writing is also distinguished. Suetonius, in his *Lives of the Caesars*, produced another early example of collective biography. His subjects were for the most part insidious and he often exaggerated to the extent of becoming untruthful, so that
the accounts of these emperors can best be described as lurid. Is this work the earliest example of the "debunking" variety of biography? Yet the style is straightforward and pleasing, as well as gossipy and humorous.

In 397 A.D. an early example of autobiography was written which came to be known as the *Confessions of St. Augustine*. The author, who was Bishop of Hippo in North Africa, was only 43 when he undertook the account of his life. The work consists of 13 books, of which the first 10 depict the childhood and youth, the moral shortcomings and the inward struggles of the author. Prayers and meditations are often mixed with the account of his personal life. Here is an illustration of an autobiographer who does not shirk the telling of truth about himself, however sordid some of the details turn out to be.

*Medieval Period*

There is then a gap of about four centuries, when the period of medieval biography begins. For the most part, medieval biographies were of two kinds, lives of the saints and lives of kings. The former were written largely for edification and record large numbers of miracles. The person written about dominates the scene, and there is seldom any attempt to write of the people with whom he was surrounded. Bede's *Life of St. Cuthbert* furnishes a better characterization than most lives of the saints, though Bede did not actually differentiate between history and biography. One unique point about St. Cuthbert's biography is the fact that Bede wrote versions of it in both prose and poetry.

Among the lives of kings, that of Charlemagne, by Einhard, may be chosen as a superior example. This author bridged the eighth and ninth centuries and had actually been a student in the Palace School of Charlemagne for many years of his life. Personal acquaintance with his subject proved rather a disadvantage to Einhard, for Charlemagne's shortcomings are entirely overlooked and he is glorified as a sort of superman.

In England, about a century later, appeared the life of King Alfred, written by Asser, an English bishop. This study formed part of the author's chronicle of English history. While the book is highly eulogistic in tone, Alfred emerges as a man and not a saint.

Very few outstanding biographies appeared again until about the time of the Renaissance. Boccaccio's study of Dante, written in the fourteenth century, may be said to represent a new awakening, on the part of a biographer, in his subject. The work, while in prose, is written in poetic vein which is entirely in keeping with Dante's profession. Facts of Dante's life are given, his physical and mental characteristics are described, and there is some attempt at literary criticism.

*Renaissance*

During the sixteenth century there were compiled at least two notable individual biographies and one autobiography of merit. Of the individual biographies, oddly enough, one was written by Sir Thomas More about King Richard III of England, and the other was a work about More which was compiled by his father-in-law, William Roper. The famous autobiography was that of Benvenuto Cellini.

It is supposed that More's style and life-like depiction of his subject were influenced by his thorough acquaintance with Tacitus. In any case, though the biography is well written, More shows himself to be out of sympathy with King Richard. More is often coldly ironic or scathing in his depiction of the king. Yet the characterization is realistic and indicates that More had considerable psychological insight.
Roper's study of More is remarkable for its attention to detail in all the events of the latter's life. However, so far as style and exact characterization are concerned, the biography is uninteresting and scarcely does More justice. Roper must have been a man with limited humor and imagination, as he completely ignores More's wit and the lighter side of his nature. Was this work a hang-over from the mediaeval period or a prototype of the general run of uninteresting individual biographies that was to prevail for the next three centuries?

Cellini's autobiography was written between 1558 and 1562. It has become a classic and has been translated into many languages by outstanding writers. Besides recording intimate details of an adventure-some, lustful life, Cellini succeeds in depicting the turmoil in the Italy of the period. It is a book such as only an artistic genius could have written, as it both attracts and repels by its spirit of revolt and bravado.

Seventeenth Century

The seventeenth century in England saw the rise of the diarists. As a form of autobiography, the diary is more intimate than most such writings, less continuous in style and likely to record the important things of the moment. There is no chance for reflection on the part of the author. None of what he puts down can be seen in retrospect. The two outstanding diarists of this period were Samuel Pepys and John Evelyn.

Pepys was a civil servant, with a post at the Admiralty. He was a member of the Royal Society and possessed a private library of several thousand volumes. He also had a zest for life and was devoted to the theatre. The diary covers a period of about nine and a half years, from 1660 to 1669. Pepys made much of the trivial, though he does record some important happenings of the time. The style is gay, on the whole, despite the entries of tragic events.

John Evelyn's work runs over a longer period, since he began making entries in 1641, when in his early twenties, and continued until almost the time of his death in 1706. He likewise was a public servant, and he traveled widely. While the facts that he records are often interesting and undoubtedly authentic, the style is for the most part dull and lacking in humor.

Sir Isaac Walton published a collection of five lives between 1640 and 1678. His subjects were John Donne, Sir Henry Wotton, Richard Hooker, George Herbert and Robert Sanderson. At least three of these men were known to Walton personally. This perhaps accounts for the fact that the character of the biographer intrudes a little too much into the sketches. The style is rather monotonous, little or no humor is evident and a great deal of emphasis is put on theological matters. Nevertheless, Walton was a conscientious biographer, who took pride in his undertaking, and who could distinguish sharply between history and biography.

In France the seventeenth century represented the golden age in literature and in the prestige of the king and the court. Memoirs were kept by people high in society as well as by authors. Frequently these were not published until years afterwards. Such was the case with the memoirs of Saint-Simon, who lived well into the next century but started his recordings of court events and all that concerned the character and doings of Louis XIV and XV, with the year 1693. The style is at times brilliant, but often tedious.

One letter writer of the century has gained renown far outside France. This was Mme. de Sevigné. The complete correspondence has been published in many volumes, and the people to whom she wrote included most of the literary and social...
lights of her time. However, the majority of her letters were written to her daughter, Mme. de Grignan, whose marriage meant removal to another part of France. While mother and daughter met at intervals, they were so unusually devoted that Mme. de Sevigné sent almost daily accounts of the happenings at court or of the routines of existence at her country home. It is still a question as to whether these letters were written spontaneously or with a view to future publication. Their content shows the author to have been a well-educated woman, with keen political insight and great sophistication. The style is both charming and vivacious, with a certain lilt in the well-constructed sentences.

Eighteenth Century

The eighteenth century produced what is often called the greatest individual biography of modern times, Boswell’s *Life of Samuel Johnson*. Careful reading of Boswell reveals the fact that this century, in Great Britain in particular, was a time of great biographical activity. Selection of names and titles that might be indicative of the best biographical trends in Europe is extremely difficult. The four men chosen represent different types of writers and illustrate several classes of biographical form: Voltaire, Goethe, Boswell and Johnson himself.

Voltaire, while generally classified as a philosopher, was also novelist, poet, dramatist and biographer. In the last-named category he produced at least two works which, alone, might rank him as a man of letters. They were his studies of Charles XII of Sweden and of Louis XIV of France. The first was printed in 1731, when Voltaire was still a young man; the latter appeared 21 years later. The work on Charles was designed mainly as a portrait of an outstanding prince. The *Histoire du siècle de Louis XIV* was, as its name suggests, planned as a delineation of French civilization of the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, quite as much as a character study of the Grand Monarch. Voltaire is, on the whole, kinder to Charles XII, though neither portrait is drawn without of prejudice. In each work there is an attempt to weigh the value of war, royal glory and the part played by the people in the life of the times. The work on Charles XII enjoyed an enormous vogue immediately after publication; yet it is the other title that is constantly pointed to as a masterpiece of the French language.

Goethe’s *Dichtung und Wahrheit* was begun in 1811, when the poet was about 62 years old. Part IV, which was the last to be completed, carried his life only to 1775, so that the book is an autobiography only of the first 26 years of the author’s life. For the most part, Goethe relied on his memory for the various incidents related. He did, however, consult members of his family and a number of historical works. The book is a fascinating account of Goethe’s ancestry, childhood, love affairs, travels, education and search for a profession. Some of the important men who figured in the *Sturm und Drang* period are characterized, and many of the trials and joys of the compilation of his two early works, *Werther* and *Goetz von Berlichingen*, are recounted. Undoubtedly, there are some episodes which have been colored; again, some incidents have been omitted. Yet, taken as a whole, the work presents an intimate account of the growing pains of a great artist. The style is simple, engaging and often amusing.

Samuel Johnson was himself a biographer of note. Much of his work appeared in journals or as prefaces to volumes written by other authors, but at least one title must be acclaimed as an outstanding example of
collective biography. This is his *Lives of the English Poets*, which is comparatively free of the encumbrances of Johnson's rather heavy style. Many of the poets had been known to him personally, their works had been read thoroughly and he had spared no effort in assembling intimate facts. Among the names included, Milton, Pope and Gray are still recognized as important, but large numbers of forgotten poets are represented. On the whole, Johnson dealt fairly with his subjects. A notable exception is in the case of Gray, whom he was always wont to criticize severely.

Boswell's *Life* was an innovation in that it illustrates the conscious effort of a biographer to entwine himself with the life of his subject. Actually, Boswell never met Johnson until 1763, when the latter was 54 years of age, and already an acknowledged man of letters. Facts of his subject's early years were gathered by Boswell from Johnson himself, mutual friends and some written sources. It is therefore natural that four or five times as much space should be devoted to the last 20 years of Johnson's life. The presentation is complex, in that at all meetings with Johnson, Boswell records at length Johnson's sayings and his arguments with those present. Interspersed with the details of the actual meetings are the texts of letters written by and to Johnson, and a chronological account of Johnson's literary efforts and personal actions. Not to be overlooked are the descriptions of a large number of miscellaneous friends belonging to Johnson's circle. Reynolds, Garrick, Goldsmith, Burke, King George III, mingle with obscure apothecaries and young students. Boswell had the highest opinion of Johnson, both as man and author, yet he frequently sprays his manuscript with adverse criticism. Thus he escaped the pitfalls of many biographers who become only hero worshippers.

**Nineteenth Century**

With the nineteenth century, the writing of biography appeared to become the habit of almost anyone who could undertake the compilation of a book. It is this century which introduced the United States as an important source of biographical publications. This era also saw the birth of what may be called the democratization of biography, because of the growing tendency to extend biographical coverage to persons in every walk of life. Another innovation was the starting of series, under able editors, of individual biographies to be written by outstanding authors. Thus there developed the American Statesmen Series, and the English Men of Letters and American Men of Letters Series. Still another trend is to be seen in the tendency for many different writers to undertake the biography of some noteworthy person. This resulted in the building up of a veritable literature on such men as Napoleon, Washington, Lincoln, Dante and Goethe, with wide variety in treatment of the subjects, search for new sources, and specialized handling of only one phase of a man's life.

Selection of eminent American biographers might be made on the basis of writers who were pioneers in this field or who made notable contributions to one particular class of biography. For these reasons it seems well to cite Parson Weems, Washington Irving, Jared Sparks and James Parton.

Parson Weems has gained renown not as the earliest prolific American biographer, but as the forerunner of writers of the modern fictionalized biography. His subjects—William Penn, Washington, Franklin and General Francis Marion—were all of interest to the world for which he wrote, but Weems drew upon his imagination to such an extent that what was fact and what was fiction was not easy to ascertain.

Washington Irving, perhaps better...
known for his writings in other fields, produced a series of four early essays on American naval heroes of the War of 1812. Far more important, however, was his History of the Life and Voyages of Christopher Columbus, printed in 1828, which is even now acclaimed as one of the best biographies of that voyager. The style is Irving's best, and while there are no footnotes, the author has gone to infinite trouble to inspect the best source material. Irving also contributed notable works on Mahomet, Goldsmith and Washington.

Jared Sparks, though preeminently known as a historian, produced biographies of John Ledyard and Gouverneur Morris, in 1827 and 1832 respectively. These are well written and still consulted today. When he published the Works of Benjamin Franklin, with Notes and a Life of the Author, Sparks made a notable contribution to American biography by instituting the vogue for the combined life and works of a man. He also established a precedent in documenting his material from original sources. In 1847 Sparks produced an example of the combination of life and letters, when he published the Life and Correspondence of Joseph Read, of revolutionary fame.

Probably the earliest professional biographer in America was James Parton, who started with a life of Horace Greeley in 1855 and continued publishing individual and collective biographies for the next 30 years. Burr, Jackson, Franklin, Voltaire and John Jacob Astor were among the subjects for his individual biographies. As for his collective biographies, perhaps his earliest, Famous Americans of Recent Times, is the most commendable. Parton's style was not particularly polished, but he had a wide range of interest in people, and his character sketches are vivid and, for the most part, accurate.

One name stands out above all others for nineteenth century France; that is Sainte-Beuve. He still remains on the lists of the renowned literary critics of any age and retains stature among the best writers of collective biography. Three works of his, one of which was devoted to celebrated women, deal with prominent literary figures of France and other countries. His criticism is biting, though frequently justified, and his analysis of character seldom to be equaled.

Biographers in nineteenth century England were among all ranks of people. Probably Macaulay, Carlyle and Thackeray would be included in any selection to be made. Macaulay becomes notable not only as the author of the Essay on Milton but also because of his Life and Letters, which were edited by a nephew, Sir George Trevelyan. The selection of material to be included in the latter work was of course done by Trevelyan, but the letters themselves show a rare insight into the working habits of a great historian.

While the Essay on Burns is generally considered Carlyle's masterpiece among biographical items, his Heroes and Hero-worship is a splendid example of collective biography which aims to cover all countries and all periods. Here, his groupings of heroes are at once logical and ingenious; the criticism is usually just; the portraits are brief but lifelike.

Two letter writers of note, Stevenson and Henry James, belong properly to the nineteenth century, though James's correspondence was not published until a few years after his death, which occurred in 1916. Since Mme. de Sevigne of the seventeenth century, there had probably been no more compelling correspondents than Stevenson and James. Both knew many people, lived in several countries and were voluminous letter writers. Stevenson's let-
letters are more personal and humorous; he wrote a great deal about himself. The correspondence of James reveals a kindly man who, as a rule, devotes far more time to the affairs of the friend to whom he is writing than to his own personal problems. It can be said that James's letters contain more substance, while Stevenson's exhibit more charm. While many people believe that Stevenson's letters were written with a view to future publication, each letter of James appears to be quite spontaneous.

Twentieth Century

In the twentieth century a revival of biography, and perhaps its reformation, seems to have taken place. Mention has already been made of the more humanized biography which came into being after World War I. Lytton Strachey is often credited with its inception, both because of his own studies of famous people and his ideas about biography as a literary form. There were, however, many others who played a role in the popularization of biography, among whom might be mentioned that indefatigable writer, Emil Ludwig, and one author of the "debunking" type of study, George S. Hellman.

Before the advent of popular biography on a large scale, there was published privately in 1906 a work which has been acclaimed one of the greatest of modern autobiographies. This was The Education of Henry Adams, by Henry Adams. It is written in the third person, and the word "education" implies the author's adjustment to the world in general. It is a social, political and literary account of the author's life and the contacts that he made. Even people who are not particularly interested in education in the narrow sense are enthralled by this book.

Among the hundreds of new biographies that have been published during the past year, this author has read at least 25 titles. These have represented every type of individual and collective biography, including letters, memoirs and diaries. Some, like the voluminous autobiography of Sir Osbert Sitwell, and the equally extended study of Washington by Douglas S. Freeman, started publication some time ago and are as yet unfinished. These two works, though fascinating and crowded with a variety of personalities, cannot be judged fairly until completion. The former seems a bit pedantic in style. The latter is so heavily documented that it requires two readings to grasp all the implications. Yet each study is likely to become a landmark in the history of biographical undertakings in England and America.

Several volumes of individual biography encountered have proved heavy in style, ill planned, or unsatisfactory as to accurate coverage of the subject. On the other hand, the author has read one comprehensive life of a philanthropist that was superbly done. Among collective biographies she recalls with pleasure a volume devoted to contemporary musicians, and Tharp's The Peabody Sisters of Salem. Are we entering another phase of biographical compilation, in which quality is being sacrificed to quantity and in which documentation is playing too heavy a part?

There is no evidence of striking innovation as to the forms in which contemporary biography is now being cast. We still have with us the counterparts of samples that have been offered during the past 2000 years. One thing, however, appears certain—there seems no fear that biography will disappear as a separate form. The novelists and the historians may attempt subtle mergings, but the role of biography remains as the literature of personality—the truthful portrayal of the characters of real men and real women.

OCTOBER, 1951
By RALPH H. PARKER

Libraries in an Inflationary Cycle

Dr. Parker is librarian, University of Missouri.

Since that relatively normal period of 1939 (as we have now come to look upon it), the economic stresses of vast proportions which have upset all society have had their effect on libraries, and particularly in collegiate libraries.

In addition to the general inflationary movement, there has been another force accentuating the problems. Libraries have been called upon to render service to almost double the prewar number of students as well as attempting to keep pace with rising costs.

That library service suffered in some cases, particularly from 1946 to 1948, there can be little doubt. In many cases the library service trebled during a single year, so fast that staff could not have been trained even if available.

But, perhaps, not all the results of the forces have been bad; as I shall point out later, libraries and librarianship may have been improved.

I should like to call attention to some preliminary data, which can hardly be called more than the basis for several hypotheses. The further study of this question is the major project of the ACRL Committee on Budgets, Compensation, and Schemes of Service for the next year. Two subcommittees are to be set up: one to study the changes in financial support; the other to look into the changing status of the librarian, his salary, his position, the use of classification and pay plans, and the like.

Library Budgets

Ten years has seen the size of university library budgets increase by 130 per cent, if the figures for the 20 institutions who reported completely for the two periods are a valid sample. In 1939 these institutions spent $2,877,588 for library purposes; in 1949 the total was $6,652,597.

The increase in library budgets for the 13 teachers colleges was only slightly less, 120 per cent above the 1939 figures. The totals were $243,455 and $537,014, respectively. Thus library budget increases were essentially the same in universities and teachers colleges.

While these increases were taking place, what was happening to institutional budgets as a whole? University budgets rose 200 per cent and teachers college budgets rose 131 per cent.

Comparing in another way, while university budgets as a whole trebled, the library budgets of these institutions only slightly more than doubled; in teachers colleges, on the other hand, there was only a 10 per cent difference in the increases of total budgets and of library budgets.

The over-all budget increases to each type of institution probably reflect the relative increases in teaching load. Although complete information is not available, it appears that enrolment in universities expanded more rapidly than in the teachers colleges. The shortage of teachers, and the low salaries paid in the profession are evidences of

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2 Renamed, on July 11, 1951, the Committee on Administrative Procedures.
the reasons why this should be true.

From still another point of view, the belt-tightening in university libraries is shown by the reduction in percentage of budget devoted to libraries. In 1939, according to the ALA figures, teachers college libraries received (from a low of 2.6 per cent to a high of 7.5 per cent) a median of 5.5 per cent of the total educational budget of the institution. The average percentage for the 13 institutions studied for both periods was 5 per cent. In 1949, the ACRL tables reveal a range from 1.8 to 6.3 per cent and a median of 4.4 per cent. The average for the 13 selected institutions was 4.8 per cent.

It will be noted that the average for the selected institutions was below the median of all reporting libraries in 1939, and above the median in 1949. Thus, we may say on the one hand, that the ratio in teachers colleges has not changed; or, on the other, that it has dropped from 5.5 per cent to 4.4 per cent.

There seems to be no doubt as to what happened in universities. In 1939, the percentage of budget devoted to libraries ranged from 1.6 per cent to 10.1 per cent, with a median of 4.5 per cent; in 1949 the range was 1.1 to 8.0 per cent, with a median of 3.3 per cent. Using the figures for the 20 selected institutions, the average in 1939 of 4.35 per cent had dropped to 3.3 per cent in 1949.

If these figures are correct, how did universities maintain library service at all? In some cases, as indicated above, the quality of service may have suffered. But one must remember that the library has a vast storehouse of material upon which to draw. It is not necessary to increase book collections (except perhaps collateral readings) as fast as enrolment grows. In many parts of a library, for example in smaller departmental libraries, a great increase in service may be possible without increase in personnel.

Another possible method of meeting needs

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Table I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Per Cent of Total Budget for Libraries</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado A&amp;M</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dartmouth</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>5.0</td>
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<td>Iowa State</td>
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<td>Michigan</td>
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<td>Michigan State</td>
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<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
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<td>Missouri</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon State</td>
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<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania State</td>
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<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Princeton</td>
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<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>4.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington (Seattle)</td>
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<td>Wyoming</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Increase

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\* Increase.
with a more meager budget might be the relative lowering of salaries. The salary aspect is reserved for the third section of this paper.

Still another possible approach would be the change of type of personnel used, which brings us to the second section.

The Library Staff

In 1939, among the selected universities 70 per cent of the full time staff was classed as professional; there were 465 professional staff members out of a total of 665. Librarians were plentiful, and had been for almost a decade. In many cases they could be secured for salaries no greater than required to secure good clerks. Looking backward, we can perhaps see why librarians complained of the nonprofessional nature of much of their work.

With the reduction in enrolments during the war, the increase in government employment of librarians both in libraries and as researchers in other divisions, and the opportunities for more lucrative employment in war industries, the end of the war brought an acute shortage of librarians. Persons qualified for the more technical aspects of librarianship were hard to find and hard to keep on a staff.

By 1949 the ratio of professional staff had dropped to 50 per cent; there were now 515 librarians (an increase of 50) and 1026 total staff (an increase of 361) in the 20 selected universities. No longer were catalogers typing their own cards; clerks, on the other hand, were now checking authority files to verify headings (a scandal in 1939).

It is difficult to describe the changes in teachers colleges; but pretty much the same thing happened to a lesser degree. The enrolment did not increase as much; there was a smaller staff increase. But where increases occurred, they were likely to be clerical, or the number of student assistants increased.

What has happened to the status of librarians? Relieved of much of the clerical detail, they may be improving their position, and being scarce, they may have made some gains in working conditions.

A questionnaire sent out in 1948 by Orwin Rush, then executive secretary of ACRL, revealed that in only 59 of 467 institutions were no members of the library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Per Cent of Total Budget for Libraries</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado (Greely)</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois (Carbondale)</td>
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<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois (DeKalb)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas (Emporia)</td>
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<td>Kentucky (Bowling Green)</td>
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<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska (Kearney)</td>
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<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York (Albany)</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
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<td>North Carolina (Greenville)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma (Alva)</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas (Commerce)</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas (San Marcos)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wisconsin (Oshkosh)</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Increase.
staff considered members of the faculty; in 300 all professional members were on the faculty, in 62 the librarian, in 30 the librarian and assistant librarian, and in 16 part of the professional staff.

It may be observed that faculty status for librarians is more common in smaller than in larger schools. But in recent years several of the larger universities have recognized the essential unity of librarianship with research and classroom teaching. Even in many which do not confer academic title,

### Table III

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Universities</th>
<th>Teachers Colleges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>Minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>1,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1,285</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

the library staff enjoys all or most of the privileges of faculty membership.

In only 40 institutions where there were teacher-retirement plans, of the 467 replying to Mr. Rush's questionnaire, were library staff excluded from the plans. In many schools not giving faculty rank, library staff are eligible for sabbatical leave and similar rights.

Although these postwar data cannot be compared to the prewar period, it is apparent that the status of librarians has improved; all the evidence points in that direction.

### Salaries

The salary of the librarian is perhaps the best single measure of his status in the academic world. Have the salaries of library staff kept up with the inflationary spiral? If not, have they kept pace with professors' salaries?

From data available it is hard to answer these questions. Tables of high and low salaries do not tell how many individuals are near the high, how many are near the low. The tables give no medians for any single institution. The deductions below assume that the median for a library is somewhere, but not far, below the midway point in its scale.

The salaries of head librarians are omitted from computations. So many institutions do not report salaries of categories where individual salaries may be deduced, that figures in this category are deceptive. Those not reporting, oddly enough, tend to be the schools with the highest salary scales.

Salaries of professional assistants in 1939 were shockingly low in comparison with today's costs. They were worse in univer-
sities than in teachers colleges. Among the universities examined, the minimum professional salaries (we may presume them to be the beginning rates) ranged from a low of $720 per year to a high of $1400. Imagine, if you will, what this means. Among the 20 university libraries reporting both in 1939 and in 1949, none paid more than $1400 to a beginning librarian; the median of the institutions was $1200.

Among teachers colleges, on the other hand, the range was from $900 to $2000, for a median of $1500. The maximum salary of a professional assistant was also generally higher in the teachers college; the median maximum salary was $1925 as compared to $1800 in universities.

In universities, the maximum salary in some institutions was higher than the maximum in any teachers college; $4000 was the university top as compared to $2400 in the teachers college group.

In 1949 the median minimum salary for university libraries was $2400, the median maximum $4000. In teachers colleges the median ranged from $2800 to $3600.

The range of salaries in universities between minimum and maximum continues to be greater than in teachers colleges. This is natural because of the larger and more highly-organized staffs, with several levels of supervision.

From these data it is apparent that the beginning salaries of librarians have increased to almost double the figures of 10 years earlier. As the postwar inflation occurred, many schools employed new replacements at salaries as high as or often even above those paid to persons of long tenure. In time, the pressure moved to higher levels but the figures do not reveal whether the adjustment in the middle brackets has been complete.

In 1939 median range between minimum and maximum salaries in a single institution was $1020; this might be interpreted as the average amount of increase an individual might eventually receive in the same institution (without becoming chief librarian). In 1949 this median range between minimum and maximum salary was $1760.

If the distribution of positions between minimum and maximum is now normal, we might conclude that library salaries are once more in balance; but it is possible that salaries still cluster around the minimum.

In 1949 the cost-of-living index was 160, using 1939 as the base. If no adjustments are made, it appears that library salaries have increased in at least this amount. In universities, the median minimum salary has doubled, in teachers colleges almost. The mid-point between minima and maxima of the median salary has jumped from $1500 to $3200 in universities, and from $1700 to $3200 in teachers colleges. These increases are considerably more than the cost-of-living.

But some adjustments need to be made. First, there is some question as to whether the figure $3200 represents the average professional salary, although it is not far from the findings of the Bureau of Labor statistics study.

Second, the cost-of-living index is not too good a measure for the lowest salaries, since food represents the greatest single item of cost in lower income groups, and the increase in that item has been to more than 200 per cent of the 1939 base.

Third, net income after tax must be considered. In 1939 the single librarian earning $1500 (near the average) paid a tax of less than $20 per year; today the single librarian earning $3200 pays almost $400.

In 1939 the range of reported salaries for chief librarians in universities was from $1800 to $10,000 with a median of $4500.

(Continued on page 348)
Selection and Organization of Periodicals in the Junior College Library

Mr. Smith is librarian and Mrs. Hidden reference librarian, Pasadena (Calif.), Public Schools.

Which periodicals are best suited to the needs of junior college students? Should these periodicals be bound or retained unbound? How extensive a file of back issues should be retained? In an effort to answer these and other related questions, an investigation was recently undertaken in the junior colleges of California in the hope that the results would be worth while and of some practical value to junior college librarians in helping to solve their problems with regard to periodicals. This study, combined with others that have been or may be made throughout the United States, may help in formulating a scale for evaluating periodicals for junior colleges and also help librarians to adopt certain policies, particularly affecting binding and storage of back issues.

Colleges Investigated

Fifty-six junior college libraries in the state of California were invited to participate in this investigation. Evening colleges and libraries serving a state college as well as the junior college were omitted.

Of the 40 responses received, one junior college has no library but uses the facilities of the high school and public libraries to accommodate its students. Of the remaining 39, 35 are public junior colleges and four are private.

Procedure

Part of this survey may be considered an inventory of the periodical resources in the junior college libraries participating in the study. Actual subscriptions and holdings, bound and unbound, would in themselves constitute some evaluation.

Besides listing actual subscriptions, librarians were asked to evaluate periodicals received, and also to state certain policies as to handling of subscriptions, housing of periodicals and duplication.

The questionnaire consisted of a list of the more common periodicals, with space provided for additions. The librarians were asked to indicate the number of copies currently received, holdings, titles bound and titles retained unbound. The librarians were also asked to indicate their opinions as to the value of the various periodicals in their libraries, whether essential, occasionally used, or unimportant. The word "essential" was used in a broad sense, including those magazines which are bought because...
they are popular with the students and those which are considered essential by the librarian and teachers because of their educational value or usefulness for any other purposes, such as library tools. As was to be expected, this section brought more qualifying remarks and comments than any other part of the questionnaire. Some librarians left this section out entirely.

**Number of Periodicals Received**

The highest number of periodicals subscribed to by any college was 352; the lowest 28. The college receiving only 28 periodicals is a small one, a combination high school and junior college. The librarian stated that the budget is to be increased next year and that the magazine subscription list will be tripled.

Almost 75 per cent of the reporting public junior college libraries receive more than 100 periodicals. Actually there are more in this group because some colleges still permit departments to order their own periodicals and records of these do not show up on the library files. Over 25 per cent of the junior colleges receive more than 200 periodicals. Two-thirds of the colleges receive between 50 and 200 periodicals.

**Titles of Periodicals Received**

As was found by Adams in his investigation of 136 junior college libraries throughout the United States, the number of different titles of periodicals received by all of the reporting junior colleges was large—1167. Adams found, however, that 47.3 per cent of the titles were received by but a single institution. In this survey it was found that 539 titles (46.2 per cent) were received by but a single school, and an additional 186 titles were received by only two schools. Therefore, although the number of different titles is large, over half (62.1 per cent) were taken by only one or two schools. An additional 96 titles were taken by only three of the reporting junior colleges. These magazines would meet the needs of the single student or groups of students depending on taste and curriculum needs. Eells reported that although two-thirds of the magazine reading of junior college students was included in eight periodicals, there were 453 different periodicals reported as being read frequently or enjoyed and valued, even though by but a single student in many instances. The purchase of these periodicals would seem justifiable since it is the purpose of the library to cater to the needs of leaders and special groups of students as well as to the mass of students. However, a librarian should evaluate carefully a magazine of which he is the sole subscriber of the group, for the money may be used to better advantage some place else.

There were only two periodicals subscribed to by 100 per cent of the reporting junior colleges—National Geographic Magazine and the Reader’s Digest. Time and the Readers’ Guide to Periodical Literature (one combination high school and junior college taking the abridged edition) were received by 38 (97.5 per cent) of the libraries.

**Holdings**

In contrast to the findings of Adams and Bishop during the 1930’s, the tendency in junior colleges now is to store back issues of many periodicals.

There were six schools which did not list holdings. Four of them stated no reason for the omission, so it is not known whether they had no holdings of back issues, or simply had no record of holdings. Another school stated that the listing of hold-

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3 Adams, H. M. *The Junior College Library Program*. Chicago, ALA, 1940.

4 Adams, op. cit.

ings was omitted because its list was not accurate and a check was being made. The other college is newly-established, and although it has most of the magazines to which it has subscribed, the librarian has not yet established a policy concerning storage and binding of periodicals.

A few colleges have no record of the holdings of periodicals which are sent directly to the departments after being checked in by the librarian. In those instances, where the departmental subscriptions are handled directly through the business office, the library usually has no record of the holdings. Although the junior college is receiving and perhaps keeping back issues, these periodicals are lost so far as this investigation is concerned.

There seems to be enough data to show that the trend is definitely toward storage of back issues, so much so that some librarians and educators may feel that some judicious weeding should be done.

The holdings of back issues of the various periodicals received by more than 20 colleges (51.3 per cent) of the reporting libraries are shown in a comparative table which may be obtained from the authors of this article.

**Binding of Periodicals**

Many librarians expressed a desire for help in formulating policies in regard to binding. There is the problem of whether to use available money for the purchase of more titles or to use it for binding. Study of the use of various periodicals, current and back issues, would be needed to determine what periodicals to bind. These figures, however, are not usually available.

The greatest number of titles reported bound by at least one school was 265. The greatest number of periodicals reported to be bound by any one school was 192. This was also the largest per cent of periodicals bound by any one college—55 per cent.

**Handling of Subscriptions**

There is a definite trend toward assumption of complete library control over periodic subscriptions for the entire junior college. Twenty-eight of the colleges indicated complete charge of magazine subscriptions for all departments of the school. This amounted to 71.8 per cent of the colleges polled. Two of the libraries reported almost complete control, lacking supervision of periodical subscriptions in only one or two departments. One college reported maintenance of a complete record of all issues received by the school, although the handling of the subscriptions was under the control of the business office. Another library reported that it is to assume full control in the near future, with each department now handling its own subscriptions.

**Evaluation**

As aforementioned, some librarians omitted the section on evaluation; others stated that they would not subscribe to a magazine if they did not think it worth while; while still others felt that they had not subscribed to certain periodicals long enough to judge them.

In order to have some concrete figures on which to make comparisons, the values of 3, 2 and 1 were given to “essential,” “occasionally used,” and “unimportant” respectively. In the comparative table are listed the number of librarians evaluating the various periodicals received by more than 20 colleges. Rated as essential by at least 20 colleges were 21 titles.

There was a great variation in the amount of binding, the range being from 0 to 55 per cent of current subscriptions. Only three schools bind over 50 per cent or more of periodicals. About 71 per cent of the colleges bind from 10 to 40 per cent of periodicals received.
The Accreditation of Libraries and Library Schools

Mr. Kirkpatrick is librarian, University of Utah.

As many of you know, there has recently been established a National Commission on Accrediting. A report on the activities of this body may be found in the 1950 Transactions and Proceedings of the National Association of State Universities. The creation of this group gives library leaders a chance to express themselves with regard to the accrediting process. The 1949 volume of the same series contains an excellent historical outline of the good and bad tendencies of standardizing agencies.

Generally speaking, the virtues of these bodies are supposed to include high educational standards and adequately prepared practitioners. To attain these goals most bodies have fought for properly trained and treated teachers of would-be lawyers, foresters, social workers, doctors, engineers and the like. Logic is sound. Only a good lawyer can train good lawyers. Good lawyers come high—so do the others listed.

However, so far as library service goes, these groups have often insisted upon having a librarian set aside to serve them and have frequently hoped this librarian would be trained, but have never to my knowledge worried about the service load, the rank, the salary, the tenure or the study privileges of the bookman who serves them.

A few examples of the difference in approach to teachers and to librarians should suffice. The Society of American Foresters stipulated in the early 1930's that teachers of forestry should be good enough men to merit a salary a step or so above that for the entering grade of government service. In at least one school this meant forestry instructors started at a salary several hundred dollars above that paid other beginners. At the same time this group asked for a special library, with a librarian, but expressed no concern for either the salary or the training of the person picked to serve in that capacity.

More recently, we in Utah were visited by the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education. They looked over our divisional library which serves medicine, pre-dental, nursing and pharmacy. Then the pharmacy staff insisted we designate one of the staff as pharmacy librarian. No advice was given as to rank or salary of such a librarian, but the teaching staff of the College of Pharmacy must include three full professors or there is no accredited status.

In 1949 the American Society for ENGINEERING Education annoyed college presidents by asking how much law professors were being paid. Clearly, the intent was to guarantee as good, or at least as well-paid, engineering teachers. Noteworthy to librarians was the lack of concern as to how engineering and law librarians were being treated.

My point is simple. If there be any virtue in insisting upon well-trained, reasonably scheduled, securely placed and well-
paid teachers in these fields, that same virtue should apply to special librarians. Since accrediting is peculiarly tied in with educational agencies, and since libraries are vital to all training programs, it is my hope that the American Library Association will offer to rate libraries and library positions for all accrediting agencies and to criticize for this new commission past practices in the rating of libraries.

As just noted, the virtues of these standardizing groups have not always reached those who work with books. This is not so of the known evils. Two apply particularly to special libraries. One is the urging of disproportionate expenditures for selected programs, and the other is judging the desirability of local administrative organization.

Here, again, it is easy to supply chapter and verse. A few cases should once more suffice. Even during the depression, the American Bar Association insisted upon a minimum book and periodical budget of $2000 a year. At the university I represent this was as much as arts and sciences, social work, education, and business schools received combined. Furthermore, a special law librarian was demanded; but while the teachers all had the minimum rank of associate professor, the law librarian, with an LL.B. and B.L.S., was rated an instructor.

During the same period the American Medical Association visiting committee insisted upon a book budget of $700 a year for medicine, but cared not a whit that basic biology was receiving only $120 a year.

We have had pressure put on us for separate libraries for architecture, journalism, business and social work. All of you know of the difficulties which arise when a campuswide system of school and departmental libraries develops. More money goes for poorer service. More dollars must be spent for duplicate books and magazines. Here indeed we can rapidly come to a system of equality for none but special status for all.

Again, it would be my hope that the ALA take the opportunity afforded by a new committee to call for an examination of this cry for special book allotments and special college or departmental libraries.

Last of all, if the accrediting agencies are supposed to help insure a supply of properly trained workers, it might be well to ask what has happened in the field of school library work.

An examination of the Biennial Survey of Education reveals that three-fourths of the school libraries in America are manned by untrained personnel. I knew that in Utah, Nevada, Idaho and Wyoming the school librarians were not as well trained as were the school teachers. Apparently, the picture is nationwide. An economy of scarcity seems to be in operation.

When you look into teacher training, you find that virtually every teachers' college and university offers courses in those subjects considered basic in a modern school. A college without courses in chemistry, English or history would be laughed at. Yet, we claim the library is the heart of the school but are not even concerned that no courses are given in library work.

In Utah we were forced into library-course work by regional and state accrediting agencies. We began the work apologetically because all of the trained librarians in the state suspected ALA frowned on such courses. When the regional North Central representative asked about correspondence courses, we were even more positive that we were living in sin. Wheeler's report on education for librarianship makes it crystal clear that ALA views home study, or learning by reading, with dark suspicion.

Even so, we have given a course in school library methods to workers in Idaho, Nevada, California, Washington, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois and Texas. This would seem to reflect the nationwide lack of training among school librarians. We have fewer home study students from Utah because we give resident courses. We feel sure that the teacher-training agencies of these states must have missed an opportunity for service.

We hope the day will come when every first class teacher-training institution gives a major in library work. When young people can secure training for librarianship in the same length of time needed to become teachers, when they can do it in their own state or section of a state, and when this training is accepted as the basis for advanced work from one part of the country to another, then we will have our share of the best young students going into library work. If we want to see the day come when every school library is in the care of a trained librarian, some such realistic approach is necessary.

It seems likely this day will arrive sooner if ALA gets out of the accrediting field so far as school library work goes, and leaves this up to the regional agencies which pass on other questions of training for service in the public schools.

As it is, the situation of some of us is anomalous, to say the least. We explain to our students we are unaccredited by ALA, but our credits are accepted in most states for certification but not by library schools elsewhere. We then ask these same students to join our national organization. The answer of one farm girl is worth pondering:

"Mister, it sounds to me as if you were asking us to buy the front end of a cow."

Libraries in an Inflationary Cycle

In 1949, the range was from $3800 to $10,500, with a median of $7000. The increase of the medians was 55 per cent.

In teachers colleges the range was from $1400 to $3750 in 1939, and from $2400 to $6000 in 1949; the median rose from $2200 to $4250, an increase of 93 per cent.

By reducing the proportion of professional workers, libraries have been able generally to keep salaries in pace with the cost of living, and in some cases to improve them. While figures on teaching salaries are not immediately available for the same institutions, it is probable that librarian salaries have been increased as much as their faculty colleagues' salaries have.

This situation is not one to be accepted as good; librarianship is still not one of the most lucrative, and often not as well paid as teaching.

In summary, the colleges and universities have been able thus far to survive the inflation by drawing on some of the accumulated book resources, by increasing the use of nonprofessional personnel. On the average, librarians' salaries have not absorbed the economies. How long they can continue to operate on reducing percentages of the educational budget is problematical. The book collections will soon become obsolete; the limits of replacing professional with nonprofessional staff will soon be reached; beyond that library service will suffer deterioration.
New Periodicals of 1951—Part I

Miss Brown is head, Serials Section, Descriptive Cataloging Division, Library of Congress.

Variety of subject matter is the predominant characteristic of the new periodicals examined during the first half of 1951. Few journals were received from Europe and very few of importance seem to have been launched in the United States. It is hoped, however, that from the following short list attention may be called to some titles which might otherwise have been overlooked.

Book Reviews and Bibliography

Psychological Book Previews is made up of authors' descriptive summaries of their own new books on subjects of interest to psychologists. As the title implies, these previews are published before the books appear. The author, assumed to be the person most able to write accurately and without bias about what is in his own book, is required to prepare a review free of superlatives and exhortations of excellence. Each summary must contain a statement of the book's purpose, its background, descriptions of some specific facts, experiments or theories, and a biography of the author. The Pan American Union launched the Revista Interamericana de Bibliografia which will be devoted to timely and accurate information about new publications, authors and libraries of a Latin American or inter-American character. It will contain articles on bibliographical subjects, book reviews and a bibliography of books, pamphlets and articles. Headings and general editorial notes will appear in Spanish and English, while articles and bibliographical news will be in Spanish, English, Portuguese or French.

Literature

Another "little magazine" is Diameter, published in Brooklyn. It aims to publish poetry, stories, one-act plays, radio scripts, original music, criticism in every art, and above all, works by unknown writers. From Oxford, England comes Essays in Criticism. This journal will appear quarterly and will contain every kind of criticism, provided it is good. Illustrative of the contents of the first issue are such articles as "Matthew Arnold and the Modern Dilemma," "The Mystery of Poe's Poetry," and "Teaching English in the Universities." Two student publications were received, Helicon from Clark University and Pennsylvania Literary Review from the University of Pennsylvania. Both include contributions from students and faculty. Roman is a new bimonthly literary journal from France, the first issue of which includes critical studies and original works. The Shakespeare Newsletter, edited and published by Louis Marder, Brooklyn College, contains brief, chatty notes on new Shakespearean performances, new books about Shakespeare, activities of Shakespeare clubs, etc. For lack of a better classification in this list, included here is Check which is made up of reprints and condensations from periodicals, newspapers and books.

History

History Today is a new British journal which aims to analyze historical trends,

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present essays on literature, science and art and the contribution they have made to the international background, accounts of economic development and a series of articles dealing with the origin and growth of British towns and cities. Articles will be written by experts and are intended to be of interest to the general reader.

**World Affairs**

The International Institute of Political and Social Sciences concerning Countries of Differing Civilizations (formerly International Colonial Institute), whose purpose is to promote the development of moral and political sciences in countries where peoples of differing civilizations have been brought into contact, is publishing *Civilisations* as its organ. The review will publish basic articles including documentary studies, consisting of the synthesis and the analysis of documents concerning the events and tendencies relating to the business of the institute, analytical and critical reports on notable books and articles within the sphere of the studies of the institute. Articles are in French with English summary or English with French summary. The Swiss Review of World Affairs is a monthly publication of the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* with the University of Chicago Press acting as its American sponsor. Each issue will contain eight to ten articles written in or translated into English by Swiss editors of *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* and by foreign correspondents. Articles will deal with various areas and issues of current world affairs in an effort to serve the cause of better mutual understanding among the citizens and peoples of the free world. A periodical specializing in articles of an ideological and political nature is *Terre Humaine* published in Paris. The editors want to present world problems in a manner which will bring hope and encouragement to those persons who feel the political situation is out of control. *World Liberalism* is a new journal published by Liberal International in London. It will promote the spirit and support the aims of this organization, namely the growth of a free society based on personal liberty, personal responsibility and social justice.

**Special Places**

Three new periodicals aiming to interpret each of three places are listed together here, although their purposes have nothing in common. The purpose of *Korea* is to present to Americans what the Koreans themselves have to say about their present ordeal by fire. The first issue was carried by airplane from Korea during the last week in April 1951 by the Republic of Korea Good-Will Mission to the United Nations. Included are articles entitled “A History of Democratic Movement in Korea,” "Whither Our Refugees?" and “The Present Economic Condition of Korea & Future Prospects” all written by Koreans. *Landscape*, from Santa Fe, N.M., has for its purpose the presentation of the human geography of the Southwest. Among the articles in the first issue are “Southwestern Colonial Farms,” “Chihuahua; As We Might Have Been” and reviews of new books about the Southwest. *Sicilia America Illustrazione* is being published in Palermo to present Sicily to the stranger. The first number includes interesting articles on Sicilian architecture, history and customs as well as brief abstracts of articles on Sicily from Italian journals and newspapers.

**Education**

The Association of Geology Teachers began the publication of *Journal of Geological Education* to promote high standards of instruction in this field. To note a few of the contributions in the first issue there may be mentioned “An Outline of a Course
in Elementary Mineralogy,” by a member of the Harvard faculty, “Automatic Testing Program in Mineralogy,” as conducted at Antioch College, and “Crystallography in the General Mineralogy Course,” by an Indiana University professor.

Finance

Securities in Motion; Monthly Digest of the Relative Performance of Stocks and Stock Groups should be a valuable aid in the making of sound investment decisions. The movement of stocks and their established price trend based on past quotations are reported graphically. The publisher’s warning that the charts will not give information on what the future price movements will be must be noted.

Science

The first issue of The AIBS Bulletin indicates that this publication will be given over to such matters as notes of meetings, new publications, book reviews and other matters of interest to the members of the American Institute of Biological Sciences. The Journal of Applied Chemistry, which supersedes the Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry, contains papers reporting on original investigations. The Annals of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S. aims to coordinate the efforts of Ukrainian scholars of all varieties of democratic thought and conviction. Illustrative of the content of the first issue are “Historiography of Ukrainian Literature,” “A New Soil Map of the Ukraine” and book reviews.

Medicine

Antibiotics and Chemotherapy will publish experimental and clinical studies on antibiotics and chemotherapeutics, that is, penicillin, streptomycin, aureomycin, to mention a few of the better known ones, and hormones. The contributions to the International Journal of Group Psychotherapy are written by doctors and social workers who are trying out group therapy clinically. It is the official journal of the American Group Psychotherapy Association. Neurology is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. This organization feels that since so many illnesses implicate the nervous system, either primarily or in some associated manner, physicians need to be informed of the progress made in this phase of therapy.

Engineering

The Family Handyman is a new quarterly planned to simplify the making of home repairs and improvements. The editor is Paul de Fur who says he has been a “handyman” since childhood days. He schemes up new and better ways for people to maintain and improve their houses without help from experts. The first issue includes articles on “Fireplace and Flue Faults,” “Winterizing Waterpipe,” “Snow Removal” and solutions for many other annoying household problems. The Foreman’s Digest is made up of condensed articles on industrial management from various engineering and business periodicals. Devoted to all aspects of and uses for audio reproduction is High-Fidelity, the Magazine for Audio-Philes. In fairly simple language the first issue gives advice on such matters as “Selecting a Speaker,” and “Housing the Speaker.” Also it is intended to include the section “Records in Review” in each issue. From the Hoepli firm in Milan comes Rivista di Ingegneria which supersedes L’Ingegnere. In addition to articles on a wide range of engineering subjects there are included reviews of English, French, German and Italian books, a classified listing of other new books with trade items and notices of meetings and fairs.
Law

The Buffalo Law Review, published by the University of Buffalo School of Law, is designed to provide the students with an opportunity for legal writing and also to provide a service to the legal world.

Ships

Ships & Sailing is an interesting new monthly about ships and the sea. A section of the first issue called "News and Comment" is made up of brief paragraphs on such topics as our lack of fast merchant ships, our new submarines, recent marine expeditions, Japanese shipping, etc. There follows informative and readable accounts on such varied subjects as a Portuguese fishing village, a European cruise on a U.S. Lines freighter, shipping on the Great Lakes and other articles.

Gardening

From the New York Botanical Garden comes The Garden Journal, which, it would seem, should be of interest to amateur gardeners as well as to persons having some training in botany. The first issue includes material on such subjects as window gardening, the botany of Kalalau Valley, Kauau, Hawaii, the Butchart gardens at Victoria, British Columbia, and the care and maintenance of shrubs and vines.

Entertainment

For lack of a better classification, Lo Spettacolo, Rassegna Economica e Sociale Degli Spettacoli e Delle Attivita Artistiche e Culturali is entered here. The introduction prepared by the editor, Antonio Ciampi, states that "the object of this review is to encourage and promote studies concerning the economic and social phenomena resulting from the different forms of entertainment which make use of works of an artistic and cultural nature." The first issue includes such articles as "Remarks Concerning the Economy of the Film Exhibition," "Principal Technical Aspects of Broadcasting," and "Technical and Economic Postulates for Finding New Markets for the 16mm Film."

Periodicals


Journal of Applied Chemistry. Society of Chemical Industry, 56 Victoria St., London, S.W.1. v.i., no. 1, April 1951. 2 no. a year. £2.

Journal of Biological Education. W. F. Read, Lawrence College, Appleton, Wis. v.i., no. 1, April 1951. Monthly. $1.50 per issue.


The Foreman's Digest. 18 South Dean St., Englewood, N.J. v.i., no. 1, May 1951. Monthly. $6.00.


Journal of Applied Chemistry. Society of Chemical Industry, 56 Victoria St., London, S.W.1. v.i., no. 1, April 1951. 2 no. a year. £2.

Journal of Biological Education. W. F. Read, Lawrence College, Appleton, Wis. v.i., no. 1, April 1951. Monthly. $1.50 per issue.


Landscape; Human Geography of the Southwest. Box 73, Santa Fe, N.M. v.i., no. 1, January 1951. Quarterly. $1.50.


Pennsylvania Literary Review. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. v.i., no. 1, Spring 1951. 4 no. a year. $3.00.

Psychological Book Previews. 31 Markham Road, Princeton, N.J. v.i., no. 1, January 1951. Quarterly. $4.50.


Friends of the Library Groups in Colleges and Universities

Mr. Fox is executive assistant, Brooklyn College Library.

This article summarizes a survey of Friends of the Library Groups in colleges and universities. The survey was part of an investigation which may result in a revised edition of previous ALA publications on Friends Groups. The manuscript is now in the hands of the Committee on Friends of Libraries.

A questionnaire was sent to the 102 groups known to exist in 1949. Of 69 respondents, 37 had groups actively functioning, while 32 did not.

The reasons given most often are to promote interest and support and to acquire materials beyond the reach of ordinary budgets.


The outline which follows provides an idea of the variety of officers in 30 groups. Titles were furnished by the respondents.

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By M. ALLYN FOX

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Organization of Friends Groups

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<td>Principal Officers 1 President; Chairman; Honorary chairman</td>
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<td>Vice president; Vice chairman; Student vice president</td>
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<td>Other Principal Officers 2 Treasurer; Business manager; Secretary-treasurer; Corresponding-Editorial secretary; Executive secretary; Recording secretary; Honorary secretary</td>
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<td>Financial and Secretarial Officers 2 Council members; Council; Advisory council; Members of board; Executive board; Board of directors; Committee of sponsors; Executive committee; Counsellors; Directors; Trustees; Honorary trustees</td>
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<td>Managing Bodies 20</td>
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raise money by means of dues. Contributions and gifts are other means of fund-raising.

Of 34 respondents, 26 claim that contributions are deductible for income tax purposes, while eight do not know. This should be investigated so that it may be mentioned in group publications.

Office space, equipment, supplies and labor are provided by colleges and universities. Only one respondent reported that no help whatever was tendered.

The order of business at organizational meetings includes discussion of the need for Friends Groups, consideration of aims, the role of groups at other institutions, election of officers and the drafting of constitutions and by-laws.

Most groups hold meetings regularly once or twice a year. Up to 49 people have attended these meetings.

Business and social meetings, annual dinners, solicitation of library materials, membership drives, lecture series and student contests comprise group activities.

Publications and direct mail are used almost equally. Publications include those issued by the groups themselves, material issued by libraries, college and alumni publications, and local newspapers. Letters, postal cards, circulars and invitations are the direct mail used.

In order of importance members donate money, interest others, give library materials, act as hosts and advise on purchases.

Benefits derived from membership, in order of importance, are: Satisfaction in aiding a worthy cause, free use of the library, bringing together people of similar interests, and helping unite the college and the community.

Of 34 respondents, 17 issue some sort of publication. This varies in size from a single sheet to a 39-page magazine.

American Librarians Work on Standards

American librarians are taking an active part in international work on documentation. Upon recommendation of its committee on library work and documentation, the American Standards Association has informed the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) that American librarians will participate in the work of technical committee ISO 46 on Documentation. A meeting was held in Rome, Italy, in September. The ASA is the United States member of the ISO.
Development of the Book Collection in the College Library: A Symposium

The following three papers on various aspects of the book collection in the college library were presented at the meeting of the College Libraries Section, Association of College and Reference Libraries, Feb. 1, 1951, in Chicago.

By PAUL BIXLER

The Book Collection and Its Functions

Mr. Bixler is librarian, Antioch College.

The library has been called the heart of the college. If we are thinking in these terms it may be meaningful to say that the book collection is the heart of the library. The real purpose of the library is to cleanse the soul, renew the spirit, clarify ideas and invigorate the mind. If any of these actions take place in the library, they are accomplished primarily by contact with the library's books. The books, however, are not born into the collection by some form of immaculate conception nor do they have their effect solely through some obscure action like osmosis. There is a more or less steady flow into the book collection, and very often there is a more or less steady flow out. In other words, there are relationships to and from functions.

One may immediately divide these functions into two types: First, production—or what leads into the book collection; second, consumption—or what leads away from the book collection into its use.

Let me attempt to present the relation of functions more graphically. Suppose I draw a circle in the air before me. This represents the book collection, and it allows us to start off with at least one advantage. If the book collection is represented by a circle then it will be well rounded even before we get under way. It is a very comfortable way to begin, for it may well be that this is the only time during the operation that the book collection can be well rounded although I hope that this may be the long-range objective toward which we would aim and where we would at last arrive. If a circle represents the book collection, then clearly there are certain functions leading into it. For example, up above we would put the processes of selection and nearby the participants in selection and the buying of books. Each of these, as functions, would lead down into the book collection.

If those above are the productive functions, those below are consumer functions. Down below, for example, would be a line leading to the curriculum and teaching methods; and also below the circle would be the clients or readers for whom the book collection is designed. At this point, interestingly enough, one may note that the line from the participants in selection runs straight down through the book collection circle to the clients or readers below. The persons involved—the selectors on the one hand and the clients or readers on the other—may very well be the same people adopting different roles.

There are, however, other functions or elements to be taken into consideration in the relationships surrounding the book collection. One of these, for example, is other book collections. Such collections can be outside the college library or inside it. Upon that difference in location there depends a considerable difference of function. Closely related to other collections inside the library are other learning aids—nonbook materials may or may not be considered as part of the principal collection. Another function or element in the

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book collection is the simple physical environment which certainly influences the size of the collection. Where do these functions relate to or affect the book collection? Graphically they may come in horizontally, but I shall not argue the point.

Just what are we talking about when we use the term book collection? How do we define it? Does the book collection include everything between hard covers and over 49 pages? That was at one time a kind of practical definition. In some descriptive accounting of budgets and of money spent for materials, books and periodicals have been lumped together without differentiation. Does this mean that they belong together in the book collection? Perhaps the collection should include simply the usual volumes (books) plus the representation of books in microfilm and microcards. This last would seem to be a fairly logical inclusion; for where microfilm or microcards represent books and will be used in large part as books will be used, why should they not be considered a part of the collection? If we begin to take in various other materials, where do we stop? Do we include pamphlets? What about motion pictures, music, phonograph records, government publications? Some of these categories are considered a part of the general collection in some libraries, but are we to include them as a definite part of the college library book collection or as mandatory in describing such collections?

There will probably be arguments on both sides if librarians begin to talk about specific collections with which they are associated. There should, however, be some kind of flexibility. There should be a definition which will take in as many of the practical conditions in as many libraries as possible. Rather than haggle over the problem, let me simply suggest a working definition—that the book collection be considered anything and everything represented in the main or union catalog. Presumably this would exclude unacccessioned pamphlets, depository government materials and probably special collections. This last is one category which does not easily fit into the scheme I have attempted to draw up. The special collection may be outside the book collection as I am considering it here. And yet it definitely has its place. I hope you will bear with me when I say—very personally—that the special collection is the sort of problem or thing that you can't live with and you can't live without. It probably should have special treatment and I am glad to leave it for someone else.

But to return to the definition—it allows us to have a perfectly good library without films or records or a number of other materials if that is what seems right or necessary. Yet the definition is not exclusive. It also allows a book collection to include motion pictures and records.

Let me now turn back to the relationships of the book collection.

First, let me mention the cost of books. As everyone knows, the cost is high. Presumably we should consider what we can do about it. Certainly the elements that go into the cost of books may be broken down and discussed, and perhaps we can in the end not only learn something but accomplish better expenditure of our funds. We might consider buying policies as a problem in itself. What books you buy and in what order of precedence would appear, for example, to affect what you get for your money. Pretty clearly, we could examine where and how to buy, and look into the complicated question of book jobbers and out-of-print dealers, and of discounts.

But I should like to suggest here another angle to this function of cost—its relation to other costs in the budget. Our college has endeavored to hold college (including library) salaries close to an equality with the cost of living. This has meant that the salaries have gone up—and how can one disapprove of that? It does not mean, however, that the total budget has gone up in the same proportion. A total budget of which 60 to 65 per cent went into salaries and wages, and 35 to 40 per cent into other costs (principally books and other learning materials) was a fair and equitable kind of money management. But in the last few years, in attempting to keep up with the cost of living by raising salaries, certainly our proportion of money spent for salaries and for books has gone clear out of its normal relationship. Is there something that can be done about this?

Another relationship to the book collection involves the sources of selection and the availability of materials. There are a number of problems here. One of them is the creation of good lists for selection. Another is the
evaluation or notations which should, whenever possible, accompany each entry in a list for selection. A third and most difficult problem is the evaluation of the evaluation, or the use to which book lists and reviews may properly be put.

Lists of reference books may be trusted more fully than buying lists for circulation and general reading. This is true because reference works deal more in facts, because they can be measured systematically and sometimes even statistically, and because they are frequently more self-contained or inclusive. A copy of Mudge and a set of the Subscription Books Bulletin are tools that can be well trusted by the librarian. But to gain an equally trustworthy judgment about books for general reading, the librarian cannot go to the Shaw list and United States Quarterly Book Review with equal faith. This is not because Shaw is not the equal of Mudge or the U. S. Quarterly Book Review in its field. The reason lies in the nature of the reading matter to be judged. Opinion, art and point of view are not to be handled or trusted like figures or facts.

Lists of the 10,000 best books (or 1000 or 100) can be gathered and published without too great difficulty, but this does not really answer the problem of selection, if indeed there is a final answer.

One of the aids which the librarian ordinarily wants is evaluation. This means a problem within a problem even if the evaluation or reviews answer specific questions about the book. Authority is an evasive term. Who is the authority? What is his point of view and why? Is he judging simply the facts in the case? Or is he laying down the law? Informed opinion about books as about other matters in a complicated world is hard to get at. But even if you get it, the problem of judgment is still with you. For you have to answer the question—does the book fit your library and its needs? Is it useful in your particular context? One might add that there is no substitute for the judgment of the librarian who is buying the books with his own knowledge or his client's needs in mind. I am speaking dogmatically now but what I am really trying to say is that these aspects of selection are problems which ought to be discussed.

This brings me to the third relationship—the participants in selection. If you remember, I earlier suggested that the people who select books and those who use them are in large part the same. I would even add that they should be as similar as possible. When our program chairman was examining the subjects which should be treated here in this panel, he hit upon the subject of pressure groups. Pressure groups may be all right in themselves, but they can go off the beam very easily in two respects. One, they may be attempting pure propaganda—wanting other people to read books which they are convinced are good yet about which they are incompletely informed. Secondly, they may be so interested in a particular subject that they push the number of treatments of that subject to an extreme. Even so it is unfair to suggest that they be excluded entirely from the process of selection.

Let me suggest that the participants in selection might well be thought of as anyone who belongs to the particular college community. This would include the library staff, the administration, the faculty, the library committee, students and people from the community at large; there are, for example, people in the town who may have sound opinions about books. There may be college graduates in the neighborhood or friends of the college.

One might divide the participants in the book selection process into two types—the formal and informal, according to the form of their participation. It is rather clear, I think, that book selection in which the faculty, the library staff, the library committee take part cannot prosper unless regular channels of communication are set up and used. These participants are the people who should feel some continuing responsibility for the condition of the book collection. Some formal or well-determined network of lines of selection should be constructed and used. This does not mean that there will not be problems. The amount of control of book selection by the library committee may be a continuing problem, and I do not think we have yet established how much responsibility should be taken by the librarian.

Still less settled, however, are the questions of informal methods of selection. This is more a matter of library attitudes and...
atmosphere than it is one of specific channels. One may put a box on top of the catalog inviting suggestions for new books, but if there is no feeling of communication between the readers and the library staff members, no confidence that such suggestions receive attention, the value of the arrangement will be much impaired.

There is another advantage to this sense of rapport wherever it can be established. No better measure of a book collection can be found than use. It is use for which the library exists. Yet there are few if any aspects of a library about which we know less. There are circulation figures, yes. But happily, we now rely less than we once did upon such statistics. For it is the kind of use, the quality of use and the depth of impression which are significant; and about these we are largely ignorant. We might well give more attention to this problem but, of course, that requires research. For most librarians, knowledge of use is a subjective or at least an empirical matter, only to be arrived at by giving special attention to those who use the library, to those who may not be entirely satisfied by what they find there, or who have suggestions for what might be added. Until we know more of why and how people read, there is no substitute for the librarians' intimate and personal knowledge. From such knowledge can come some of the informal participation in selection of which I have spoken.

Let me suggest a friendly attitude in this matter of book selection. One cannot accept every suggestion for book purchase, yet one should be hospitable to suggestions which come in. This does not mean that you will not occasionally have a misfire. I remember, for example, a faculty member who urged that we buy the recent book on dianetics by Ron Hubbard. The first words of the "synopsis" at the beginning of the book read as follows: "The creation of dianetics is a milestone for Man comparable to his discovery of fire..." Dianetics is certainly a hot subject; a number of people got burned on it—and possibly I speak here with feeling because the head of our psychology department protested that this book should not have been put in the book collection. I do not think that the harm was very great, however. Just how do you treat a misleading book? If it has some pretension to learning, do you refuse to give readers access to it or do you buy the book upon demand and let the learning process take its course? Sound book selection is a process which every good student has to learn for himself. Furthermore, the purchase of a dubious book may be a small price to pay for friendly and continuous interest in the growth of the book collection.

The relation of the book collection to the curriculum and teaching methods is an important part of the "consumption" function of the book collection. It is essentially what distinguishes the college library collection from a public library collection. It determines what goes into a college library collection, determines whether you include audiovisual materials and in what proportion or quantity; determines the relation of books to other materials.

Does the college have an intensive reading and honors program? Does it emphasize the natural sciences or the social sciences? Does its program run heavily to history, to language, to literature? Does the college have specialized or technical courses or go in for certain types of research? All of these factors can and should have particular influence on the book collection.

Whatever the character of the college program, the library (in particular, the librarian) has an important job of interpretation and of applying the interpretation to the building of the book collection. The college program is more than the latest speech of the college president, more perhaps even than a statement in the college catalog. There is the college history to be considered—of which the librarian may have a better grasp than some of the other officials in the college. And there is the experience, after a time, of knowing what will happen when the college changes direction, or of understanding just how the book collection will or should be affected under the stimulus of new methods of teaching.

Then there are special collections. I have already dealt with these in an offhand way. I have described them as a kind of lump on the book collection which otherwise might be well rounded. This may be unsympathetic of me, but I don't mean by lack of sympathy to discourage further discussion. There are plenty of problems in the area, but I am con-
tent to let someone else denote them.

The last and perhaps the largest of these subjects is the size of these collection—demanding cooperation and control. This function is an enormous one. Let me give the title as several of us arrived at it by correspondence: "The development of the book collection in relation to cooperation between institutions, including possibly sizes of collections, weeding, interlibrary loans, and bibliographical and book storage centers." Quite a mouthful! Cooperation. Size of collections. Weeding. Interlibrary loans. Bibliographical centers. Book storage centers. And I suppose we should have added union catalogs, microfilm, microcards, dilating shelves and rubber walls. The size of the collection, if thought of in terms of control and cooperation with other libraries, is probably the problem of our age.

It is useful, of course, to consider size in relation to requirements of the curriculum and the number of readers, principally faculty and students. Some years ago it was fashionable to discuss the size of a collection which would adequately answer the needs of undergraduate students. The figure was set variously at 8000, 10,000, 25,000 volumes. These numbers were arrived at by presupposing that the books could be correctly selected beforehand and were usually limited to the needs of a single year. In other words, they were a kind of core collection for a given moment in time and excluded the thousands of books which accumulate in the normal course of events in any library. This kind of discussion has its values, but it has little to do with the practical problem of book control. The number of courses, the spread of courses, the number of students, the amount and type of research—all influence the growth of the book collection. And "growth" is the right word.

For there is nearly always the laudable desire to grow and there is the further urge toward more knowledge and more research. The practical problem in the end is usually one of weeding—or of building an addition to the library or a completely new structure—or of reducing least-used materials to microform—or of all three. When you have taken steps toward the girth control necessary in your own library, that is less than the half of it. For a lively and inquiring faculty and student body in these days usually want some material that only special or research libraries have. And so we have with us library cooperation—which means union catalogs, microfilm, interlibrary loan, bibliographical centers and book storage centers.

I hope these ramblings have induced a certain perspective on the book collection. If they have not, I despair of improvement by continuing. It is time perhaps for someone else to concentrate and produce more specifics.

By ELIZABETH C. SEELY

The Cost of Books

Mrs. Seely is assistant librarian, Sarah Lawrence College.

The present high cost of books is an accomplished fact. William Miller, in The Book Industry, quotes G. P. Brett, Jr., president of Macmillan Company, as saying in March 1948 that "... all [book] costs have increased since 1940 between 60 and 70 percent." Publishers' Weekly estimates that since 1938 the price of books to the consumer has increased 35 percent, so we should probably be grateful that the whole cost has not been passed on to libraries. The only hope I can see from the publishers' side is that they are reported to be working on certain technological improvements which will cut down the production costs, and ultimately the prices.

Librarians examine this situation and wonder how they are going to deal with it. There seem to be two solutions, perhaps neither one possible. The first is to increase the book budget. Libraries have a strong basis for first consideration in being allotted any increase that might be made from the college funds. More and more the library is becoming the core of the learning process around which all teaching revolves. With the

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library as the laboratory, with new courses being added to many curricula, and with faculty needing new research materials for their own studies, the whole college community looks to the library and is aware of its adequacy or inadequacy. It is, therefore, willing to argue for the library’s support in its own interest.

At Sarah Lawrence College we weathered the high prices of 1948-49 pretty well because we were given a gift of $500 to buy art books, but the next year we added 400 fewer books by purchase. This was noticed by our public when they could not find things they expected we would have, or when we had to refuse requests that we buy such and such a book, although we borrowed constantly to keep them satisfied. So this year, although the college is still running at a deficit, we have $1000 added to our budget.

But how much in the way of book fund increases may we expect in the future? Everyone admits that colleges are finding it increasingly difficult to raise funds, and the expectation is that, with students being drafted and family living expenses inflated, enrollments in colleges will decline in the next few years, and hence the total college budget. If we must do without more money, then I should discuss my alternative suggestions.

First, there is the possible use of expedients as the opportunity arises. For example, faculty members often travel in the summer. Last year we selected two of these whose knowledge and common sense we trusted, and supplied them with funds and with lists of titles that we needed. They bought books for us in Paris, Rome and London, at the prices prevailing there, which were favorable to us, and had them shipped back to us. In addition, we authorized them to buy other titles they might see which they knew would build up our resources.

Titles from Penguin, Signet, Avon, Pocket Books, and similar publishers are a great saving whenever they are available in needed items. They are especially useful for duplicate copies required for certain assignments. They wear out, of course, after a week or two on a reserve shelf, and then they can be thrown away and no money has been spent on cataloging and very little on the original purchase price. Often we buy several copies of one title and sell them to students.

This next procedure is one that may not be practical for many libraries, but we have found it successful. Since our budget for supplies is not so strained as our book budget, we call it “Supplies and Services” and charge to it all our indexes (New York Times Index, Readers Guide to Periodicals, CBI, etc.) and also our subscriptions to the Westchester County Union Catalog and the Philadelphia Union Catalogue. This leaves a relatively large sum available for books in the book budget.

The interlibrary loan system is another economy which should be stressed. Union catalogs are so obliging and always seem willing to supply information whether one is a member or not. And colleges with larger resources are kind and generous to small ones. The colleges and universities of Pennsylvania, in our case, have helped us with many out-of-print, hard-to-get, or too-expensive items.

Most colleges think of borrowing from other colleges. It happens that the Westchester County Union Catalog which we use, also lists the holdings of many public libraries. We have most satisfactory relationships. They like to borrow our back files of periodicals, our psychology and foreign language books, our Karl Marx and books about Russia. We like their fiction, particularly the nineteenth-century fiction which is available here and there and which is valuable to us for its picture of social history. We also use their drama collections and books about travel, biography and military campaigns. These interlibrary loans suggest attitudes of good will and cooperation. If one develops those attitudes there is no end to what might be accomplished. There is the possibility ofbulk buying of supplies and books, the setting up of regional depositories, the inauguration of selective book buying (each library buying in certain fields) and a similar decision in the matter of binding periodicals.

Photographic reproduction is becoming more widely used by libraries and seems to be another way in which we can save money and still provide needed materials to users.

My last thought for today, and the really basic one, is that it is the librarian who counts. To keep improving the quality of the book stock while decreasing its quantity, takes the very best in librarianship. The head librarian, and all of her staff as well, should undertake to know what is in the books al-
ready on the shelves and what purposes they serve. We should know as much as we can find out about the books we may buy, something about the authors; whether their technical, scientific, or economic background is such as to make their writing authoritative, whether these books will help to eliminate weaknesses in the collection, or whether such material is already in the library, 'perhaps more effectively presented. We should never fail to feed well any mind that comes to us for nourishment.

To do all this work which I have outlined will require a staff which is interested, intelligent, alert, and possessed both of certain intangible graces of mind and the strength of Superman. But the satisfaction to the reader in this superior service and the pleasure of the worker in his increased effectiveness, will be worth all the trouble.

In the present crisis the salary budget should not be sacrificed to the book budget. I note in the statistics of the last few years in *College and Research Libraries* that improvement has been made in salaries of librarians, though this is probably more apparent than real since the 1940 dollar is now worth 57 cents. According to the *ALA Bulletin* of January 1950, college librarians are still not so well paid as elementary and secondary school librarians. If we are to get and keep these angels I want for the college library, they will have to be well-paid and carefully-nurtured.

By THOMAS M. IIAMS

Special Collections, Rare Books and Gifts

*Mr. Iiams is librarian, Colgate University.*

I assume that every college librarian has formulated policies regarding the development of his collections based on the aims, objectives and methods of his particular college, and that he has evaluated his collections, either objectively or subjectively, and is in a position to know the weak and strong fields

1 From my observation of the Colgate plan in operation, and the objectives of the institution, the library functions might well be interpreted as follows:

(a) To furnish the books required for collateral reading in connection with courses offered, together with related material required by the faculty members needed for instructional purposes.

(b) To furnish books for voluntary recreational reading by students and to promote their use.

(c) To provide a comprehensive selection of authoritative books covering all fields of knowledge and to make their content accessible.

(d) To train students in the use of library materials and to integrate the library with the instructional program.

To these four more or less accepted functions I would add two more:

(e) To provide materials to meet the needs of members of the faculty engaged in productive investigation within their field of instruction and within the possibilities of the budget after the first four functions have been adequately fulfilled.

(f) To collect and preserve material of institutional and local historical interest, providing no other agency undertakes this obligation and, of course, within the limitations of the budget.

If the foregoing library functions conform with the objectives of the college, we should adhere to them rather religiously, deviating only when changes in institutional objectives and increased budgets warrant the extension of library functions.

If your book selection policy is somewhat similar to that at Dartmouth, you are in a good position to consider the development of special collections. Dartmouth's policy, as stated in 1939, is three-fold: (1) The purchase of books directly related to the teaching done; (2) The building up of a more general book collection for student use; and (3) The acquisition of "such books as will attract great scholars to the college as teachers." Many smaller libraries, for budgetary reasons, cannot include the last category in their book selection aims and, for those libraries, the development of special collections is a real concern.

Any way you state your policy regarding the development of your collections you will find yourself, at some time or other, confronted with the problem of special collections, rare books and gifts. In my opinion, rare books are a special collection and, even if you do not consider them as such, both rare books and special collections often depend


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on gifts. It might therefore be well first to have a look at policies governing the acceptance and encouragement of gifts. You are probably all familiar with the policy regarding gifts adopted several years ago by ALA. The ALA suggestions are highly desirable objectives but include only cash gifts and rarely fall into the province of the librarian to explore. They are functions usually undertaken, if at all, by the college president or the vice president in charge of development.

Most of us would agree that the ideal gift is money without restrictions as to use. But what about gifts of books, objects of art, memorabilia of all kinds, and just plain junk most libraries are offered in great quantities, all of which may have restrictions regarding shelving, care and use? It is in this regard that it is necessary to have a realistic policy. Even cash endowments can bring on headaches if too many restrictions are imposed. Many of you have had experience with small endowments for the purchase of books on certain subjects no longer considered important or, indeed, taught. What to do with these funds if the bequest cannot be interpreted broadly? There are times, too, when the library does not benefit even from unrestricted endowments. In some colleges, funds realized from endowments are not actually added to the library's budget; instead, the college's support from general funds is reduced by the amount received from endowments. Often this is not the intent of the donor.

At Colgate, the policy regarding gift books is simple—no restricted gifts are accepted. I do not mean to imply that we would not accept an outstanding collection with reasonable restrictions if the collection is worth the expense involved. For instance, our T. S. Eliot collection was accepted with the understanding that it would be shelved in the Treasure Room, certainly a reasonable restriction. As you have had experience with small endowments for the purchase of books on certain subjects no longer considered important or, indeed, taught. What to do with these funds if the bequest cannot be interpreted broadly? There are times, too, when the library does not benefit even from unrestricted endowments. In some colleges, funds realized from endowments are not actually added to the library's budget; instead, the college's support from general funds is reduced by the amount received from endowments. Often this is not the intent of the donor.

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Richard Logsdon has said what many librarians have expressed in different ways: "A book is not a good buy unless it makes an addition to the net instructional strength of the library." I would add that gift books, too, are not worth the cost of cataloging unless they help round out or strengthen the collections.

Nathan Van Patten, former director of libraries at Stanford University, insists that "Unless a library has a well-formulated buying policy its development is likely to proceed along lines determined by the demands which are made upon it from day to day. The results of such a practice are rarely good." An entirely adequate library must go beyond the day-to-day needs if it is to help the college obtain good students and outstanding teachers. Good teachers are attracted to colleges with good libraries and so the question of developing the collections along lines most likely to bring prestige and scholarship to a college is, in my opinion, entirely justified.

However, it is doubtful that small college libraries should compete with larger colleges and universities in the acquisition of rare books. This statement may seem strange, coming, as it does, from an old rare book man. But it is my honest conviction, based on experience in a relatively small college. In the first place a small college does not have the resources to build up outstanding, or even good, rare book collections in many fields. In the second place it is doubtful, in an undergraduate college, that the use of such collections would warrant the expense of purchase and the special care and housing such collections should have. Having made

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8 The ALA approved policy is: (1) That any program for gifts and bequests shall be formulated carefully; (2) That memorials in the form of funds should be encouraged; (3) That the development of trust funds be encouraged; (4) That a large number of people should be interested in writing bequests into their wills; (5) That the possibility of insurance policies, including annuities, be explored; and (6) That in considering any gift or bequest, the donor consult the library administration.


that statement I should now like to point out an exception.

What would librarians of small colleges do if they were confronted with this problem? An alumnus decides to give his private collection of rare books to the library. This collection has been given no particular direction except that each item must be rare. It does not greatly expand any collection in the library. This private library is well worth $75,000 at current prices. There is no rare book room or, indeed, any safe place to care for such a large and valuable collection.

They probably would do the same thing I did when faced with a similar problem a few years ago. They would inform the president of the offer and say that they could not accept it unless adequate facilities to safeguard the collection were provided. The president, if he is a normal man, will react the same way mine did. Carpenters, masons, locksmiths and other workmen were on hand the next day to transform a staff coat room into a rare book room.

So now we have this splendid collection of rare books, collected with no planned purpose. I do not in the slightest way mean to give the impression that I do not appreciate this gift; in fact, I would have been unhappy if it had gone to Yale or Harvard where it probably would have been duplicated. I get a vicarious kick out of showing the books to teachers and students, but they are not immediately available to them, nor are they essential for their work because more readable editions, in most cases, are accessible on open shelves. The fine bindings cause many "ah's" and "oh's" when displayed and students often ask what certain items are worth, but the collection is not essential to the college. It is chiefly a prestige item, but, as such, certainly has value.

How much better off we would be if the donor had sold his collection and presented the library with $75,000, with the understanding that the money be used to purchase rare books, books that could not normally be purchased from regular library funds. I could then have a plan to develop special collections.

I would select a field in which we are already strong, lacking only the rare materials to make it an outstanding research collection. For instance, I would build on our T. S. Eliot collection, already outstanding, but lacking important original manuscripts.

No other agency in Hamilton, where Colgate is located, has the responsibility of building up a collection of local and regional history. We have made a good start in that field, but have never felt justified in taking even $50 from library funds to buy, for instance, the original field survey book for the Chenango Canal, which ran along the edge of the campus. I would certainly feel justified in using part of the $75,000 to round out that collection.

I would also make sure that all pertinent archival material was purchased; that is, material that could not be obtained by gift.

I would then have another look at our strong collections and would select a field to develop that would be of interest to a number of students and faculty, a subject that is likely to continue to grow in importance—area studies, for instance.

I would spend a part of the $75,000 to build up a special collection illustrating the history of printing, using the few incunabula already in the library as a basis and purchasing leaves of books from famous presses when the cost of complete volumes prohibits their purchase. I would also purchase the necessary reference tools in this field. I would make both students and faculty aware of the history and aesthetics of printing by occasional exhibitions and lectures on the subject.

I would certainly use some of the $75,000 to buy a few of the more expensive sets faculty members want, but cannot be purchased for them from library budgets without sacrificing the more obvious or urgent curricular needs. These sets may not come under the category of rare books, in that they are not scarce in one edition or another, but because of sheer bulk they are expensive even in microfilm or microcard reproductions.

Beyond these special collections, I doubt that I would be justified in using any part of my $75,000. Future changes of emphasis and university objectives would, of course, change my mind, but that would be my policy for the foreseeable future. A planned program such as I have suggested would, I am sure, have more significance than a haphazard accumulation, either by purchase or gift, of a collection of rare books per se.

All libraries in old established colleges have
some rare books. Librarians could not possibly have added books to their collections for the past 100 or 150 years without inadvertently accumulating a number of books that are now considered rare. Possibly the first thing a college librarian should do in deciding on a rare books policy is (1) determine what a rare book is and (2) do something about segregating the rare books in his library so they may be adequately handled.

Just as every long-established college library has rare books, so may they also have special collections, although they may not be segregated and immediately recognized.

Other important possibilities for developing special collections, rare books and gifts exist.

6 "Rare Book Code of the University of California at Los Angeles Library." Antiquarian Bookman, 7:20, Jan. 6, 1951. Also in College and Research Libraries, 10:307-08, July 1949.

Regional cooperative plans for the development of subject collections, for example, are important. Such questions as the following suggest avenues of approach that should be considered: Why buy rare books at all when the same material may be had on microfilm or microcards at a fraction of the cost of the originals? What is the best method of making friends of the library and alumni aware of library needs? What other sources for gifts should be considered? To what extent does publicity about existing collections influence gifts? What are the possibilities of cooperative storage and service as a solution to the special collections problem?

It is often true that “them as has, gets.” If you make a start, and your project is a worthy one, support may come from unexpected sources.

The Librarians’ Agenda of Unfinished Business

(Continued from page 313)

to the good life. The critical requirements today of libraries in Europe and Asia, in their struggle to resume activities, offer a great challenge to our own institutions to aid in the unceasing effort of providing books, periodicals, training facilities, personnel, and library equipment. Libraries have been recognized as an effective instrument in the Point Four program for technical assistance to economically underdeveloped areas, for they offer an organized means of disseminating technical and economic information essential to the relief and economic advancement of those areas. The United States Book Exchange has demonstrated successfully the need for a permanent national organization devoted to the collection and distribution of books here and abroad. The exchange arrangements of our libraries for books and personnel offer continued opportunity to strengthen ourselves as well as to strengthen our neighbors.

It is agreed, then, that libraries, which serve individuals and groups of every description from the laboratory to the scholar’s study, from the public school to the woman’s club, are a fundamental factor in maintaining and strengthening the fabric of civilization. They are engaged in a common purpose and they share a common goal. To this end they must labor without discouragement on the problems which have been reviewed in this recital, and on others of which these are but samples. They must abandon forever inertia and indifference. They must continue, instead, to face, with calm and quiet courage, their responsibility of service in the great task before us all—the task of surviving as free nations in a world yet to be attained of free men and free women.
Pure and Applied Sciences Section, ACRL

Under the leadership of Mrs. Dorothy Crosland and Whiton Powell, chairmen respectively of the Engineering School Libraries and Agricultural Libraries Sections, steps were taken in 1950-51 to give a broader charter in the ALA and ACRL framework to librarians of academic, government and industrial libraries devoted wholly or importantly to the sciences and technologies. These chairmen reported to ACRL President Adams and the directors on the morning of July 11 as follows (in substantial part):

"... our joint recommendation to the Board of Directors of ACRL, pursuant to votes of the members of the Agricultural Libraries Section and the Engineering School Libraries Section, [is] that these sections be dissolved and a new section be formed, consisting initially of the present membership of these two sections.

"As has been previously reported to you, this proposal has been repeatedly discussed at meetings of both sections, and has now been voted upon by mail by the membership of each section. A tabulation of the votes follows: Agricultural Libraries Section: For merger—45, opposed—8; Engineering School Libraries Section: For merger—59, opposed—9. At the time of the votes in the spring of 1951 the membership of the Engineering School Libraries Section was 156 and the membership of the Agricultural Libraries Section, 123. Slightly under half of the members of each section voted although all received ballots.

"... We believe it would be appropriate to consider this vote as fulfilling the requirement of 20 members to form a new section.

"It is recommended that these actions be made effective at a joint meeting of these two sections to be held during the ALA Conference in July 1951. We suggest that the name of the new section be determined at that meeting, unless the board wishes to decide the matter in advance. It is the intention to have the new section include the various fields of science and technology, and its name should be sufficiently broad to reflect this wider interest.

"In anticipation of this reorganization, both sections have nominated the same persons as candidates for chairman and secretary. It is suggested that these names be presented to the organization meeting of the new section, though other nominations should not be precluded."

The directors approved and the joint business meeting of the sections held that same evening confirmed the actions for reorganization. The name Pure and Applied Sciences Section was adopted and the following slate was voted into office for 1951-52: Chairman—John H. Moriarty, Purdue University Libraries, Lafayette, Ind.; Secretary—Irene L. Craft, Oregon State College Library, Corvallis; ACRL Director—Francis P. Allen, State College Library, Kingston, R. I.

There was considerable enthusiasm at the meeting, with unusually heavy attendance, and members stayed around to talk after its official close, which is a good sign. There is now a rallying place in ACRL's and ALA's structure for all librarians with problems involving research or academic service not only of engineering materials or agricultural materials but also of fields like public health, the biomedical sciences in general, the physical sciences and the whole complex of technologies upon which present day industry depends. The section will always be an instrument for the engineering and agricultural librarians who founded it, but they will be bound to benefit from contact and friendship with the added groups of departmental librarians and literature specialists who are certain to be attracted and to contribute to the new Pure and Applied Sciences Section's program.

—John H. Moriarty.
Brief of the Minutes of the Meetings of the ACRL Board of Directors

Meeting, July 11, 1951, at Chicago

In attendance were committee chairmen and ACRL representatives on the ALA Council as well as officers, directors and a few specially invited guests.

President Charles M. Adams opened the meeting by announcing that the six motions submitted to the board for mail vote had all been approved. These actions are given, in brief, in College and Research Libraries, 12: 277-78, July 1951.

On motion of Mrs. Dorothy Crosland, chairman of the Engineering School Libraries Section and endorsement by Whiton Powell, chairman of the Agricultural Libraries Section, it was voted to dissolve both sections. The board approved the establishment of a new section to cover the interests of science librarians and left the naming to the section itself (later reported as the Pure and Applied Science Section).

At the request of Sarah Lewis Jones, chairman of the ALA Committee on Midwinter Meetings, an ad hoc committee was authorized to study the problem and to report ACRL opinion on midwinter meetings.

Ralph Parker, as chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Compensation, and Schemes of Service, reviewed the work of the group in other years. It has been preparing a statement to guide professional schools in using the published volumes on classification and pay plans. When this is completed, its work will be finished. Mr. Parker also reported, as chairman of the Committee to Study Library Standards of Professional Schools, that there was no need for continuance of both groups. On his recommendation the board voted to abolish the Committee to Study Library Standards of Professional Schools.

The name of the Committee on Budgets, Compensation, and Schemes of Service came under criticism. The board voted to continue this group as the Committee on Administrative Procedure. The chairman was directed to prepare a new statement of purpose of the committee.

Mr. Swank reported for the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws that it was not in favor of a suggestion, previously referred to it, that ACRL committee appointments be increased beyond one year. The board concurred in disapproving the suggestion. The question of jurisdiction of the committee was raised. Mr. Swank was assured that his committee was to express itself for or against proposed changes in the Constitution and By-Laws, and that the board would, if it so desired, instruct the committee to draft proposed changes. On motion by Wyllis Wright the board directed the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws to make a written recommendation as to procedure for amending the Constitution and By-Laws, to include such points as the minimum number of names needed on a request for a change.

In connection with the report of the Committee on Financing College and Research Libraries, Mr. Tauber commented on the need for librarians to mention the advertisements they see in the journal. The membership should be more articulate in this matter, both to advertisers and to nonadvertisers, with which orders are placed. Mr. Moriarty suggested that ACRL members be polled for the names of those companies with which were placed orders in excess of one or two thousand dollars annually. Mr. Tauber commented on the need to add pages to College and Research Libraries if any great increase in advertising was secured.

In the absence of Lawrence Thompson (proud father of his first child that very day) Mr. Tauber commented briefly on the need for papers suitable for the new ACRL Occasional Papers, to be issued shortly by the Publications Committee. These would ordinarily be either too long for College and Research Libraries or on subjects too limited in interest for the journal. A well-written history of a college library was cited as an example.

Mr. Hamlin stated that distribution of College and Research Libraries to ACRL members paying ALA dues of $5.00 or more could not begin until July 1952 because otherwise...
too many refunds would have to be made to subscribers. The bookkeeping operation would be terribly expensive.

William Kozumplik submitted the report of the Committee on Interlibrary Loans along with the unit form which it recommended for universal adoption. While the studies of interlibrary loan costs were not yet complete, the average cost of borrowing was believed to be about $1.10 and the average cost of lending about 60¢. A complete report on costs is being prepared by James Hodgson. The advantages of the unit form were discussed, and the board voted approval of the committee's report and endorsed in principle the unit form for interlibrary loan transactions as recommended by the committee.

Mr. Adams then commented briefly on the work of other ACRL committees. (Reports covering the year's operations will be prepared in September and made available, at least in summary, at a later date.) Mr. Hamlin reported the Statistics Committee hoped to make available its report early in January, possibly by selling preprints, in order to meet the needs of administrators who needed the figures in preparing budgets.

The topic of progress toward a federation of library associations was discussed by Mr. Wright, who has represented ACRL interests at meetings of the Council of National Library Associations and the ALA Executive Board. He reported the Executive Board had apparently taken no action in response to the requests of ACRL and the Division of Cataloging and Classification that it study the problem as it affects the ALA. Little progress had likewise been made by CNLA. The Executive Board meeting with divisional representatives in July had been devoted principally to discussion of dues. Mr. Wright felt the Executive Board should create a special committee to study federation. Mr. Wright commented briefly on progress of the CNLA committees on placement, library education, examinations and standards, and standardization in library work (Z39).

Meeting, July 13, 1951, in Chicago

Mr. Severance was introduced as the newly elected vice president and president-elect and announcement was made by President Adams of the complete election results. The membership of the new Ad Hoc Committee on Midwinter Meetings was reported to be: Ralph E. Ellsworth (chairman), Charles W. David, Wyllis E. Wright and Arthur T. Hamlin.

Mr. Tauber and Mrs. Crosland commented on the need to give wide publicity to the formation of the new Pure and Applied Science Section. Many people have been lost to other library associations because they had no place in the parent organization.

Treasurer Shaw reported on finances through May and stated that the bank balance was $11,706.06. Income for the year ahead was estimated to be $16,300, and a budget of $21,010 was presented. Mr. Hamlin reported that about $2500 would probably be received during 1950-51 from sources other than dues, and that a roughly similar amount might be expected during 1951-52 in addition to the estimated $16,300. Uncertainty about increases in membership dues and in divisional sharing of these complicated the picture. Considerable expense will be incurred by membership distribution of College and Research Libraries beginning in July 1952 and by consequent drying up of funds from member subscribers.

The Buildings Committee had requested $200 for the tabulation of certain data already collected and $250 for expenses in connection with its first conference, to be held this fall in Columbus, Ohio. The latter figure was questioned on the basis that such conferences should be self-supporting. President Adams justified the request by stating that the first conference needed one or two leaders, whose expenses should be paid. No precedent was to be set. Practice of the former Cooperative Committee on Library Buildings was discussed. Approval of this single item was voted, with two nays.

The board discussed the dangers of referring to the distribution of College and Research Libraries (after April 1952 to all ACRL members paying ALA dues of $5.00 or more) as "free" and voted that henceforth it be termed "membership distribution."

The board considered a statement prepared by Mr. Hamlin on the new classification and pay plan of ALA staff, which includes ACRL Headquarters personnel. According to this the ACRL executive secretary would normally be a G13 (P6) as at present, but could be one step lower. The G13 salary, fully imple-
mented, would start at $6,590 and increase in four steps of $300 each. The present salary of the secretary, Lillian M. Shepherd, was stated to be $3,390. Although ALA Executive Board action approving full implementation was unknown at the time, the directors voted that ACRL fully implement the salaries of the ACRL staff in their present grades “as long as ALA Headquarters is using this system of pay and classification.”

The budget was approved as amended.

On the recommendation of Mr. Hamlin the present 50¢ discount on College and Research Libraries multiple subscriptions (two or more copies ordered at one time to go to one address) was abolished, as of July 1952.

Mr. Hamlin briefly summarized his responsibilities in connection with college and reference libraries in the national emergency, and summarized his mimeographed report on the subject, dated March 1951, which was published in part as “Notes from the ACRL Office” in the April 1951 issue of College and Research Libraries (p.171-3).

A first recommendation was that existing committees with logical responsibilities for aspects of national emergency problems be queried as to action planned or taken. A second suggestion was that ACRL create a committee on safeguarding library materials in a national emergency. This should serve as a clearinghouse of information on the subject. It might spell out its own list of “target” or dangerous areas.

It should be prepared to state when, in its best judgment, a state of clear and present danger existed, so far as libraries were concerned. The committee should exercise, at least in a negative fashion, a restraining hand on hasty and injudicious removal of books to remote areas which often entails damage and loss, and always curtails service. The committee should publish information on ideal storage conditions, on where protected or rural space for valuable books might be found, and on related matters. The work and interests of SLA, CNLA, ARL and the Library of Congress on this subject were discussed. It was voted to establish a committee on safeguarding library materials in a national emergency.

Discussion concentrated on the position of CNLA in matters of this sort and whether or not it be requested to set up a joint committee. Mr. Ellsworth expressed doubt that the membership was sufficiently informed on the place of CNLA and was in favor of going slowly in referring problems to it officially by board action instead of informally through ACRL representatives present at CNLA meetings. Mr. Wright stated that the problem was broader than ACRL and ought to be considered by the machinery set up in the past for consideration of joint problems. That machinery is CNLA. It was voted that ACRL officially request the CNLA to consider the establishment of a joint committee in the field of safeguarding library materials in a national emergency.

Mr. Hamlin then brought up the problem of protecting library budgets in the emergency. He stated that the Committee on Administrative Procedure had taken some preliminary responsibility for this. He raised the problem of developing constructive plans in what is called the battle of ideas. No action was taken.

The group voted to refer to the ALA International Relations Board a request from Isaac Goldberg that a committee be set up to cooperate with libraries in the Near East. Confidence was voted in the report of the Research Planning Committee, which was encouraged to seek funds for its proposed conference.

Mr. Ellsworth raised the question of ACRL juridisdictional area. As a member of ARL he had previously charged it with drawing off the cream of the projects and the cream of the interests from ACRL. He felt that the ARL membership lacked confidence in the ability of ACRL to act expeditiously on problems. Mr. Ellsworth recommended, as a start, that the Association give active assistance to Library of Congress proposals of a bibliographical nature. In explanation, a whole series of Library of Congress projects, such as the serials record and reproduction of the union catalog, were cited as examples of worthy projects in which the Library of Congress should have widespread support. ACRL should help with these in its own interest. Following brief discussion the board voted to establish a Committee to Implement Library of Congress Bibliographical Projects.

The 1950-51 financial arrangement with ALA was for one year only, and action was required for the year ahead. The board voted
to approve the past financial relationship with ALA (60¢ to the division for each of its $3.00 memberships; 60 per cent of membership payment for each membership over $3.00, but not more than $6.00 to the division from any one membership).

Mr. Hamlin then brought up the problem of what to do if an ALA dues increase was approved. The ALA proposed to keep divisional support on the same basis as under the old dues. The number of members would inevitably shrink because of the price increase, and ACRL income go down, not up. The ceiling limit of $6.00 to a division for any one membership means, in effect, that ALA would receive as much as $14.00 as its share of a personal membership and $44.00 on an institutional membership. He questioned whether ALA Executive Board members fully understood the plan as presented by the ALA executive secretary. Mr. Hamlin urged that the basis of divisional support be a simple percentage of the membership fee, with no floors or ceilings or fine print. He recommended something in the nature of a 50 or 55 per cent across-the-board split of each membership between ALA and the division of the member's choice. The board then voted unanimously that it is the sense of this meeting that, if the dues scale is raised, the ACRL would wish to have the division of dues between the ALA and the individual divisions re-examined with a view toward an across-the-board, flat percentage division of dues between the ALA and the ACRL.

ACRL chapters were reported to be in the discussion stage in Washington, D.C., eastern and western Pennsylvania, and the Southeast. It was voted to be the sense of the meeting to encourage regional chapters and that the ACRL executive secretary be encouraged to give such positive aid as he can within his time and expense budget.

Mr. Hamlin presented the problem of debts or funds accruing from ALA surveys of college and university libraries, which are conducted under the supervision of the ACRL office. He stated the ALA executive secretary had suggested the following: (1) The division responsible would receive two thirds of the normal supervision fee and ALA one third; (2) Any liabilities or deficits remaining after completion of the survey would accrue to, or be paid from, divisional funds; (3) Profits from sale of volumes will go to ALA provided the contract does not run into a deficit. The divisional office can, if it wishes, cut down on costs by assuming considerable survey work. Mr. Hamlin felt that the proposal was just, and the board voted its approval.

A question was asked regarding the experimental placement program in the Southeast. Mr. Hamlin stated that the program was dying, not because of lack of success, but because of too great confusion in the whole placement picture. Southeastern, ALA, and CNLA have all talked considerably about placement programs. The Association of College and Reference Libraries should enter placement work only if it became apparent that no organization covering all types of libraries was going to work at it.

Mr. Hamlin remarked on the By-Law provisions for contributing and sustaining members of ACRL and stated the Association had never had any. He mentioned the practice of some large libraries in collecting ALA and ACRL memberships from staff members and sending these in as a group. Pressure to join need not necessarily be exercised.

—Arthur T. Hamlin, Executive Secretary.

Fulbright Grants

Applications for Fulbright grants for the academic year 1952-53, for work in Europe and the Near East, may be sent to the Conference Board of Associated Research Councils, Committee on International Exchange of Persons, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington 25, D.C. Awards are offered for studies in university, public and special librarianship—United Kingdom; a librarian with training in visual aids—Cairo; a specialist in training of library personnel—Teheran; and for research projects without specification of subject matter. The deadline for applications—October 15—will probably be extended.

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News from the Field

The papers of Gen. Frank Ross McCoy, presented to the Library of Congress earlier this year, cover his long and distinguished career from the time he served in the Philippines until his retirement in 1949. Correspondence, memoranda, reports, speeches, early notebooks and a valuable series of scrapbooks kept through the years by General McCoy’s assistants document his service as aide-de-camp to Leonard Wood, Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft. The collection contains information concerning General McCoy’s activities on the Mexican border in 1915-16, AEF experiences in Europe in World War I, and his work as supervisor of the presidential election in Nicaragua in 1928, his chairmanship of the Commission of Inquiry and Conciliation (Bolivia-Paraguay) in 1929, and his role as American member of the Lytton and Far Eastern Commission. The papers furnish a wealth of material for biographies and for historians interested in twentieth century military history.

Library of Congress has also acquired a group of personal and semi-official papers formerly owned by Fritz Wiedemann, one time company commander in the infantry regiment in which Adolph Hitler served as corporal, and later Hitler’s personal adjutant. The material consists primarily of correspondence with Nazi officials and sympathizers and with German organizations from 1938 to 1941, the period during which Wiedemann served as German consul-general in San Francisco and directed German espionage in the Western hemisphere. There is also a revealing series of scrapbooks containing clippings and press notices from newspapers in the United States and Canada, identified and annotated by Wiedemann.

The University of Los Angeles Library has received the famous Barker Bible Collection. It was donated by Carlton Shay, teaching assistant in the UCLA School of Education and the grandson of the late Rev. J. P. Barker, who assembled it.

The Barker Collection features several famous religious texts, including an ancient Hebrew Torah, handwritten in Spain during the fourteenth century. It also contains the Bishop’s Bible, printed in 1595 by Christopher Barker, ancestor of the Reverend Barker and royal printer to the British throne. This was the second authorized English Bible and the immediate forerunner of the King James version. Other books included in the collection are William Tyndale’s New Testament, printed in 1536; five leaves from the Rusch Bible, printed in Strassburg in 1472; a Latin Bible printed in France in 1507 by Philip Pigouchet; a Rheims New Testament printed in France in 1582, the first Roman Catholic edition to be translated into English.

The Library of the American Mathematical Society has been purchased by the university of Wisconsin. The Duveen Collection, fully described in Bibliotheca Alchemica et Chemica (London, Weil, 1949), consists of approximately 3000 volumes ranging in scope from works on alchemy, distillation and related subjects, published in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, to contemporary works on chemistry. Included are a number of unrecorded items on magic and occult science as well as several seventeenth-century English imprints not recorded by Wing.

The Parsons College Library (John F. Harvey, librarian), recently announced the gift of a 300-volume collection in organic chemistry from an alumnus, Prof. R. C. Huston, of Michigan State College.

Padraic Colum has presented three manuscript notebooks, containing a draft of his play “Balloon,” to the Columbia University Libraries.
Mrs. Rose Tobias Lazrus has donated an additional 31 items to the Lazrus Collection of Swiftiana at Columbia. Included among these recent additions to the collection are: *A Discourse of the Contests and Dissensions between the Nobles and Commons in Athens and Rome*, with the Consequences they had upon both those States (Swift’s first published work), and *A Tale of a Tub* (1st Edition, London, 1710).

Columbia University Libraries have also received, from Mrs. Eustace Seligman, eight volumes comprising Prof. Edwin R. A. Seligman’s personal file of his ephemeral writings, including reviews, offprints, articles and essays.

The Midwest Inter-Library Associations, Center, organized by 10 mid-Conferences, western universities in 1949, is Scholarships now supported and operated by 15 member institutions. The center’s new building, made possible by Carnegie Corporation and Rockefeller Foundation grants totalling $1,000,000, was opened July 1. It is anticipated that 1000 tons of books, periodicals, newspapers and other research materials will be transferred from member institutions to the center in Chicago during the initial year of operation, according to Ralph T. Esterquest, its director. Material deposited in the center will be made available for cooperative use by the clientele of member institutions. Use of the material by member institutions will be for research purposes and the material will either be mailed to the campus where the research is being conducted or will be available for use at the center. The 15 member institutions are: University of Chicago, University of Cincinnati, University of Illinois, Illinois Institute of Technology, Indiana University, State University of Iowa, John Crerar Library, University of Kansas, Michigan State College, University of Minnesota, Northwestern University, University of Notre Dame, Purdue University, Wayne University and University of Wisconsin.

The University of Tennessee Library staff has established the Mary E. Baker Library Scholarship, for the purpose of giving recognition and encouragement to staff members who have shown unusual promise. The scholarship fund was started in 1949 by the professional members of the staff through voluntary contribution. The project was later adopted by the entire staff, and additional funds have been raised. Former staff members have also contributed. The scholarship amounts to $300.00. The University of Illinois Library School has this year cooperated by providing for remission of fees and tuition for the recipient. As a result, the scholarship has almost doubled in cash value, and offers substantial assistance to the student. The Mary E. Baker Scholarship is administered by an elected committee of the staff. The committee collects the funds, receives applications, and chooses the recipient. Applicants must have at least one year’s experience on the University of Tennessee Library staff. Their work must show ability to profit from further training and they must exhibit an interest in librarianship as a career. In accepting the scholarship, the recipient makes no commitment concerning his return to the University of Tennessee Library. The first award, made for the 1950-51 school year, was granted to Doris Methvin, Leoma, Tenn.

The cooperation of a selected group of municipal and county libraries in the San Francisco Bay Area has enabled the School of Librarianship, University of California, Berkeley, to offer a limited number of working fellowships to be known as the Carleton B. Joeckel Internships. These internships will provide an opportunity for a small group of exceptional students, interested in public library work, to gain valuable experience and to be paid while studying. The libraries cooperating in the plan have agreed to guarantee a minimum of $100 a month, at their regular hourly rates, for the nine months of the academic year, on schedules that will permit students to attend library school concurrently. Internes will ordinarily take two years to complete the library school course.

Miscellany

An interlibrary loan multiple-carbon unit-request form and standardized label, approved by the ACRL Committee on Interlibrary Loan at a two-day meeting held at Oregon State College and the University of Oregon during April, was presented for approval and sponsorship at the July meeting in Chicago. The effectiveness of the unit-form for cutting interlibrary loan

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costs has already been demonstrated in several California libraries during the past year. The committee also presented, for study and comment, a suggested procedure for handling interlibrary loans. The chairman of the committee is William A. Kozumplik, Oregon State College.

On Dec. 4, 1950, the trustees of the University of Tennessee voted to assign faculty rank to professional members of the library staff. Although appointments to professional positions had carried faculty rank for many years, it was felt that the assignment of specific academic rank would strengthen the positions and insure appropriate recognition of the staff in the future. The following ranks were assigned to the various positions after a committee had decided upon the qualifications of the staff in respect to the requirements established as criteria. The chief of Readers' Services and chief of Order and Processing were given the rank of professor; head of Reference, associate professor; heads of Cataloging, Circulation and Order, assistant professor; branch librarian, assistant professor; senior librarian, assistant professor; junior librarian, instructor.

Joseph C. Borden, associate librarian in charge of the Acquisitions Department, University of Arkansas Library, reports that for the past year the library has been placing its desiderata file on punched cards, notched to permit a subject approach. This method permits a quick compilation of a list of items wanted in a special field.

On April 2, 1951 the University of Kentucky Libraries formally dedicated its Samuel M. Wilson Library. Dr. Thomas D. Clark presided and the dedicatory address, "The Repulse of the Silent Artillery," was given by Luther H. Evans, Librarian of Congress.

The Annual Report of the Library of Congress indicates that the impact of world events on the public has been reflected in the services of the Library of Congress. Dr. Luther Evans points out that Congress—the first concern of the library—has increasingly sought reference service on ever-broadening and urgent issues. Its requests for assistance from the Legislative Reference Service increased 47 per cent over the previous year's total, and it borrowed 38½ per cent more material through the Loan Division. Government agencies and the general public also turned to the library in increasing numbers for answers to questions posed by a troubled world. The library as a whole served 900,095 readers with 2,186,467 pieces of material for use within its buildings and 265,336 pieces for outside use during the 1950 period. For the first time, in the 1950 Annual Report, the librarian devotes a separate chapter to "External Relations"—the library's contributions to ties with friendly nations, to the continued growth of democratic ideals, and to the recognition of common cultural heritages.

The Library of Congress has issued Marketing Maps of the United States: An Annotated List, compiled by Walter W. Ris- tow (Card Division, 40 cents).

Cornell University has issued the Nicholas H. Noyes Collection of Historical Americana in the Cornell University Library. (Ithaca, 1951, 25p.).

Polonica Americana is an annotated catalog of the Archives and Museum of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of Chicago (1950, 250p.). Compiled by Alphonse S. Wolanin, librarian of Alliance College, this is an alphabetical listing by author.

British Newspapers and Periodicals, 1632-1800, compiled by Powell Stewart, has been issued by the University of Texas (1950, 172p.). This is a descriptive catalog of a collection in the University of Texas Library.

The first five parts of the second revised edition of the Handbuch der Bibliothekswissenschaft of Fritz Milkau has appeared. These five portions include 480 pages of text. The Royal Library, Copenhagen, A Brief Introduction is a 31-page illustrated pamphlet issued by the library in 1951.

Benjamin Franklin, Winston Churchill: An Exhibition Celebrating the Bi-centennial of the University of Pennsylvania Library, May 8-June 15, 1951 has been issued by the university (55p., 1951).

The American Library Association has published a useful Library Binding Manual, prepared under the direction of the Joint Committee of the ALA and the LBI, by Louis N. Feipel and Earl W. Browning (74p., 1951, $1.50). This is a practical guide to problems of binding, and includes such topics as the reasons for binding, what to bind, mending...
and repairing, selection of a bindery, the cost of binding, and inspection of the binder's work. In addition to several illustrations, the manual also includes minimum specifications for Class "A" library binding, standards for reinforced new books, guide to fair value, and a glossary.


James W. Perry, known to librarians for his interest in problems of documentation, especially in the field of chemistry, is the author of Scientific Russian (New York, Interscience Publishers, 1950, 816p., $7.50). Dr. Perry, who is now associate professor of modern languages, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has as his purpose the teaching of a reading knowledge of scientific and technical Russian. The volume is divided into 40 lesson, each of which is concerned with a facet of the Russian language. Some 700 typical sentences are analyzed. Librarians should find this a useful volume for their collections or for personal self-study.

The South African Library Association has issued a Handbook of Librarianship in South Africa, 1950 (1951, 136p. ios.). In addition to material relating to examinations and syllabuses, the volume contains a summary of South African library history, library legislation, a list of members of the association, a list of South African libraries, and various lists of publications. (Copies to be obtained from Main Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.)

The Institute of Aeronautical Sciences has issued a Symposium on Standardization in Technical Information Services for Government Contractors, edited by Maurice H. Smith (New York, 1951, 44p., $1.00). This is a report of a meeting held in New York in January, 1951. The institute has also issued the Aeronautical Engineering Index, 1950 (178p., $5.00; to IAS members, $2.00).

The Atomic Energy Commission Group, Department of Security Council Affairs, United Nations, has issued An International Bibliography on Atomic Energy, vol. 2, Scientific Affairs. Volume I of this work, issued in 1949, dealt with the political, economic and social aspects of atomic energy. The current volume contains 24,282 items. There is an author index, and a list of the journals used. Order copies from Columbia University Press, New York, N.Y., $10.00.


The Library Association (London) has issued The Subject Index to Periodicals, 1949, with T. Rowland Powell, as general editor (591 p., price £5. 5s.). Order from The Library Association, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W. C. I.

The University of Illinois Library School has now issued 22 numbers of its "Occasional Papers." These papers are on various subjects, and several are of direct interest to college and university librarians. Herbert Goldhor, who is editor of the series, indicates that issues are available to libraries which wish to be placed on the mailing list. Dr. Goldhor also invites librarians to submit manuscripts for possible inclusion in the series. Address him at University of Illinois Library School, Urbana, Illinois.

"College Libraries in Illinois," a series of descriptive articles, began appearing in Illinois Libraries with the February 1951 issue. These articles, written by the librarians of the respective institutions, describe the bibliographical resources, physical facilities, history, general program and objectives of the various colleges of Illinois, which at present number several score. In the presentation of this series, Editor Helene H. Rogers of Illinois Libraries has the assistance of David K. Maxfield of the University of Illinois.

The Princeton University Press has issued several titles of interest to librarians. The Theory of Investment of the Firm, by Friedrich and Vera Lutz (253p., $4.00), is largely an application of the theory of capital to the individual firm, following the tradition of K. Wicksell and F. A. Hayek. Lights in

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Nassau Hall: A Book of the Bicentennial, Princeton, 1746-1946, by Charles G. Osgood (276p., $3.00) is a resume and evaluation of Princeton's 200th anniversary program. In addition to a sketch of Princeton's history, the volume also contains descriptions of the conferences, convocations, concerts, lectures, sermons, and other occasions. The History of the Four Last Years of the Queen, edited by Herbert Davis, with an introduction by Harold Williams, is volume 7 of the series, The Prose Works of Jonathan Swift (252p., $3.75). This volume is here for the first time printed from the Windsor manuscript, a copy which contains Swift's own autograph corrections, the endorsement "written at Windsor 1713," and the original preface. Mr. Williams discovered the manuscript in 1935. Letters of Benjamin Rush, edited by L. H. Butterfield, has been issued in two volumes (1295p., $15.00 the set). The two volumes contain over 650 letters (two-thirds of them never before printed), the first covering the period, 1761-1792, and the second, 1793-1813. The letters trace Rush's career from his Philadelphia apprenticeship and European studies to international eminence as scientist and sage. His correspondents included the first five presidents of the United States and leading figures in science in America and Europe. Another new Princeton University Press imprint is Public Relations and American Democracy, by J. A. R. Pimlott (1951, 265p., $4.00). The volume seeks to explain what public relations people do, and the social purpose of their efforts. An item of information perhaps of interest to librarians is Mr. Pimlott's reference to the 1948 holdings of the Library of Congress dealing with public relations or publicity generally. Of the 130 items listed under the subject heading "publicity," the output was slight in the 1920's and for most of the 1930's. It rose during and after the war. Mr. Pimlott has devoted much of the book to a case study of the informational and propaganda activities of the federal government.

The Lamont Library, Harvard College, has issued its Classification Scheme of the Lamont Library. Copies of this publication may be obtained from the Lamont Library at a cost of 50 cents each.

Let's Look at the Record, by Thomas R. Amlie (Capital City Press, Madison, Wisconsin, 1951, 612p., $10.00) is a review of the two major political parties in the United States since the breakdown of 1929, and of the manner in which the representatives and senators have voted on approximately 666 key roll calls. It would be a useful source of information for reference librarians.

The United Nations continued to publish its useful monthly guide, the United Nations Documents Index. In June the first Cumulative Index to volume I was published. The monthly publication lists and indexes, by subject, the documents of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies, exclusive of confidential material. Each issue contains a list of documents and a subject index, arranged alphabetically. The annual cumulation of the monthly issues is available in the Cumulative Index. Documents are classified under the particular section or agency by which they were promulgated, and full information concerning date of publication, language, size, and price, together with a brief summary of contents is given. Annual subscription rate is $7.50. Orders should be placed with International Documents Service, Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway, New York 27, N.Y.

In The Scholar Adventurers (New York, Macmillan, 1950. 338p. $5.00), Richard Altick, who is at present professor of English at Ohio State University, has exploded the idea that literary scholarship is as dry as dust and lacking in excitement. Librarians, bibliographers, and scholars generally will find this an entertaining as well as an instructive introduction to the intricate avenues of literary research. Whether he is discussing the trials of "The Unsung Scholar," his difficulties in completing a work of scholarship, or the search for manuscripts and other materials, Dr. Altick has succeeded in dramatizing the work of the scholar adventurer. Librarians will recognize many references to personalities and institutions with which they are familiar.
DAVID H. CLIFT, the new Executive Secretary of the American Library Association, has had a fine training for his important position. He was born in Mason County, Kentucky, on June 16, 1907, and educated at the University of Kentucky and the Columbia University School of Library Service.

His experience includes work as a student in the libraries of the University of Kentucky, Lexington Public Library, and the Columbia University Libraries. He was a reference assistant in the New York Public Library, 1931-37; assistant to the director, Columbia University Libraries, 1937-42; Second Lieutenant in the Office of Strategic Services during World War II; deputy, and later, acting chief, Library of Congress Mission to Germany, 1945-46 (on leave from Yale); instructor summer session, New Haven State Teachers College, 1948; and associate librarian, Yale University, since 1945. He was chairman of the ALA Board on Personnel Administration, 1950-51; secretary and member at large, Microcard Committee, 1947 to date; secretary 1947-49, first vice president, 1949-50 and president, 1950-51, Connecticut Library Association; treasurer, 1949-50, nominee for president, 1951-52, Connecticut Valley chapter, Special Libraries Association; president, 1941-42, New York Library Club; nominee for first vice president and president-elect, 1950-51, Association of College and Reference Libraries. He has been active in the Friends of the Hamden (Conn.) Library Organization, and served on the Technical Advisory Committee for Regional Libraries, Connecticut State Department of Education, 1949-50.

During his period of activity with the Connecticut Library Association he was the chief stimulant to the extensive studies, looking forward to the improvement of public and rural library service. These activities have resulted in the presentation of bills to the Legislature for the establishment of a regional library program in Connecticut.

Mr. Clift's contribution to the life at Yale was recognized by his being made an Associate Fellow of Trumbull College. His great contribution at Yale was in drafting and putting into operation a Classification and Pay Plan for Librarians, his activity in school and departmental library matters, his efficient and diplomatic dealing with scholars both local and from afar, and his constant work for the welfare and proper recognition of the librarians at Yale.

My concern at losing him is great, I believe we have been a happy team. I feel, however, that he has a fine opportunity in his new position. The Association needs more David Clifts. I am also proud that the Association came to Yale for their man; it is another confirmation of the reason for the founding of Yale "to train young men for Public Service."

—James T. Babb.

THE University of British Columbia Library gets a vigorous and friendly westerner as its librarian on August 1 when Neal Harlow leaves the assistant librarianship at UCLA to succeed Leslie Dunlap in the B.C. job. A man of many specialties, Harlow gained a solid background in western history as a member of the Bancroft Library staff, 1934-38, and as a senior staff member of the California History Section of the California State Library, 1938-1945. From this experience came his recent book The Maps of
San Francisco Bay from the Spanish Discovery in 1769 until the American Occupation, published by the Book Club of California in 1950 and printed so well by the Grabhorn Press that it was selected by the Rounce and Coffin Club for special distinction among the western books of 1950. He also has published a number of articles and reviews in various journals on aspects of western history, and is recognized by fellow bibliophiles in the Book Club of California, the Zamorano Club and the Westerners Club as no mean man with map and book. From work on his major book came technical knowledge of maps and their usefulness in libraries which helped him set up a coordinated map program on the UCLA campus; recently he was called back by the State Library as a special consultant on maps. From his experience with early California newspapers in the Bancroft and State Libraries he developed an active and useful interest in the conservation and filming of newspapers and in their research use. The culmination of this interest was a special study of the conservation of newspaper resources in California libraries, undertaken for the State Library and the two state university libraries in California. A natural consequence of this interest, as well as of his photographic hobby, has been an informed pursuit of the problem of photography in library service, a matter on which he has done publishing also.

Under Harlow's recent two-year editorship the California Library Bulletin was so revamped in style and invigorated in content that many of us consider it the country's best regional library journal.

Mr. Harlow joined the UCLA Library in 1945, first in charge of the gifts and exchange program, and then as head of the new Department of Special Collections which he organized with vigor and good sense, bringing into being a department that gives skillful service with such specialized materials as rare books, manuscripts, maps, music and archival materials. His administrative ability was so obvious that he was the natural candidate for the assistant librarianship in 1950, and this has led him on to British Columbia. He is a graduate of UCLA and of the University of California School of Librarianship at Berkeley.—Robert Vosper.

Appointments

Dr. Lester Asheim is now dean of students, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago.

Melvin Bennett has accepted an appointment as head, Reference Department, Texas A and M College library.

Margaret F. Brickett has been appointed librarian of the U. S. Department of Labor Library, Washington.

Solon J. Buck is now Assistant Librarian of Congress.

Mary Lois Bull has been appointed assistant university librarian for personnel at the University of Illinois Library.

Marguerite Carder is now head of the Reference Department, Mary Washington College Library, Fredericksburg, Va.

Robert L. Carey is order librarian in charge of periodicals and exchanges, Georgetown University Library.

William Chidekel has been appointed supervisor, Reserve Division, New York University.

Alexander Clark has been appointed curator...
of manuscripts, rare books, and special collections, Princeton University Library.

Anabel Coots is now head of the reserve book room, University of Washington Library, Seattle.

E. Heyse Dummer, librarian of Bradley University since 1949, was visiting professor at the University of Kentucky's Department of Library Science during the summer. He taught courses on the college and university library and the history of books.

Mary Dunegan is librarian, School of Nursing, Georgetown University Library.

Mary L. Fleet has been appointed reference librarian, Georgetown University Library, Washington, D.C.

Jerry Reavis Foster has been appointed librarian at Frank Phillips College, Borger, Texas.

Roger de Georges is assistant order librarian, Georgetown University Library.

Ada L. Green, formerly on the staff of the University of Massachusetts Library, was appointed reference librarian, Bard College, as of August 1.

Ruth Hardin has been appointed head of the Documents Section, Michigan State Library.

Richard J. Hofstad is circulation librarian, Georgetown University Library.

Andrew Horn, formerly head of the Department of Special Collections at University of California at Los Angeles, is now assistant librarian.

Richard D. Hupman has been appointed Librarian, the U. S. Senate. Mr. Hupman was formerly in charge of the Law Library in the Capitol.

James V. Jones has become librarian of the School of Commerce, St. Louis University.

Warren A. Lussby has been appointed librarian, Rocky Mountain College, Billings, Mont.

John G. W. McCord has been appointed chief, Order Division, Southern Illinois University Libraries.

Arthur M. McAnally, who has been assistant director, Public Service Departments, University of Illinois Library, has been appointed librarian, University of Oklahoma. A sketch of Dr. McAnally appears in *C&RL*, September 1945, p. 364-65.

Alice Martin has accepted an appointment as librarian at Jamestown College.

Donald G. Max is now head, Cataloging Department, U.S. Army Air Force Geophysics Library, Boston, Mass.

David C. Mearns is now head of the Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress, and has been named to the library's Chair of American History.

George R. Meluch is Agricultural Experiment Station Librarian, Purdue University.

Dr. Frederic J. Mosher is instructor, School of Librarianship, University of California.

Lawrence P. Murphy has been appointed librarian, Fisheries-Oceanography Branch Library, University of Washington, Seattle.

Donald Nelson has become librarian, Eastern Oregon College of Education, La Grande.

Mrs. Mattielee Newman Skelton is now head, Loan Department, University of Kansas City Library.

The following appointments have been made at the University of Oregon Library: Gertrude Stolper transferred from the Acquisitions Department to become social science librarian; Edward L. Affleck has been appointed science librarian; Walter D. Nelson, acquisitions librarian, and Robert W. Cryder, administrative assistant.

Velva Jeanne Osborn has been appointed circulation-reference librarian at the Midwest Inter-Library Center, effective July 1.

Joan Linley Pritchard has been appointed assistant, University of Massachusetts Library, Amherst.

At Purdue University an Audio-Visual Center, with film production, audio-recording, projection as well as other aids' services, and film and slide library, has been consolidated and made an administrative part of the libraries. John H. Moriarty is the director of the Audio-Visual Center as well as of the libraries. L. D. Miller is film librarian.

James Ranz has been appointed head of the Catalog Department, University of Virginia.

Madeline Riffey has accepted an appointment as reference librarian in the undergraduate library of the University of Illinois.

Jane St. Clair became catalog librarian of the Chicago Undergraduate Division, University of Illinois Library, on April 1. Formerly she was assistant to the head of the Catalog Department at Louisiana State University.

Mrs. Luger K. Sites is assistant cataloger, Georgetown University Library.
Wilbur Jordan Smith is now head of the Department of Special Collections at the University of California at Los Angeles as the successor of Andrew Horn.

Robert Talmadge has been appointed library administrative assistant at the University of Illinois Library.

Ian Thom became chief of technical services at Northwestern University Library on May 1. Mr. Thom was formerly at Harvard College Library.

John B. Tompkins is head of public services, Bancroft Library, University of California.

Alexander J. Wall, Jr., is now director of the New Jersey Historical Society, Newark.

Retirements

Three members of the University of Illinois Library staff, Josie B. Houchens, Fanny Dunlap, and Meta M. Sexton, reached automatic retirement age on September 1.

Miss Houchens, a native of New Orleans and an alumna of Sophie Newcomb College, came to the Illinois Library School in 1903, received the B.L.S. degree in 1905, and joined the library staff the following year. At various times she has served as circulation assistant, general assistant, binding librarian and lecturer in the Library School. Since 1941 she has been assistant university librarian in charge of personnel, and in 1945 was promoted to associate professor of library science. From 1928 to 1941 she also held summer session appointments as instructor in bibliography and reference at the Columbia University School of Library Service. Professor Houchens' professional activities include terms on American Library Association committees concerned with personnel and binding. She is joint editor of the Illinois Library School Association News Letter and is president of that association during the current year.

Miss Dunlap, a native of Missouri, is also a graduate of the Illinois Library School, class of 1915, and held her first appointment at Illinois from 1912 to 1915, in the Catalog Department. After five years' absence at Kansas State College and University of Missouri Libraries, she returned to Illinois in 1920 as reference librarian and lecturer in the Library School, a position she has since filled. In 1945 she was promoted to be assistant professor of library science. As reference librarian during the past 31 years, thousands of students and faculty members at the University of Illinois have been aided in their study and research by Professor Dunlap.

Miss Sexton was born in Connecticut, and holds degrees from Smith College, Oberlin College and the Illinois Library School. Her first library experience was at Oberlin, from 1916 to 1920. She joined the Illinois Library staff in 1922 as a cataloger, and has since devoted her entire time to cataloging of the famous Cavagna Italian Collection. In 1950 her calendar of the manuscripts in this collection was published as the first volume in the Adah Patton Memorial Series.

Personnel Changes in Foreign Libraries

Dr. Hans Wegener became director of the Bremen Staatsbibliothek on Jan. 1, 1951.

Dr. Karl Lebrecht Preisendanz, well known papyrologist of the University of Heidelberg Library, retired on Jan. 31, 1951.

Dr. Joseph Hofinger, formerly director of the Studienbibliothek in Salzburg, was appointed director of the University of Innsbruck Library on Dec. 31, 1950, as the successor of Dr. Rudolf Flatscher, who has retired.

Dr. Otto Brechler, for many years chief of the Manuscript Section of the Oesterreichische Nationalbibliothek, retired on Dec. 31, 1950, and died on Jan. 9, 1951, at the age of 65.

Dr. Albert Predeek, who has traveled extensively in the United States, has been relieved of his office as director of the University of Jena Library by the East German Soviet authorities.
In the death of James Thayer Gerould on June 8, 1951, the library world lost a distinguished member. His interests and activities were broad. In addition to holding the post of librarian at the University of Missouri, University of Minnesota, and Princeton University, he took a very active part in setting up bibliographical controls of the greatest importance.

Dr. Gerould's first participation in a major bibliographical enterprise was in connection with the Union List of Serials. This grew out of suggestions and discussions which started in 1913. An Advisory Committee, of which Dr. H. M. Lydenberg was chairman, and Dr. Gerould a member, was appointed by ALA in 1922. Dr. Gerould's share in the program was large and vigorous. The first edition appeared in 1927, under the editorship of Winifred Gregory (Mrs. Gerould), followed by two supplements which carried the record to 1932. Dr. Gerould was at first chairman of the committee which brought forth the second edition in 1943. Due to ill health he was replaced by Donald B. Gilchrist as chairman in 1938.

The Union List of Serials led to other important publications created by the same pattern of cooperation among American libraries. Dr. Gerould also was chairman of three other committees which brought to the world the List of the Serial Publications of Foreign Governments 1815-1931, (1932); American Newspapers 1821-1936, (1937); and International Congresses and Conferences 1840-1937, (1938).

While at Minnesota Dr. Gerould started the distribution of an annual sheet giving certain statistics of a group of libraries. The practice was continued when he came to Princeton, and the so-called Princeton Statistics are still appearing each winter.

Dr. Gerould was the author and compiler of many books and he contributed several articles to serial publications.

As just given, the record of the results of Dr. Gerould's efforts shows an impressive contribution from one man. This record does not show his great capacity as an administrator, nor his vibrant personality which was very much in evidence at meetings with library colleagues.—Lawrence Heyl.

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It has long been recognized that the existing organization of bibliography is too imperfect and too incoherent for effective control. But the experiences of scholars, scientists, military men and government officials during the war, the growing realization of our increasing inability to cope with the mounting volume of significant information recorded in or out of print, and recognition of the fundamental importance of knowledge of this information to the ultimate preservation of our civilization have combined to point up the urgency of the need for positive action toward improvement before bibliographic chaos becomes complete.

This book is the record of the deliberations of the 1950 conference of the Graduate Library School which directed its attention to a systematic examination of all aspects of this problem of organizing, locating and transmitting the published and unpublished records of scholarship. The conference did not attempt to pose definite solutions but rather to outline the problem completely with due attention to all of its facets from the history of past attempts to the potentialities of mechanical devices, and to summarize those present trends which might affect existing agencies and practices, future investigations of bibliographic problems, and the development of bibliographic services.

These papers are a valuable synthesis of present thinking and suggest many avenues worthy of exploration in the effort to improve bibliography. Some of the observations are repetitious of truths long held. The delineation of bibliographic problems in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences does not add particularly to the extent of our understanding, but these new summations are useful résumés in relatively compact form. Some of the assumptions upon which the authors base their arguments are controversial; others may even prove to be erroneous. But the ideas set forth are genuinely provocative and worthy of consideration by all who have a stake in the improvement of bibliography.

This is not an easy book to read. The casual browser will find much of it rough going and the serious student will have to do considerable digging to get at all of the important facts. In large measure, perhaps, this difficulty derives from the abstract nature of many of the concepts discussed, but some part of it seems to result from the extensive elaboration of examples, an overfondness for the jargon of the scholar-specialist and the librarian, and a seeming preference for polysyllabic words to convey a meaning. In view of the importance of the book it is regrettable that its difficulty will almost certainly operate to reduce the size of its audience.

It may be interesting to compare the conclusions of the various participants. Verner Clapp defines bibliographic organization and its role in contemporary civilization though some will argue that the distinction drawn between "bibliographic organization" and "bibliographic control" is one of semantics, not of significance. He suggests that a taxonomic study of bibliographies to identify those types which have the widest potential usefulness and therefore offer the brightest hope for achieving effective bibliographic control is of primary importance. Attention is needed also to existing gaps in coverage, the problem of duplication, appropriate levels of informativeness and comprehensiveness, methods of indicating location of materials, more cooperation among interested agencies, the development of suitable classification and coding schemes and subject heading lists, and the potentialities of mechanical devices.

Kathrine Murra reviews the history of the several abortive attempts to organize bibliography internationally but sees some reason for optimism about the future because of the interest of Unesco, the deeper understanding of the need, and the existence of more groups and individuals who can and are trying to do something about improving bibliography.
The role of classification in bibliography is reviewed by Mortimer Taube, Jesse Shera and S. R. Ranganathan who arrive at various conclusions. Taube, who has convinced himself that the development of current comprehensive national bibliography on a large scale is a snare and a delusion and offers no hope of effective control, concludes that traditional classification schemes are inadequate, that the development of universally-acceptable subject heading lists is impossible, and that a new classification scheme based upon "categories" of information in each subject field which can be expressed in terms of coordinates with each other offers the best hope. Such a scheme, he points out, will provide intensive or deep-level analysis and will lend itself also to coding for punched card or other mechanical sorting devices. Shera agrees with Taube on the inadequacy of existing classification schemes and proposes the need for a new classification of concepts rather than of knowledge or of books. One senses that Shera and Taube are searching for essentially the same thing. Ranganathan is in general agreement with his colleagues but submits that the Colon Classification does, or will ultimately do, precisely what Taube and Shera want their new classifications to do.

Herman Fussier emphasizes the need for increased attention to improved physical access to materials. This, he argues, must come about through an improved understanding of the needs and working methods of readers and from new approaches in library administration derived from this understanding. Other improvements in physical access may be expected from increased cooperation among libraries in acquisition programs, increased interlibrary loans, and the development of storage libraries, and from increased use of photographic reproduction, better communication among libraries, and improved local access.

The potentialities of decentralized subject cataloging, especially in academic libraries, in improving the intensity of subject analysis, the development of suitably specialized classification schemes and subject heading lists, and the selectivity and discrimination in subject analysis are suggested by Raynard Swank. His proposal for combining general reference services and descriptive cataloging activities in a new general bibliography division is among the more provocative proposals.

One is mildly surprised to discover Ralph Shaw, often considered the arch-advocate of mechanizing routine library activities, warning against the premature conclusion that machines are a panacea for our troubles. He points out the need for applying management methods in determining for which activities machines will be more economical and effective than other methods. Some routines, he assures us, can never be as economically performed by machine as by traditional methods, and this must be recognized in projecting mechanical solutions to our problem.

The implications of all these discussions are pointed out by John Cory who notes that they point toward the ultimate development of more specialized and personalized library service, a more careful distinction of the functions of research and nonresearch libraries, and increased reliance on research libraries by public libraries for answers to difficult reference or research questions. He also foresees that librarians will become better bibliographers and that library operations will certainly become more highly mechanized.

Margaret Schindler describes in detail the preparation of the Bibliography of Agriculture as a case study in the preparation of a modern current comprehensive subject bibliography. Carl Kraeling, Irene Taeuber and Herman Henkle review the problems of bibliographic control in the humanities, social sciences and the natural sciences and make positive suggestions of specific needs in each field. And Margaret Egan summarizes the general findings of the conference.

It is important to remember that none of the participants lays any claim to infallible prophetic vision. Rather each attempts to assess the significant problems within his area of interest, the trends in the solution of those problems, possible added methods of attack, and to project possible, probable or desirable developments. From these considered discussions the magnitude of the total problem becomes overwhelmingly apparent, and the many facets which must be considered in any reasonable attempt at solution loom as almost equally large problems in their own right. The many opportunities for librarians to make valuable contributions are thus more clearly seen, and it may be said that in its
attempt to make this delineation the conference has succeeded uncommonly well.

Inevitably the findings of such a conference include numerous suggestions of areas in which further study is necessary before any frontal attack on the big problem can begin. This isolation of specific problems and their solution to the end that the summation of solutions will provide a rational method for attacking the bigger problem is good research technique and historically effective methodology. It is to be hoped, however, that in view of the magnitude of the task before us, and the urgent need for a solution, these and other experts will not linger so long over the trees that they lose sight of the forest. These papers are a challenge to the whole profession of learning, not just to the librarian and the scholar-specialist.—Carlyle J. Frarey, Columbia University School of Library Service.

The Scottish National Dictionary


In 1907 Sir William A. Craigie suggested to the Scottish Branch of the English Association that it “collect Scottish words, ballads, legends and traditions still current.” This germ idea brought about the formation of the Scottish Dialects Committee, which has been the chief mover back of the Scottish National Dictionary. Then in 1919 Sir William proposed that a series of period dictionaries of the English language be published, these to deal more fully and specifically with segments of the language than the Oxford Dictionary had done. The proposed noncommercial dictionaries are: Bosworth and Toller’s Anglo-Saxon Dictionary and its supplement; the Middle English Dictionary, now being edited at the University of Michigan; the Early Modern English Dictionary, begun some years ago at the University of Michigan but now held in abeyance; the Late Modern English Dictionary, not yet begun; the Dictionary of American English (1944), which has recently had its complement in M. M. Mathews’s Dictionary of Americanisms (1951); the Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue, now being edited by Sir William and in print in the f’s; the Scottish National Dictionary, editing begun by William Grant and being continued by David D. Murison, and in print in the late d’s.

Although Joseph Wright’s English Dialect Dictionary was not specified as a member of the period dictionaries, it is a valuable contribution to the lexicographical group of the English language.

When Sir William came to America to edit the Dictionary of American English, he had in mind to produce two dictionaries: Dictionary of American English and American Dialect Dictionary. Since it soon became evident that it would be unwise to work on both at the same time, work on the dialect dictionary was discontinued. The American Dialect Society is now collecting material for a dialect dictionary of the United States and Canada.

Samuel Johnson and Joseph Wright were not the only dictionary makers who have suffered financial pains in giving birth to their lexical offspring. Officers of the American Dialect Society and the Scottish Dialects Committee are experiencing the same pains. But happily the Scotch are faring better than the Americans. The former have received financial support from the Burns Federation, the Carnegie Trust, the Educational Institute of Scotland, the American Scottish Fund, and numerous individuals in both Great Britain and the United States. The Scottish Dialects Committee labored 20 years collecting and editing material before it began publishing the dictionary.

In its coverage the dictionary aims to be national and comprehensive, to include all written and spoken words that have appeared in the nine Scottish dialects from 1700 to date (the Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue will deal with the language prior to 1700). Standard English words that have different meanings in the Scots will be included. Latin, French and other foreign words used in Scots will also be included. A large number of words are of Norse origin.
The work will list and deal with some 50,000 terms.

The introduction (52 pages), Vol. I, presents helpful information about the Scottish people, their country, their speech and their writers. Some of the sections of the introduction constitute valuable brief essays on Scottish dialect, spelling, pronunciation, etc.—for example, sections 11, 13-16, 18, 21-22, 159-160. A map of England and another of Scotland provide helpful keys to the general pronunciation areas of the two countries.

The treatment of words is similar to that in the *Oxford Dictionary*. All variant forms (spellings) are given and all known meanings of terms. Illustrative quotations arranged according to time and place, and identified as to author and title help to clarify meanings. Etymologies and origins are also given. When there might be some doubt as to the pronunciation, it is indicated in the alphabet of the International Phonetic Association.

Methods of collecting material for a dictionary of a historical and a living language are telling as to the final work produced. Four to five thousand written sources of all kinds (in print and manuscript) were drawn upon. In addition, other material was collected directly from living speakers of all the dialects. Librarians, educators, teachers, ministers, journalists and other capable and interested persons helped the cause. No one received pay for his contributions. This was pretty much the system employed by Joseph Wright.

Phonograph records were used to aid in securing and studying the pronunciation. Over the years collectors of terms sent them to the editors of the Transactions of the Scottish Dialects Committee, where they were printed, and readers were asked to send the editors further information. When the editors of the dictionary needed still more information, they sent out printed lists of certain words, asking for additional light on meanings, pronunciation, locales, dates, authors, and for illustrative quotations.

As would be expected in a collection of folk words, many are archaic, such as: *brave*, beautiful; *brock*, badger; *daysman*, an umpire, an arbitrator. Americans will recognize many ancestor or kindred words of our dialect: *a* (1), *ahint*; *aneath*; *auld* boy (the devil); *ayant*; *back* (to address a letter); *backset*; *bad man* (the devil); *ballop* (flap in front of breeches); *bedfast*; *black strap* (dark molasses); *blinded milk*; *burial* (a funeral); *buss* (a kiss); *collop* (a slice of meat); *ding* (to knock); *disre"member*; *donsie*; *doxie* (a sweetheart); *duster* (a drizzle).

Surprises of some kind await the reader on almost every page. Some words which in American speech are highly indecent have no such meaning in Scots; but the reverse is sometimes the case. Many other words show different meanings between the Scots and the American. Scottish *cow* is a broom, a switch, a hobgoblin. To *cower* is to get well. A *crony* is a potato. To *croon* is to bellow like a bull, purr like a cat, or croak like a frog. *Croagh* is a berry. Incidentally, we learn that the now standard English *croagh* was once Scottish dialect, and was introduced into the medical world in 1765 by Francis Home, of Edinburgh.

Other interesting words are *bairdie*; *berry-barn*; *bottomless breeks* (kilts); *breenger*; *bundling* (accompanied by an enlightening quotation on this courting custom, which came to New England); *capadosie*; *cowhow*. The numeral *dek*, ten, is used by shepherds in counting sheep. This reviewer has observed that the first 10 and sometimes 20 numerals in some dialects are quite archaic and conform to rhythmic patterns. This holds for several English dialects, Gullah, and some parent African languages of Gullah.

The dictionary is enriched by many quotations that not only clarify the meanings in question but also contain interesting folklore, folk sayings, folk songs and frequently sprightly wit.

The *Scottish National Dictionary* should certainly find a place along with its companion dictionaries—the *Oxford English Dictionary*, the *English Dialect Dictionary*, Bosworth and Toller’s *Anglo-Saxon Dictionary* and its supplement, etc. One critic has said of the dictionary: “It is not a book for Scots alone; it must be consulted by students of English—modern, middle, and old; by students too of Norse, Danish, and various Germanic tongues.” He might well have added “by all educated persons who wish to know more about the Scottish writers of the eighteenth and the nineteenth centuries—among whom are Allan Ramsay, Robert Fergusson, Robert Burns, Sir Walter Scott, Thomas Carlyle,

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and Sir James M. Barrie; about the English language in general; and about the American speech in particular, since our speech has inherited so much from the Scots."

It is regrettable that the editors are printing such a few sets of the dictionary—only 2000.—George P. Wilson, professor of English, Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, and secretary of the American Dialect Society.

Standard Dewey Classification


The fifteenth edition of the Dewey Decimal Classification is the long awaited standard library edition. It is a complete revision designed to meet the needs of "the greatest number of libraries," or small to medium-sized libraries, with the tables "evenly and broadly expanded," eliminating the overelaboration of some classes found in earlier editions. Each schedule has been studied, rewritten and simplified by librarians and subject authorities in the light of current developments, changing concepts and terminology. Much unnecessary material has been omitted.

Issued in a green buckram binding (a great improvement over the drab bindings of earlier editions), the entire book has been reset and standard spelling is used throughout. Various type faces are used in the tables making it easy to consult them.

The arrangement follows earlier editions closely. The "Introduction" is followed by summaries of the main classes, divisions, sections, form divisions, tables and index. Compared with the fourteenth edition which contained 80 pages of introductory material, 1047 pages of tables, 737 pages of index, and 50 pages of supplementary material, the fifteenth edition contains 55 pages of introductory material, 469 pages of tables, and 190 pages of index. The supplementary tables are omitted in this new edition.

A special effort has been made to bring the terminology up-to-date. Definitions, scope notes and references to related materials have been given liberally, adding considerably to the usefulness of the tables. Occasionally the obvious has been defined and a few definitions are rather vague, but on the whole the definitions are helpful.

The length of the notation has been kept down to a maximum of four decimal places, found principally in the 621's, 629's, and 900's. The relative index has been shortened considerably. It includes personal names for artists, philosophers and theologians, but many names included in scope notes in the tables are not listed here. Many subjects which should be included have been omitted, and it is unfortunate that some typographical errors have crept in, e.g. Egypt. History. Modern.—926 instead of 962; Libya—960.2 instead of 961.2; Red Cross—361.506 instead of 361.5; Tunisia—960.1 instead of 961.1; and Western Australia 984.1 instead of 994.1.

Since reclassification is a physical and financial impossibility in most libraries, the editors made "no very drastic changes." Even so, in adopting this edition many libraries will be faced with the problem of some reclassification. Numbers for which no books could be found have been dropped. Subject division numbers falling in this category include: 017-019, 061-068, 083, 087, 114-119, 122, 125-127, 129, 141-149, 163, 165-169, 214, 216-217, 219, 255, 257, 313-319, 569, 689, 764, and 768. Form divisions and subdivisions have been omitted in many cases, e.g. 202-209, 501-509, etc.

When a subject is shifted from one class or subdivision to another, it is recorded in the tables in the form of a recommendation, e.g., 614.9. It is recommended that VETERINARY SANITATION be classified in 636.0894. Important changes are shown in the accompanying table.

The main classes or divisions which have been changed include the following: 128 Soul: 218 or 233.5; 140 Philosophic systems: 180-190; 172 Political ethics: 177; 173 Family ethics: 177, Marriage and the family: 301.422; 174 Professional or Business ethics: classified with Profession or Business;

In addition to the changes noted in the table above, many minor subdivisions or phases of subjects have been changed and are indicated in the tables in the following manner:

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It is recommended that the History of books be classified in 655-4.

Most of the changes made have eliminated shortcomings in earlier editions and are all to the good. Libraries adopting the standard edition will have many decisions to make regarding the changes effected. Perhaps a compromise will be reached to adopt the new edition but retaining certain numbers from the fourteenth edition as an alternative to reclassifying large collections.

Although this new edition has shortcomings, the editorial committee has developed a good book classification which, it is hoped, will continue to be developed with future editions. Although it does not solve all the problems, it is a step in the right direction. Librarians who have been awaiting this edition with patience will find many of the changes for which they have been looking. Library school instructors and students will certainly find this new edition much easier to use and less confusing than earlier editions.

It is reported that the H. W. Wilson Company will use the standard edition for the numbers used on its printed cards, and the Decimal Classification Section at the Library of Congress is debating the issue and wants the reaction of libraries using the numbers on its printed cards. Here is one vote favoring the use of the standard edition for the Dewey numbers on L.C. cards.—Richard O. Pautzsch, Brooklyn Public Library.

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Rare Book Cataloging


It will be a surprise to many a reader to learn that a cataloger from the Folger Shakespeare Library has succeeded in describing in simple, layman's English the intricacies that are the foundations of rare book cataloging. In a mere 85 pages he has lifted the iron curtain behind which most catalogers of ordinary books (as he calls them) have been too timid to look.

There is a serious danger, however, that catalogers and library administrators may be misled by this simplicity and assume that the task is as simple as this explanation of it. The critical reader will soon discover that in spite of the opening chapter entitled "Whys and Wherefores," there are many questions left unanswered. In his first paragraph, Mr. Dunkin says that "catalogers dream of a brave new world in which simplified cataloging will answer all needs of all books." He then promptly explains that what he has suggested in the following pages for rare book description is really simplified cataloging and he falls into his own trap. His dreams of simplified descriptions for rare books should answer the needs of all rare books. His basic fallacy as I see it is his failure to attempt to define a rare book which he says is not the cataloger's job. Even if one accepts his premise that "any book which has value as a physical object is a rare book," it is possible to concede this in a day of good photoduplication services one must admit that different physical qualities may have caused the rarity, and correspondingly different descriptions may be required to catalog such books adequately without giving unnecessary information. To suggest that if the convention of quasi-facsimile transcription of title pages is not adopted, the transcription must give line endings in every case ("The general cataloger . . . will do well to mark line endings in all transcriptions because it is so little trouble that omitting them results in no saving") is to provide guidance to be followed without the discriminating mind that it is necessary for a cataloger of rare books to have.

Intelligent cataloging requires that the cataloger see the relationships between books. The cataloger of rare books in many cases must make finer distinctions in the relationships and be able to express clearly and concisely what he has discovered. This brief treatise may be a godsend to guide the beginner in the presentation of his bibliographical data, but it needs to be supplemented by a guide that leads the cataloger to the sources of information that tell him why his particular book is rare.—Lucile M. Morsch, Library of Congress.

ILO Publications


This volume, issued as Bibliographical Contributions No.5, is the first attempt at a complete listing of the English language publications of the International Labour Office. Two years ago a corresponding catalog was issued for French language publications (Bibliographical Contributions No.1) and a supplement for 1949 publications followed. Since the French catalog is out of print, the librarian, Joseph Wilson Haden, has announced that the library is preparing a new edition covering the period 1919-1950, which they hope to bring out later this year as No. 6 of the series.

The Catalogue of Publications in English is arranged in two parts: The first part is a dictionary catalog with full bibliographic information for each entry; the second part is a checklist arranged by conference, committee or other body, and by series. The latter should be exceedingly useful for libraries in checking their holdings and in identifying the somewhat complex publications of international labour conferences. For prices of ILO documents reference must be made to the Abridged Catalogue of Publications which is frequently revised.
The Catalogue represents the careful bibliographic work that has been typical of the ILO Library staff. The technical work was done by Mariliese Muller under the direct supervision of Janet F. Saunders. As with most catalogs, the user wishes for more subject entries. For example, the volume would have been of greater use in locating reports on working conditions in specific countries if such titles as Industrial Labour in India had been entered under INDIA as well as under LABOUR—INDIA. This, of course, would have added considerable work and pages.

The usefulness of this catalog to those working in the field of industrial relations suggests the need for a similar catalog of the publications of the United States Department of Labor or at least of its chief publishing agency, the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The last subject index to the publications of the bureau was issued in 1915. Two other publications in the ILO Bibliographical Contributions are: Catalogue of Russian Periodicals in the International Labour Office Library (No.2) and List of Periodicals Indexed in the Library of the International Labour Office During 1950 (No.3). In preparation are: A Catalogue of the Library of the International Management Institute (No.4) and a Bibliography on the International Labour Organization (No.7). Both will be issued with French and English texts.—Ralph E. McCoy, Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, University of Illinois.

India and Libraries


Dr. Ranganathan introduces the Library Catalogue with the statement that it is “primarily a book in practical cataloguing.” It is not a book of rules, and is not concerned with theory or the routine involved in cataloging books in a library.

Based on the premise that “cataloguing is, from the point of view of teaching, a subject in which the practical performance must be the hub from which everything else should radiate and indeed should get irradiated,” Dr. Ranganathan has prepared a textbook which is characterized by many exercises and examples.

Of special interest in this volume is Chapter 84, “Perspective of the Past and the Prospect of the Future.” Dr. Ranganathan comments upon the pre-Cutter period, the efforts of Cutter to systemize the subject approach to books, and the failure of librarians to take full advantage of the values of classification. He criticizes sharply the dictionary catalog and the blind acceptance of this type of arrangement. Since the libraries of India are just establishing catalogs, he suggests that they take cognizance of this situation. “A great responsibility is laid upon Indian libraries to make full use of the fact that they are at present on virgin soil, that it is there that new techniques can be forged and that indeed the laboratory has shifted to India. Let it not be said that her sons in the library missed the golden opportunity and were inert and imitating when they should have been active and creating.”

Library Tour 1948 is a narrative of Dr. Ranganathan’s visit to Europe and America. It consists of a series of comments on various subjects, such as national central libraries, city library systems, rural library systems, university libraries, business libraries, ad hoc bodies, and the library profession. Consideration is given to the differences which exist in
the several countries visited. Out of his observations Dr. Ranganathan has endeavored to mold a plan for the libraries of India. Like his other works, this volume contains many penetrating statements which illustrate the author's originality and great capacity to comprehend library problems.

Public Library Provision and Documentation Problems contains four papers on public library problems and legislation in India, and 20 papers on various problems of documentation. In the latter group are papers on documentation in several subject fields, abstracting, and arrangement of materials.

In the final paper, on “International Cooperation,” Dr. Ranganathan expresses a hope for the establishment of a comprehensive Indian Subject Bibliography.

The third edition of the Colon Classification suggests the continuing interest in the scheme of arrangement that Dr. Ranganathan has been enthusiastically supporting. Students of classification may be induced to read Dr. Ranganathan’s remarks on the Colon Classification which appears in Shera and Egan’s recent volume, Bibliographic Organization (University of Chicago Press, 1951).

—Maurice F. Tauber, Columbia University.

Father of Plastic Surgery


This volume, while it is a biography of the “father of plastic surgery” addressed to the general reader, is also a dynamic picture of life in Renaissance Bologna. It is both an interesting and informative work.

The collaboration of a distinguished plastic surgeon, Dr. Webster, with that of an accomplished archivist of Italian Renaissance materials, Dr. Gnudi has produced a great work of scholarship which dispels many previous errors relating to the great pioneer of plastic surgery. At times, the publication reads like a detective story with the authors piling the evidence higher and higher in order to refute previous erroneous statements. Their documents are given fully in English and are repeated in the original Latin or Italian in an appendix of some 70 pages. The authors provide an English translation of the preface to Tagliacozzi’s work De curtorum chirurgia per insitionem, 1597, reproduce all of its elaborate illustrations, reprint in full Alexander Read’s translation of much of Tagliacozzi’s book, and provide a comprehensive bibliography and index.

The story of the publication of Tagliacozzi’s work, of the difficulties encountered in the legal printing of such a volume, of the formalities and red tape involved and of the almost immediate pirating of the volume by others is a most interesting commentary upon publication activities in the sixteenth century.

The book is a beautiful piece of typography. Appropriately it has been printed and bound in Bologna. The pictorial initial letters incorporating scenes from Bologna or from Tagliacozzi’s work were especially designed by Ivan Summers.

This publication should be of additional interest to librarians, for while it represents the culmination of more than 20 years of painstaking research, involving many archives in Italy, it is based in large measure upon publications amassed in a single special collection of a university library. Many librarians take a dim view of special collections for a variety of reasons. One of the principal reasons which give a librarian a sense of frustration, is that so many collections seem to have been gathered solely for the love of the collecting and with no intention or provision for putting the collection to work.

The more than 12,000 volume Jerome P. Webster Library of Plastic Surgery, lovingly and carefully gathered by its donor, not only provides the literature to support the day-to-day practice of plastic surgery, but has now been utilized to produce a great work of scholarship in the history of the Renaissance and of surgery.—Thomas P. Fleming, Columbia University.
The Small College


President Hall's avowed purpose is "to throw a little light on an important and traditional segment of higher education in America by use of the case method. From the events in the life of one college during the administration of a single president may be drawn lessons of much wider applicability. . . ." This book, then, attempts to be nothing more nor less than a highly personal account of the conduct of the president's office at the College of Idaho from 1939 to 1948. Problems are frankly stated and reasoned. The answers are not all here, for no college president has all the answers. President Hall offers the reading public the opportunity to accompany him in the conduct of his responsibilities and to draw its own conclusions on how these were discharged. This is done with frankness, vigor and literary ability. Educator and layman alike will have difficulty in putting this volume down, once begun. What a refreshing change from most professional literature!

The problems of most colleges and many universities are all here. Faculty salaries were, as in other places, still at a mid-thirties low, and a certain amount of stagnation had set in. How could one attract scholarly young men with real teaching ability to this small institution in the sagebrush? The endowment was insignificant and the draft soon cut deeply into enrolment. How, to quote a chapter heading, make "Two and Two Make Six"?

The college is situated in an emerging area, coming out from the raw and rugged conditions of its pioneering past and into a settling existence with new industries and a culture and personality all its own. Into this the college must fit. The college must blaze its own path to meet the needs of its area and perform a function different from the state university, its great competitor. How vocational education was finally ruled out and the liberal arts firmly established as policy to the satisfaction of trustees and alumni is an interesting story with lessons for all educators.

Much of the work of a college president is, of course, in raising funds and in public relations. Here the characters are drawn sharp and clear, to the discomfort of some and glory of others. The trustees, individually and collectively, are not excepted. The member whose chief contribution to the college is termed "opening the meeting with prayer and seconding the motions," exists perhaps on other boards but does not expect such prominent recognition.

A prominent and distressing lack is the scant attention given to the college library. Librarians of liberal arts colleges will find this volume highly useful for its light on the problems faced in the president's office. They will have difficulty in reading the book because, judging from personal experience, their wives and secretaries will refuse to give it up. It belongs, for all its deceptive spontaneity and charm, in any collection on higher education. Would that some librarian had the wit and time to produce a similar book on his own work.—Arthur T. Hamlin, Association of College and Reference Libraries.

Bibliography in an Age of Science


Librarians reading these second Windsor lectures will have the eerie sensation of moving along the thin knife edge of the barely known into the realm of science fiction—science fiction set in the library. Librarian readers will be uneasy unless they have prepared themselves by acquiring a bowing acquaintance with Berkeley's Giant Brains and Wiener's Cybernetics. The statements made and implications drawn by Dean Ridenour, a physicist and radar expert, and by Professor Hill, another physicist and one-time Bell telephone engineer, out-fantasy Frederick Keppel's "Looking Forward, A
Fantasy" in the 1939 ALA symposium, *The Library of Tomorrow*. Ralph Shaw's lecture is comfortably more familiar as to content, but even he verges on the unfamiliar world of binary digits and electronic pencils.

Ridenour points out that the present-day problems of acquisition, storage and indexing are the product of modern technology which libraries have failed to exploit in seeking solutions. In Ridenour's view the slowing down of libraries' growth rate, in the face of increasing materials and increasing demands, is a sign of inadequate technique. The costs of cataloging and storage by current techniques are approaching society's limit of acceptance. To better the situation Ridenour proposes that library problems be studied from the standpoint of operational research, a technique brought to a high order of development during the war and described in *Methods of Operations Research* by P. M. Morse and G. E. Kimball. Through this mode of attack Hill would add that of the "systems engineer," a concept borrowed from the Bell telephone systems, whose fundamental problems are not dissimilar to those of libraries. A telephone system involves the interrelation of a theoretically infinite number of telephone instruments whose switching problems increase as a square of the number of instruments. If one assumes that the objective of libraries is to put into the hands of its clients appropriate units of information, which are interrelated with respect to the clients' need for them, the significance of this advice is apparent. Both systems engineering and the methods employed by operational analysis, are wholly alien to the substance of library education and usually to the background of librarians. It seems likely, therefore, that libraries will be the victim of a cultural age unless the application of these techniques is stimulated by the application of more money than libraries are accustomed to secure from their normal sources.

Shaw's lecture brings us closer to reality; it is a realistic evaluative résumé of mechanical, electrical and electronic devices for storing, sorting and reproducing bibliographic materials. Since most of these devices were developed for other than bibliographical use (except the Rapid Selector) none is well adapted to library uses but all are predictive of more appropriate devices which might be evolved. A valuable axiom to be kept in mind when considering the use of novel equipment in libraries can be derived from Shaw's remarks: "The productive speed of a process involving a very rapid machine can be no greater than the speed of the slowest portion of the process."

Hill reports briefly on the MIT program in scientific age to learning.

It is fashionable to propose projects for the attention of the Ford Foundation. If one agrees with the predictions of the authors, it would be most appropriate to urge the newest member of the foundation family to create a large subsidiary to study the problems inherent in the reproduction, storage and dissemination of the records of human thought and to develop methods and devices for solving them. Probably it is only by such a well-financed and coordinated attack that library technology can be brought quickly enough to a proper level to prevent severe damage to the library in its present institutional role.—Donald Coney, University of California Library, Berkeley.

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Abbreviations
app't — appointment
cat.(s) — catalog(s)
coll. — college
I.(s), ln.(s) — library(ies) librarian(1)s
port. — portrait
ref. — reference
rev. — review(1)s
univ. — university

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