Message from the President

(Continued from page 323)

is impossible here to catalog all the accomplishments of officers, committees, sections, publications, representatives, and general membership. Solid progress has been achieved on many projects which contribute to library betterment, and though these are not dramatic, they are, in large measure, the fabric out of which ACRL's long-haul success is made. Some new developments may constitute news. Two committees have been graduated to section status. The Rare Books Section is the outgrowth of the Committee on Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Special Collections, aided by a committee with perhaps the longest and dullest title in our history—coupled with the shortest and brightest life—the Special Committee to Study the Possibilities of Section Status within ACRL for Those Interested in Rare Books. The Subject Specialist Section is the fusion of our old Pure and Applied Science Section with the large group of special librarians whose request for divisional status within ALA was denied and whose divisional membership was transferred to ACRL. Both sections enrich ACRL, particularly in reference to our research interests.

A few committees call for special mention. The Standards Committee will present a report and panel discussion on its progress in evolving college library standards at San Francisco. The Special Committee on Activities Development, with a preliminary report already published in CRL's May issue, will take another step forward during the San Francisco meetings. The Foundation Grants Committee again disbursed funds to college libraries and searched for new money. The Committee on Financing College and Research Libraries was dismissed with thanks, as its reason for being is no longer a direct responsibility of ACRL. The members of this committee were instead asked to serve on a new committee to investigate the feasibility of an awards program in ACRL. A joint committee with the Association of American Colleges is off to a successful start.

I am sure the membership of ACRL joins in my pleasure and satisfaction at the recent appointment of Richard Harwell as associate executive secretary of ALA. It is a gratifying recognition of the vital position of ACRL within our larger organization that its executive secretary should be chosen for the added responsibilities of this key position, and it is a sincere compliment to Mr. Harwell's effectiveness in his work for ACRL. I am convinced that his conduct of wider ALA affairs will further strengthen ACRL's position as a most important division of ALA.

Our publications program continues to be one of the outstanding fields of operation of ACRL. We are proud of CRL which, under the editorship of Maury Tauber, maintains a strong position among library periodicals and numbers among its contributors the leading scholarly and academic librarians. Transfer of the production aspects of our monographs series to ALA's Publishing Department increases the efficiency of our work in that area without affecting the editorial policy or quality of it. Under its new editor, Mrs. Margaret Toth, our microcard series gains further prestige.

We are sorry to lose Floyd Cammack as our publications officer. He is leaving for Cornell in September to work for a doctorate in general linguistics. We are grateful for his fine work with us. In his stead we shall welcome Peter Demery, who comes to us from the Marquette University Library.

The beauties and hospitality of San Francisco will be hard to resist, but a glance at the programs planned for the annual conference convinces me that we have an exciting conference coming up. Many of the talks center on books, a delightful re-emphasis on first principles, and the whole program is diversified enough to satisfy all interests. The patient is once again taking solid food.—Eileen Thornton, ACRL President.
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