A Basic Collection of Records for a College Library

By David O. Lane

The college library is no longer just a repository and dispenser of books. The book is still supreme in all libraries, and rightly so; but in our time educational, cultural, and recreational matter is available in other formats also—reproductions of paintings, films, filmstrips, other audio-visual materials, and, perhaps most important of all, phonograph records.

The art of recording is still relatively new. The first commercial records date only from the decade before 1900. The flat disc as we know it today appeared about the turn of the century. Electrical recording began in 1926, and contemporary LP records date from 1949.

Some libraries started collecting records in the 1920's and 1930's, but the limitations of the 78 rpm disc were many. They are heavy, bulky, expensive, and easily breakable. Most college libraries began collecting records only after the perfection of the nonbreakable, long-playing record hardly a decade ago.

Our records today have several great advantages (as well as one disadvantage) over their predecessors. The LP record is comparatively cheap, hard to destroy (though all too easy to damage by scratching), light in weight, and compact. Perhaps most important of all in the encouragement of wider collecting of records is that the range of musical literature available today is phenomenal. As late as the 1980's Vivaldi and other masters of the Baroque and pre-Baroque were all but unknown and recordings of contemporary, especially avant-garde, music were rare. Great progress has been made toward making the whole range of music available to current listeners.

Mr. Lane has been Head of the Documents Department, Northern Illinois University Library in DeKalb. On July 1, he became Head of Reader Services, Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute Library, Brooklyn, New York.

The college library's record collection has two main functions—as a teaching aid and for recreational purposes. With respect to its teaching uses, the collection should represent as wide a scope as possible; chronologically, all periods of composition and musical development should be represented. Within a given period, the major composers in all important forms should be present. Stylistically, the major musical forms (symphonies, concerti, operas, oratorios, art songs, solo, instrumental and chamber music, etc.) must be available. As a source of recreation and individual interest, the basic concert repertory should be present (all the symphonies of Beethoven and Brahms, the last three of Tchaikovsky, the more popular operas of Verdi, Puccini, etc.). In addition, certain so-called "light" works (by Offenbach, Tchaikovsky, Ravel, etc.) should be available. An effort to satisfy these basic aspects of the record collection, sometimes supplementary, sometimes competitive, has resulted in this suggested basic collection.

The number of records in this hypothetical collection, three hundred, is arbitrary. The total might be two hundred and fifty, or four hundred, or five hundred. Three hundred was chosen as allowing the inclusion of most of the important titles and at the same time providing a collection that could be purchased for...
less than $1,000. The music represented on these discs is limited to so-called “classical” or “concert” music. There is a place in the college library for recordings of operettas, Broadway musicals, folk music, and the spoken word, but that is consideration for another time.

There are many compositions that might have been included in this list, but six hundred 12-inch LP sides can be stretched to include only so much. A final factor influencing the makeup of this collection is coupling—the way works are paired on the records. In a few cases composers are represented that certainly are not basic (i.e., Vieuxtemps). They are listed because they happen to be represented on the flip side of something more important (in the example cited above, Lalo’s “Symphonie Espagnole”). So in a sense, they are bonuses.

No compositions are presented in duplicate performances. Because of the way works are coupled on records, this has been a factor in the selection of performances. In the effort to avoid duplication and present the best possible range of repertory, it has sometimes been necessary to select an interpretation that is not necessarily the best available; selection is a subjective matter at best. An example is the Prokofiev “Concerto Number Three for Piano”; the London recording cited is a good performance and is coupled with Bartok’s important “Concerto Number Three for Piano,” while the Capitol release, which may be reasonably preferred, is backed by another Ravel concerto.

A college record collection is meant to be used until worn out; it is not an archive. Therefore, wherever possible, performances have been indicated on the so-called “cheap” labels. There is a great variation in the quality of these less-than-full-price records. Richmonds are made by London Records and are for the most part reissues of their famous FFRR recordings of the ’50’s, now superseded by newer but not necessarily better stereo versions. Telefunken (also owned by London) is a major label in Germany, but in this country and Great Britain its discs have been issued at a cheaper price as the artists, mostly German, are not well known off the continent. As these cheaper records sell for about $2.00 as opposed to $5.00 for most full-price discs the saving is considerable and the quality is every bit as good as that of the more expensive labels. Fifty-five of the three hundred discs listed are $1.98 records.

All the records listed were available as of April 1962. Minor labels that might be hard to obtain, or might soon go out of print have been avoided. For example, Westminster Records, one of the larger independent companies, has recently gone through another reorganization. As a result their catalog is in a state of flux, and only two of their discs are listed.

The total list price of this collection is $1,352.16. It would be available at discounts of about 30 per cent, or for $950.00.

The list is arranged as simply as possible—alphabetically by composer and then by title, with notation of the record make and number. If more than one composer is represented on the record an entry is made under each, and the other composers are given in parentheses after the title. This rule holds true even for short compositions used to fill up a side. The only exception is in the case of recordings of songs (by Schubert, Sibelius, Wolf, etc.); for these, rather than listing each title, the composer’s name is followed by “Lieder,” “Chansons,” or “Songs.” To do otherwise would complicate and lengthen an involved list. For those who wish to know which songs are included on these discs, the full citation can be found in the Schwann Long-Playing Record Catalog for the month in which the record in question was first issued. This date is given after the brief entry in each subsequent catalog. All the performances indicated are, at the least, very good.
A SUGGESTED BASIC RECORD COLLECTION FOR COLLEGES

An asterisk indicates that record is also available in stereo.


BACH: (6) Brandenburg Concerti. Richmond 42002
BACH: Cantatas Nos. 56 and 82. *RCA Victor LM 2312
BACH: Clavier Concerti: No. 1 in D Minor; No. 4 in A; No. 5 in F Minor. *Bach Guild BG 588
Bach: Little Organ Book. Deutsche Gram. ARC 3025/6
BACH: Mass in B Minor. *Epic SL 6027
Bach: Organ Music: Fantasia & Fugue in G Minor; Fantasia in C Minor; Prelude & Fugue in C Minor; Toccata & Fugue in D Minor. Angel 35368
BACH: Violin Concerti: No. 1 in A Minor; No. 2 in E; Concerto in D Minor for two violins. *Epic LC 3553
BACH: Well-tempered Clavier (complete). RCA Victor LM 6801
BARTOK: Concerto for Orchestra. *Columbia ML 5471
BARTOK: Miraculous Mandarin (Kodaly: Peacock Variations). Mercury MG 50038
BARTOK: Piano Concerto No. 3 (Prokofiev: Piano Concerto No. 5 in C). London LM 9083
BARTOK: String Quartets Nos. 5 & 6. Columbia ML 4280
BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 1 in C; Piano Concerto No. 2 in B Flat. London CM 9024
BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Minor. Richmond 19063
BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 4 in G. Richmond 19017
BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 5 in E Flat. Richmond 19072
BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata No. 8 in C Minor; Piano Sonata No. 14 in C Sharp Minor. Capitol P 8322
BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata No. 17 in D Minor; Piano Sonata No. 18 in E Flat. Angel 35352
BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata No. 21 in C; Piano Sonata No. 23 in F Minor. Angel 35024

BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata No. 29 in B Flat. London CM 9056
BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata No. 30 in E; Piano Sonata No. 31 in A Flat; Piano Sonata No. 32 in C Minor. Columbia ML 5130
BEETHOVEN: Piano Trio No. 7 in B Flat. *Angel 35704
BEETHOVEN: String Quartets: No. 7 in F; No. 8 in E Minor; No. 9 in C; No. 10 in E Flat; No. 11 in F Minor. *Deutsche Gram. 18534/6
BEETHOVEN: String Quartets: No. 16 in F; Grosse Fugue. Decca DL 9895
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 1 in C; Symphony No. 2 in D. *Columbia ML 5598
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 3 in E Flat. *Parliament 129
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 4 in B Flat. Richmond 19033
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 5 in C Minor. *London CM 9011
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 6 in F. Richmond 19037
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 7 in A. *Telefunken 18040
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 8 in F; Symphony No. 9 in D Minor. *Columbia M2L 264
BEETHOVEN: Violin Concerto in D. Richmond 19034
BEETHOVEN: Violin Sonata No. 6 in A; Violin Sonata No. 9 in A. Epic LC 3458
BELLINI: Norma. *Angel 3615
BERG: Violin Concerto (Schonberg: Violin Concerto). Columbia ML 4857
BERG: Wozzeck. Columbia SL 118
BERLIOZ: Overtures: Beatrice and Benedict; Benvenuto Cellini; Roman Carnival; Les Troyens—Royal Hunt and Storm. *RCA Victor LM 2438
BERLIOZ: Requiem. *RCA Victor LD 6077
BERLIOZ: Symphonie Fantastique. *Parliament 131
BERNSTEIN: Fancy Free (Copland: El Salon Mexico; Milhaud: La Creation du Monde). Columbia CL 920
BIZET: L’Arlesienne, Suites Nos. 1 & 2 (Greig: Peer Gynt, Suites Nos. 1 & 2). Columbia ML 5035
BIZET: Carmen. *Capitol GCR 7207
BIZET: Symphony in C (Prokofiev: Symphony No. 1; Weinberger: Schwanda-Polka and Fugue). Columbia ML 5289
BLOCH: Concerti Grossi, Nos. 1 & 2. *Mercury MG 50223
Borodin: String Quartet No. 2 in D (Tchaikovsky: String Quartet No. 1). Capitol P 8187
Brahms: Klavierstucke, op. 79, op. 118, op. 119—excerpts. Angel 35027
Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 1 in D Minor. *Epic LC 3484
Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 2 in B Flat. *RCA Victor LM 2581
Brahms: Symphony No. 1 in C Minor. Richmond 19016
Brahms: Symphony No. 2 in D. Richmond 19020
Brahms: Symphony No. 3 in F. Richmond 19050
Brahms: Symphony No. 4 in E Flat. *Telefunken 8039
Brahms: Violin Concerto in D. Richmond 19018
Britten: Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra “Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Purcell” (Prokofiev: Peter and the Wolf). Richmond 19040
Bruckner: Symphony No. 4 in E Flat; Symphony No. 7 in E. Decca DX 146
Charpentier: Mass and Symphony “Assumpta Est Marie.” Vox PL 8440
Chausson: Symphony in B Flat. *Mercury MG 50108
Chopin: Ballades, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4. *RCA Victor LM 2370
Chopin: Etudes, op. 10 & op. 25; Preludes, op. 28; Piano Sonata No. 2 in B Flat; Waltzes (complete). Vox VBX 401
Chopin: Piano Concerto No. 1 in E Minor. *Capitol G 7241
Chopin: Piano Concerto No. 2 in F Minor (Schumann: Piano Concerto). *Columbia ML 5494
Copland: El Salon Mexico (Bernstein: Fancy Free; Milhaud: La Creation du Monde). Columbia CL 920
Corelli: Suite for Strings, arr. Pinelli (Handel: Royal Fireworks Music; Water Music Suite). *Columbia ML 5417
Debussy: Iberia; La Mer; Prelude a l'Apres-midi d'un Faune. *Mercury MG 50101

Debussy: (3) Nocturnes (Ravel: Rhapsodie Espagnole). Richmond 19044
Debussy: Pelleas et Melisande. Angel 3561
Debussy: Petite Suite, arr. orch. Busser (Faure: Pelleas et Melisande Music; Roussel: Bacchus et Ariane, Suites 1 & 2). Epic LC 3165
Debussy: Piano Music (complete). Columbia SL 222
Debussy: String Quartet in G Minor (Ravel: String Quartet in F). *RCA Victor LM 2413
Debussy: Violin Sonata in G Minor (Franck: Violin Sonata in A). *Columbia ML 5470
Delibes: Coppelia—Suite; Sylvia—Suite. Richmond 19045
Delius: París; Sea Drift. Columbia ML 5079
Dohnanyi: Variations on a Nursery Song (Rachmaninoff: Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini). Richmond 19076
Donizetti: Lucia di Lammermoor. *RCA Victor LM 6055
Dukas: Sorcerer’s Apprentice (Honegger: Pacific 231; Ravel: Bolero; Ravel: La Valse). London CM 9119
Dvorak: String Quartet No. 6 in F (Smetana: String Quartet No. 1). Decca DL 9637
Dvorak: Scherzo Capriccioso; Symphony No. 4 in G. Mercury MG 50162
Dvorak: Symphony No. 5 in E Minor. *Columbia ML 5384

Elgar: Enigma Variations; Overture: Cockaigne; Serenade in E Minor for Strings. Columbia ML 5081

Falla: The Three Cornered Hat (complete); Vida Breve—Interlude and Dance. *London CM 9292
Faure: Pelleas et Melisande Music (Debussy: Petite Suite; Roussel: Bacchus et Ariane, Suites 1 & 2). Epic LC 3165
Francaix: Piano Concertino (Honegger: Piano Concertino; Strauss: Burleske). Decca DL 9900
Franck: Symphonic Variations for Piano and Orchestra; Symphony in D Minor. Richmond 19022
Franck: Violin Sonata in A (Debussy: Violin Sonata). *Columbia ML 5470
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<td>Gershwin</td>
<td>An American in Paris; Rhapsody in Blue</td>
<td>Columbia ML 5413</td>
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<td>Gesualdo</td>
<td>Madrigals and Sacred Music</td>
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<td>Glazounov</td>
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<td>Greig</td>
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<td>Concerti Grossi, op. 3 (complete)</td>
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<td>Handel</td>
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<td>Symphony No. 92 in G; Symphony No. 104 in D</td>
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<td>Symphony No. 94 in G; Symphony No. 101 in D</td>
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<td>Hindemith</td>
<td>Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes by Weber (Schonberg; Five Pieces for Orchestra)</td>
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<td>Holst</td>
<td>The Planets</td>
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<td>D'Indy</td>
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<td>Ives</td>
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<td>Jannequin</td>
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<td>Khachaturian</td>
<td>Gayne Ballet—Suite (Offenbach: Gaite Parisienne)</td>
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<td>Symphonie Espagnole (Vieuxtemps: Violin Concerto No. 4)</td>
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<td>Liszt</td>
<td>(12) Transcendental Etudes after Paganini</td>
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<td>Concerto Symphonique—Scherzo (only) (Greig: Piano Concerto in A Minor)</td>
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<td>MacDowell</td>
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<td>Mahler</td>
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<td>Mendelssohn</td>
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MOZART: Piano Concerto No. 24 in C Minor; Piano Concerto No. 26 in D. Columbia ML 4901

MOZART: Piano Sonata No. 4 in E Flat; Piano Sonata No. 5 in G; Piano Sonata No. 9 in D; Piano Sonata No. 13 in B Flat; German Dances. RCA Victor LM 6044

MOZART: Piano Trio No. 2 in B Flat (Ravel: Piano Trio). *Deutsche Gram. 18584

MOZART: Requiem. Decca DL 9835

MOZART: Sinfonia Concertante in E Flat for Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Horn & Strings; Sinfonia Concertante in E Flat for Violin, Viola and Orchestra. Vox PL 11850

MOZART: String Quartet No. 14 in G; String Quartet No. 19 in C. RCA Victor LM 2167

MOZART: Symphony No. 29 in A; Symphony No. 30 in D; Symphony No. 31 in D; Symphony No. 32 in G. Westminster 18216

MOZART: Symphony No. 35 in D; Symphony No. 39 in E Flat. *Angel 35739

MOZART: Symphony No. 40 in G Minor (Schubert: Symphony No. 8). Harmony 7054

MOZART: Violin Concerto No. 2 in D; Violin Concerto No. 5 in A. Epic LC 3157

PAGANINI: Caprices, op. 1. *London CM 9244

PALESTRINA: Missa Papae Marcelli; Stabat Mater; Improperia. Deutsche Gram. ARC 3074

POULENC: Concerto in G Minor for Organ; Gloria in G. *Angel 35953

PROKOFIEV: Love for Three Oranges—Suite; Sythian Suite. *Mercury MG 50157

PROKOFIEV: Peter and the Wolf (Britten: Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra). Richmond 19040

PROKOFIEV: Piano Concerto No. 3 in C (Bartok: Piano Concerto No. 3). London CM 9083

PROKOFIEV: Symphony No. 1 in D “Classical” (Bizet: Symphony in C; Weinberger: Schwanda—Polka and Fugue). Columbia ML 5289

PROKOFIEV: Symphony No. 5. *Columbia ML 5260

PROKOFIEV: Violin Concerto No. 1 in D; Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Minor. Columbia ML 5243

PUCCINI: La Boheme. RCA Victor LM 6042

PUCCINI: Madama Butterfly. *Capitol GCR 7232

PUCCINI: La Tosca. *RCA Victor LM 6052

RACHMANINOFF: Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor. *Richmond 19059

RACHMANINOFF: Piano Concerto No. 3 in D Minor. *Mercury MG 50283

RACHMANINOFF: Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini (Dohnanyi: Variations on a Nursery Song). Richmond 19076

RACHMANINOFF: Symphony No. 2 in E Minor. *Columbia ML 5436

RACHMANINOFF: Symphony No. 3 in A Minor; Vocalise, arr. orch. Rachmaninoff. Columbia ML 4961

RAVEL: Bolero; La Valse (Dukas: Sorcerer's Apprentice; Honegger: Pacific 231). London CM 9119

RAVEL: Daphnis et Chloe (complete). *RCA Victor LM 2568

RAVEL: Piano Concerto in G (D'Indy: Symphony on a French Mountain Air). *RCA Victor LM 2271

RAVEL: Piano Concerto in A Minor (Mozart: Piano Trio No. 2). *Deutsche Gram. 18584

RAVEL: Rapsodie Espagnole (Debussy: 3 Nocturnes). Richmond 19044

RAVEL: String Quartet in F (Debussy: String Quartet). *RCA Victor LM 2413

RESPIGHI: Fountains of Rome; Pines of Rome. *RCA Victor LM 2436


RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: Scheherazade. *RCA Victor LM 2446

ROSSINI: Barber of Seville. *RCA Victor LM 6143

ROUSSEL: Bacchus et Ariane, Suites 1 & 2 (Debussy: Petite Suite; Faure: Pelleas et Melisande Music). Epic LC 3165
SAINT-SAÉNS: Symphony No. 3 in C Minor. *Mercury MG 50167

SCHÖNBERG: Five Pieces for Orchestra, op. 16 (Hindemith: Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes by Weber). Mercury MG 50024

SCHÖNBERG: Verklärte Nacht (Mahler: Symphony No. 9). Angel A 4247

SCHÖNBERG: Violin Concerto (Berg: Violin Concerto). Columbia ML 4857

SCHUBERT: Lieder (Schumann: Lieder). London 5262

SCHUBERT: String Quartet No. 14 in D Minor; String Quartet No. 15 in C; Piano Quintet in A; String Quintet in C. Vox VBX 6

SCHUBERT: Symphony No. 3 in D; Symphony No. 5 in B Flat. *Capitol G 7212

SCHUBERT: Symphony No. 8 in B Minor (Mozart: Symphony No. 40). Harmony 7054

SIBELIUS: En Saga; Oceanides; Pohjola’s Daughter; Tapiola. Columbia ML 5249

SIBELIUS: Songs. *London 5436

SIBELIUS: Symphony No. 1 in E Minor. Richmond 19069

SIBELIUS: Symphony No. 2 in D. *Columbia ML 5207

SMETANA: Ma Vlast (complete). Parliament 111

SMETANA: String Quartet No. 1 in E Minor (Dvorak: String Quartet No. 6). Decca DL 9637

STRAUSS: Burleske for Piano and Orchestra (Francaix: Piano Concertino; Honegger: Piano Concertino). Decca DL 9900

STRAUSS: Don Juan; Till Eulenspiegel; Tod und Verklärung. *Epic LC 3439

STRAUSS: Don Quixote. *Epic LC 3786

STRAUSS: Ein Heldenleben. *Columbia ML 5649

STRAUSS: Lieder. Angel 35600

STRAUSS: Rosenkavalier. *Angel 3563

STRAUSS: Salome. *London A 4247

STRAVINSKY: Cantata (1952); Symphony in C. Columbia ML 4899

STRAVINSKY: Firebird Suite; Le Sacre du Printemps. Columbia ML 4882

STRAVINSKY: Petrouchka. Richmond 19015

TCHAIKOVSKY: Capriccio Italian; Suite No. 3 —Theme and Variations (only). Richmond 19041

TCHAIKOVSKY: Francesca da Rimini; Romeo and Juliet. Richmond 19027

TCHAIKOVSKY: Hamlet; Overture 1812. Richmond 19014


TCHAIKOVSKY: Piano Concerto No. 1 in B Minor. *Richmond 19060

TCHAIKOVSKY: Sleeping Beauty. Richmond 42001

TCHAIKOVSKY: String Quartet No. 1 in D (Borodin: String Quartet No. 2). Capitol P 8187

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Symphony No. 2. London CM 9052

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Symphony No. 4 in F Minor. *Richmond 19082

VERDI: Aida. *RCA Victor LM 6158

VERDI: Falstaff. *Angel 3552

VERDI: Otello. *RCA Victor LD 6155

VERDI: Rigoletto. RCA Victor LM 6051

VERDI: Requiem. *Parliament 154/2

VERDI: La Traviata. RCA Victor LM 6040

VIEUXTEMPS: Violin Concerto No. 4 in D Minor (Lalo: Symphonie Espagnole). Columbia ML 5184

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Right, Flora B. Ludington, Mount Holyoke College Library, South Hadley, Mass., and Robert B. Downs, director of libraries, University of Illinois Graduate School of Librarianship, at a meeting of the Illinois Library Association. Miss Ludington is currently a member of the editorial board of CRL; she was a member of the ACRL Committee on Grants, 1961-62, and is a member of the ACRL Board of Directors (1964). Mr. Downs was 1961-62 member of the ACRL Advisory Committee to Administer the Burmese Project, and of the Advisory Committee to the President on Federal Legislation. He received the Intellectual Freedom Award for 1960.

At left, Jay E. Daily, visiting librarian for the Ford Foundation-ALA University of Mandalay project in Burma, and U Htun Aung, librarian at the university, interrupt their work to greet cameraman—CRL editor Richard Harwell during Mr. Harwell's visit there last year.

Records...

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VIVALDI: Concerto for Orchestra in C Minor; Gloria in D. Harmony 7096
VIVALDI: The Four Seasons. Richmond 19056
WAGNER: Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg. Angel 3572
WAGNER: Orchestral excerpts: Flying Dutchman Overture; Meistersinger—Preludes to Acts I and III; Tannhauser Overture; Tristan und Isolda—Prelude und Liebestod. Epic LC 3485
WAGNER: Orchestral excerpts: Die Walkurie—Ride of the Valkyries; Wotan’s Farewell; Siegfried—Forest Murmurs; Die Gotterdammerung—Dawn and Rhine Journey; Funeral Music. Epic LC 3321
WAGNER: Parsifal. London A 4602
WAGNER: Tristan und Isolda. Angel 3588
WAGNER: Die Walküre. Electrola 90100/4
WEBER: Overtures: Abu Hassan; Beherrscher der Geister; Euryanthe; Freischutz; Jubel; Oberon; Preziosa. *Angel 35754
WEINBERGER: Schwanda—Polka and Fugue (Bizet: Symphony in C; Prokofiev: Symphony No. 1). Columbia ML 5289
WOLF: Lieder. Angel 35474