

Pushing Forty

In 1978 the Association of College and Research Libraries observes its fortieth anniversary, and although such an occasion may serve as a time for a retrospective view, we begin this anniversary year by looking ahead.

Three articles featured in this issue give us a view of our future: Stephen K. Bailey, in an article based on his 1977 address to ACRL, discusses several aspects of the future of higher education, pointing out their implications for academic libraries. Beverly P. Lynch, writing of the changing environment of academic libraries, calls on libraries to shape that environment instead of only adapting or responding to it. Looking to the increasing importance of networks, Richard M. Dougherty discusses their impact upon library management and the resultant need to plan now to deal with problems that will occur.

We shall conclude our anniversary year with the first ACRL national conference. Scheduled for Boston, Massachusetts, November 8-11, this meeting also looks to the future with its theme, "New Horizons for Academic Libraries." A series of major addresses at the conference will focus on elements in the future of our libraries, and a variety of contributed papers and programs will address subjects of continuing interest and concern to academic librarians.

Although we shall not minimize our past achievements, in this anniversary year possibly we can say as did a popular book of some years ago that "life begins at forty."

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An oft-told anecdote concerns the joker who, on a daily basis, cut a little bit from the tip of an elderly friend's cane, leading that friend to imagine he was growing taller. Readers of this issue are informed they are not growing larger. The journal has become smaller. With other ALA divisional journals, *College & Research Libraries* has assumed a standard page size. This change, we anticipate, will offset some of the major increases in paper costs of the past few years. Thus in our fortieth year we introduce the new compact model of *C&RL*.

R.D.J.