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*“All the books are in excepting two.
Agassiz has those and I am going after them.”*

Thus did John Langdon Sibley, librarian of Harvard College from 1856 to 1877, account for his haste as he scooted past a colleague one day in pursuit of the last two vagrant books.

The attitude of the college librarian has undergone a radical change since the time when the collections were stubbornly guarded by bibliotaphs like Sibley. Now the college library is indeed the “scholar’s workshop,” and regulations are aimed at encouraging, not restricting, the circulation of books.

In this book Kenneth Brough, librarian of San Francisco State College, traces the growth of the college library from hardly more than a closetful of books to the vast clearinghouse of ideas that it is today. He accomplishes this by examining in detail the history of four pre-eminent college libraries — those at Harvard, Columbia, Yale, and Chicago.

The author shows how opinions have changed over the years concerning such problems as:

the importance of the university library
the kind of service it should render, and to whom
the nature and extent of acquisitions
accessibility of the books
the role and academic status of the librarian

SCHOLAR’S WORKSHOP “is a noteworthy addition to the limited literature dealing with American library history. It is much more, however, than a historical treatise, for it provides a sound base on which the future can be built.” From the introduction by Robert B. Downs, director of the University of Illinois library and president of the American Library Association.

SCHOLAR’S WORKSHOP Evolving Conceptions of Library Service

by **KENNETH J. BROUGH** \$4.50



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April, 1954, *Current Trends in the Availability of Library Research Materials*. Editors: William Kellam, Director, University of Georgia libraries, and Mrs. J. H. Crosland, Librarian, Georgia Institute of Technology.

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