



Scientiarum, a college of law and philosophy, had been in existence since 1776; out of this the university developed as recently as 1874. The beginnings of collegiate education in Serbia were marked by the establishment of a "Velika škola" (college) in Beograd in 1863, whereas the university itself was formed in 1905. The origins of the second university in Serbia, set up in Novi Sad in 1960, go back only to 1954. The Slovenes founded their university in Ljubljana in 1919 after liberation from Austria and the creation of Yugoslavia as the state of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. The Macedonians, unrecognized as a nation in pre-war Yugoslavia, obtained their university in Skopje as late as 1946, in new Yugoslavia. In Sarajevo, the main city of Bosnia and Hertsegovina, the first faculty was created immediately before World War II, and the university in 1946.

The origins of the university of Iași, the oldest university of Rumania, go back to 1860, and the university of Bucharest was founded in 1864. At Cluj, a town which prior to 1918 belonged to Hungary, a Rumanian university came into existence in 1919, taking the place of an earlier Hungarian university.

In Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, a college has been in existence since 1888. In 1909 it was transformed into a university.<sup>1</sup>

The universities and libraries of these five countries, ranging from Czechoslovakia in the north to Bulgaria and Yugoslavia in the south, developed more or less parallel with the universities and libraries of other European countries.<sup>2</sup> The reform of universities which developed gradually in Europe during the first half of the last century forwarded the renovation of university libraries. As instruments of scholarship, university libraries had outgrown the university framework, thereby contributing to research work in a wider sphere.

Social changes which fostered the development of socialism in Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria following the Second World War were accompanied by changes in cultural patterns and the expansion of the cultural effort onto a broader basis. New faculties were set up within the universities, and new specialized colleges were created, either as constituents of the universities or as independent institutions. The university of Zagreb, second largest in Yugoslavia after the university of Beograd, has grown into seventeen faculties, not taking into account faculties and other educational institutions of that university existing in other cities of Croatia, such as Zadar, Rijeka, Split, and Osijek. In Hungary special universities for medicine, economic sciences, agriculture, industry, and technical sci-

*European University Libraries: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Etc.*

ences were founded. Identical or similar institutions are in existence in Rumania and Bulgaria.

Under these circumstances university libraries have become more versatile and have expanded their activities in the interests of research and cultural growth. New libraries have sprung up in support of old and new faculties. In parallel with these developments, the university libraries have established closer relationships with other libraries outside the universities. All of this in a very general sense has lent certain common features to the university libraries of these countries. Certain differences, however, are reflected, particularly in the position of university libraries toward the universities themselves, as well as in their relationship to other libraries within the university.<sup>3</sup>

#### YUGOSLAVIA

Until the end of World War II, university libraries were in existence only in Beograd, Zagreb, and Ljubljana.<sup>4</sup> Of these three libraries, the university library of Zagreb has been subject to the greatest changes while assuming its present role of "National University Library."

Since its inception the university library of Zagreb has been affiliated with teaching. It was founded about 1607 as the library of the Jesuit Collegium and Gymnasium in Zagreb. In 1776 the library was joined to the "Academia Scientiarum," and in 1874, following the establishment of the university of Zagreb, it became the university library. Although the library was an academic institution, it was also performing the role of a national library for Croatia as early as the first half of the nineteenth century. In 1837 it was granted the right to receive deposit copies from northern Croatia, or more exactly from that part of Croatia which, as an autonomous region, was a constituent part of Hungary. Since 1919 the library has been entitled to receive deposit copies from all of Yugoslavia, in the same manner as the national library in Beograd and the "Študijska Biblioteka" in Ljubljana.<sup>5</sup> During World War II, the university library in Zagreb separated from the university.

The national and university library of Ljubljana, founded in 1774 as the library of the Lyceum, also developed in two directions: as an academic library and as a general public library. After the Slovenes had obtained their university in Ljubljana, the library, then called "Študijska Biblioteka," played the double role of a Slovene national and university library. In 1938 the library was incorporated within the university, thus becoming in name also a university library.<sup>6</sup>

The third in sequence, the University Library "Svetozar Marković" in Beograd, since its creation in 1921 has consistently performed the functions of a university library, in contrast to the university libraries of Zagreb and Ljubljana.<sup>7</sup> This has been possible because of the existence of the national library of Serbia, also located in Beograd, since 1832.

The changes in the social pattern and legal organization of Yugoslavia which took place following the Second World War had major consequences for the development of libraries. Yugoslavia, until that time a centralist state, became a socialist federative community consisting of six republics: Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, and Montenegro.

As an immediate result of these changes there arose the problem of central libraries, in fact of national libraries, in the individual republics. The national library which was already in existence in Beograd assumed the role of a central library for Serbia; although destroyed during a German air raid in 1941, it was subsequently renovated. The university library of Zagreb, which over a long period had been performing the role of a Croat national library, was proclaimed the central library of the Republic of Croatia. The university library in Ljubljana was in the same way designated as the national and university library. In Macedonia the functions of a central library were assigned to the national library in Skopje, which had been created in 1944 following Macedonia's liberation from occupation. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the national library of Sarajevo, set up in 1945, became the central library, whereas a central library of Montenegro was created in 1946, in Cetinje. The national libraries of all six republics receive deposit copies from all of Yugoslavia.

In this manner the problem of national libraries in Yugoslavia found its solution. Due to these circumstances the intention to establish a central national library for the whole country in addition to the national libraries of the several republics was abandoned. The only federal library institution to come into existence was the Yugoslav Bibliographic Institute in Beograd, formed in 1949 out of the Bibliographic Institute of Serbia, with the main objective of publishing the national bibliography of Yugoslavia.

Even after all these changes, the university libraries in Zagreb and Ljubljana have maintained their role as the main university libraries of their universities.

After the solution of the problem of national libraries on the level

*European University Libraries: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Etc.*

of the republics, there emerged a second problem, that of libraries for the new universities in Skopje, Sarajevo, and Novi Sad. At all these universities there were libraries within the faculties. This condition, however, proved inadequate, and it was recognized that teaching and academic research would gain wider support from a general library. Therefore, the national library in Skopje was entrusted with the role of the main university library under the name of "National and University Library." As to the university of Sarajevo, the Library Law of Bosnia and Hertsegovina of 1957 provided that the national library in Sarajevo render services to the university until the establishment of a university library. The library of "Matica Srpska," an old literary society in Novi Sad, has taken on responsibilities for the university in that city, although, as a matter of fact, it is the central library of Vojvodina, an autonomous region within the Republic of Serbia.

As a result, the roles of the national and university libraries have become interwoven in Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia, and Hertsegovina, and Macedonia, and the same thing has happened in Vojvodina with the library of "Matica Srpska." On the whole, this orientation has not affected the administrative relationships of the libraries toward the universities. The university library of Zagreb has maintained its position as an entirely autonomous institution; so have the national libraries of Sarajevo and Skopje and the regional library at Novi Sad. On the contrary, the national and university library in Ljubljana has remained incorporated within its university, thereby strengthening its position toward the university. To a certain degree this is true also of the university library in Beograd; it has intensified its functions as a public institution, although on the basis of its main tasks, rank, and objectives it has remained a university library.

In recent times new relationships have developed between the national and university libraries on the one hand and the universities on the other. These changes parallel changes in the system of management, the decentralization of administration, and the introduction of social management in the domain of economics, health services, education, culture, and science. In public service institutions, councils have been formed as organs of management. The councils of the university libraries and of the national libraries that have relationships with universities are composed of public servants, representatives of the university, and representatives of the library personnel. The responsibilities of the library councils include approval of library work plans

and the report of the library, of the disposition and use of funds, and other important questions. Governmental bodies at the levels of the republic or the community have responsibility only for general supervision over the work of the library.

In large libraries, such as the national and university libraries, technical councils composed of representatives of the library staff have been formed in recent years. These councils function as consultative organs to the director of the library.

Simultaneously with the development of social management, there has developed the concept of the social role of libraries. On these principles is based the entire library legislation adopted in all the republics of Yugoslavia: in Bosnia and Hertsegovina in 1957, in Serbia and Croatia in 1960, Slovenia and Macedonia in 1961, and Montenegro in 1962. According to this library legislation, the national libraries, i.e. mainly the national and university libraries, in addition to their general functions as national libraries, have been entrusted also with special tasks involving inter-library cooperation within the republics, the promotion of librarianship, and the provision of support to libraries.

According to the library law of Croatia, the responsibilities of the national university library in Zagreb include the coordination of acquisition policy for foreign literature in the libraries of Croatia, the coordination of library exchanges and inter-library loans, the development of a national bibliography and union catalogs, book preservation, promotion of librarianship, and technical assistance to libraries. In compliance with its tasks on a national level, the library has been given a new name, "National University Library."

By the very nature of things, the library legislation which was passed by the republics includes only general provisions. Therefore, it is understandable that the relationship of the main university library to the university is not defined even on the broadest lines, except in the case of the library law of Croatia which expressly states that the national university library in Zagreb is the main library for both faculty and institute libraries within the university and makes it mandatory for these libraries to cooperate with the national university library in the procurement of foreign books and periodicals.

It was anticipated that relationships between the main university libraries and the universities themselves would be settled by special regulations, primarily by the rules of individual libraries. Yet not even in that respect have adequate achievements been made. In the

*European University Libraries: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Etc.*

1959 Rules of the national and university library in Ljubljana, it is mentioned only that the library is an independent institution of the university.<sup>8</sup> Somewhat more precise are the 1961 Rules of the university library in Beograd. In addition to its other functions, the library coordinates the acquisition of foreign periodicals and more expensive works within the university and maintains a union catalog of books and periodicals for the university.<sup>9</sup> The responsibilities of the national university library in Zagreb are similar, except for the provision in its Rules of 1962 that it links all the libraries within the university framework into a uniform system of cooperation.<sup>10</sup>

In all national libraries having combined functions, the tasks at the national level are given priority. This was the reason for the creation of the Association of National Libraries, with temporary headquarters in Beograd. The Association includes the following members: the national library in Beograd, the national university library in Zagreb, the national and university library in Ljubljana, the national library in Sarajevo, the national and university library in Skopje, and the central national library in Cetinje. The Yugoslav Bibliographic Institute, the only institution of that type in the country, has also joined the Association.

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Over a long period of time, the library of the ancient university in Prague held an importance quite beyond the academic framework. After World War I, in the newly created state of Czechs and Slovaks, it was named the "Public and University Library," and in 1935 it assumed the name of "National and University Library." The libraries of the universities of Brno and Bratislava were also of a broad character. The library of the university of Brno acted as the regional library of Moravia, and the university library of Bratislava was the most remarkable library in Slovakia.

During the war, while Czechoslovakia was under German occupation, the universities in Bohemia were closed. As a result, the libraries of the Czech universities found themselves administratively outside their universities. After the war the university libraries in all of Czechoslovakia detached themselves from the universities and became independent institutions, although most of them retained their traditional name of university library.<sup>11</sup> In 1947, university libraries were granted legal deposit rights.<sup>12</sup>

The organization of libraries has been subject to other major

changes, the greatest affecting the university library of Prague. In 1948 its Slavic department was detached to form an independent Slavic library. A year later the national department followed the same pattern and thus contributed to the creation of the national library. As a result of these changes, the national and university library in Prague adopted again the title of "University Library," although no competent decision was passed on that issue.<sup>13</sup>

The changes which took place in the university libraries of Czechoslovakia were but the side-effects of a basic trend in a period of socialistic development whereby libraries were expected as broadly as possible to support research, technical education, and the political education of working people. At meetings of Czechoslovak librarians, library problems were discussed in the spirit of the general trends of Communist Party development and culture. Of particular importance in this regard was the 1958 meeting of Czechoslovak librarians emphasizing the necessity of establishing a uniform system of libraries, passing a fundamental library law, and of establishing a state library for Czechoslovakia.<sup>14</sup>

Prior to this the creation of a large library on the model of the Lenin Library in Moscow had been under consideration. Such a library could, however, originate within a short time only through a combination of existing libraries. Thus, in 1958, there was formed the state library of Czechoslovakia, consisting of the national library, the university library, the Slavic library, and the central economic library. Each of these libraries continues as a distinct institution within the new state library, with its own management but under the general administration of the state library.<sup>15</sup>

In Brno in 1958, steps were taken toward the creation of a large state research library, into which as distinct constituents were brought the regional and university library, the state technical library, and the state pedagogic library.<sup>15</sup>

The new postwar situation in Czechoslovak librarianship has its legal basis in the library law of 1959. This contains general provisions regarding libraries and makes it mandatory for libraries to form a network along two lines: according to their affiliation with central authorities and by type of library. Thus there were established networks of popular, school, and other libraries.<sup>16</sup>

Faculty libraries and libraries attached to colleges are only mentioned in the law. For this reason a special Organization Act was issued, whereby each faculty must maintain a research library pri-

*European University Libraries: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Etc.*

marily for the use of its own teaching staff and students. The several book collections of the faculties, seminars, and institutes, in clinics and student dormitories are considered as constituents of a joint faculty library. Each faculty library is in charge of acquisitions for the constituent group, and is entrusted with the maintenance of a union catalog, the development of a bibliographic-information center, the propagation of progressive literature, in particular Soviet literature and that from other socialist countries, and the organization of the book collections of the seminars and institutes. College libraries have been charged with the same obligation. For both faculty and college libraries, there are councils which function as a link between the library and the dean of the faculty or rector, respectively. The members of the council are both teachers and students, nominated by the respective dean or rector.<sup>17</sup>

## HUNGARY

The situation in the university libraries of Hungary prior to World War II was similar to that in many European countries. Libraries within the same university, even those within individual faculties, seemed to exist apart from each other, lacking relationships and cooperation. This state of affairs began to change after 1948, concurrently with instructions from the Communist Party on the development and dissemination of socialist culture. Adaptations of the objectives and procedures of libraries were instituted in order to meet new needs of scholarship and culture, and there was a gradual reorganization of the relationships between libraries within a given university. The library reforms accomplished in certain universities were of major importance because these libraries were the most remarkable research libraries of the country and therefore of importance not only for universities but also for scientific work on a wider scale. The reforms involved libraries ranging from the older universities in Budapest, Szeged, Debrecen, and Pécs, to the libraries of more recent specialized universities for medical, technical, and economic sciences, often located in older university centers.<sup>18</sup>

The reforms were channeled in two directions: toward the university as a community of faculties and institutes, and toward the needs of scholarship and culture on wider national level. On the one hand the aim was to form a uniform library network for each university, with one central university library and several faculty libraries headed by the central library. On the other hand, university libraries, which

had long functioned as public institutions, were instructed to expand their activities to meet the educational needs of wider strata of the population. In the opinion of Hungarian librarians, this orientation resulted in contradictions and proved detrimental to university libraries.<sup>19</sup> Before long the prevailing opinion favored university libraries serving primarily the universities but supporting also the work of other research institutions as well as individual scientific workers and specialists. Moreover, libraries related to one university must be interconnected, but without limiting their assistance to other libraries of the country.

These fundamental concepts underlie the solution to the entire problem of university libraries. The traditional role of university libraries has been preserved, although adjustments have been made to meet the demands of learning and culture in a new era. This position was eventually expressed in the library law of 1956 and the concurrent Instructions of the Ministry of Public Education regarding the statutes of university and college libraries.<sup>20</sup>

The Hungarian library law expresses only general provisions for libraries. Of particular importance, however, is the provision by which it is mandatory for administrative bodies, institutes, and accordingly also for universities, to organize library networks within their respective fields of activity.

In the Instructions of the Ministry of Public Education, the point of departure is that university libraries are fundamental to teaching and research at the university. Yet, depending on the character of their resources, they are entrusted also with other tasks on a research level, as general research libraries of a national character, as public research libraries, as deposit copy libraries, as documentation centers, etc. The university libraries administer all of the libraries of the university, coordinate acquisitions policy, accession and catalog all books, maintain a union catalog of all the libraries of the university, and conduct bibliographic and information services for the benefit of the teaching staff. In addition, university libraries are responsible for special research tasks in the fields of librarianship and bibliography, and the professional staff members of the library have an opportunity to pursue research problems within the scope of the particular library. In accordance with this widened scope, the university libraries in Debrecen, Szeged, and Pécs act as regional research libraries.

The university library holds the position of an autonomous institution within the university framework. It is assisted by the scientific

*European University Libraries: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Etc.*

council which acts in an advisory capacity to the director of the library. The scientific council follows the development of the university library and other libraries within the university and reviews the working plans and the annual report of the library. The director of the library is chairman of the scientific council; the other members are the deputy director of the library, a representative of the chancellor's office, one professor from each faculty, and one representative each from the Party and the Youth organizations at the university. The director of the library is a member of the university board with no voting privileges.

#### RUMANIA

In Rumania the development of a single system of university libraries was introduced on the occasion of the reform of public education in 1948. The existing libraries of individual faculties became branches of a single faculty library which, together with the central university library, formed a unified university library. While faculty libraries are primarily meant for the teaching staff and students, the central university libraries are of a public character and, as in the case of the Hungarian university libraries, they assist other libraries in their work, particularly in the training of personnel. University libraries are entitled to deposit copies of printed materials.<sup>21</sup>

The position of university libraries within the university can be judged from the situation of the central library of the university of Bucharest and the central library of the university of Cluj. University libraries are autonomous university institutions, linked to the universities through special councils. The responsibilities of the councils include examination of the report and working plans of the library, recommendations for the acquisition of periodicals and books, and decisions relating to the proper functioning of libraries in behalf of teaching and research at the university. The council consists of representatives of the university, the faculty, and the students, all nominated by the chancellor of the university.

#### BULGARIA

The libraries of the university of Sofia, the only complete university in the country, function as a single network. The central position in the network is occupied by the university library, the faculty libraries being considered its branches. The library board, which is an arm of the university board, consists of representatives of the six faculties of

the university, nominated by the chancellor, and responsible for coordinating library activities with the teaching and research work of the university. Special attention is given to assure that books are acquired in accordance with the character of particular branch libraries. The university library is entrusted with the acquisition of books for all of the university's libraries; it receives deposit copies of printed materials; and since 1956 it has organized a union catalog of books in the libraries of the university.<sup>22</sup>

#### *Development of University Libraries*

This survey of the condition of university libraries in Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria is necessarily brief. However, it suggests possibilities for outlining some main trends in the development of the university libraries in these countries and for stating some problems.

In the first place, it should be emphasized that since World War II the university libraries of Yugoslavia and the other socialist countries of central and southeastern Europe have strengthened their position vis-à-vis the universities or have even discontinued administrative links with the universities.

In the formation of new relationships between university libraries and the universities, decisive value was placed on the service of university libraries in behalf of the total national cultural effort, insofar as possible, with the aim of securing broad support for scholarly work. The universities themselves have abandoned the traditional frames within which they had developed their research and pedagogical activities; adjustments have been made to new demands in support of national education and the national economic development. This trend has contributed to the loosening of relationships between the universities and their libraries.

A consequent tendency toward closer library cooperation on a national level is evident. University libraries have not been able to stand aside from other libraries. In view of their size and their generally good organization, they have been assigned a prominent position in the national library network.

It is easily noticed that in Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria university libraries have kept their position as constituent parts of the universities. Both Hungary and Bulgaria already had their national libraries; in Rumania the library of the Rumanian Academy in Bucharest acted as national library until 1955, when the central state library

*European University Libraries: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Etc.*

was founded in Bucharest. This was also the case in Serbia, one of the Yugoslav republics which has two large libraries in Beograd—the national library and the university library.

Among university libraries with national and regional goals there has been, so to speak, a tendency toward greater or even complete autonomy. In the case of Czechoslovak libraries this seems to have been one reason for the complete interruption of relationships with the universities. It is true that the national university library in Prague has again become, at least in name, a university library, following the separation of the national library from it, but this has not affected the position of the largest Czechoslovak library toward its former university.

None of the national and university libraries in Yugoslavia is as independent from its university as is the case with the former university libraries in Czechoslovakia. It is incontestable that the national university library in Zagreb has become an independent institution precisely because of its national tasks, although it has retained its functions as a main university library. The national and university library in Ljubljana, on the other hand, in spite of its tasks on the national level, has continued to exist as a university institution.

Therefore, if it is certain that the relationship of the library to the university is defined by the character of the library—whether national, university or both—it is evident that other factors also may have been relevant, e.g., views on the traditional position of the library as a university institution, various concepts of the responsibilities of the university library in the fields of research and education, and the role of the university library in the national library network.

The university libraries in Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria hold positions within the organic system of the university and are linked with their universities through library councils. These councils are reminiscent of committees and commissions which were common in university libraries in many countries and which still exist, although perhaps in smaller number. Experiences with library committees have not always been favorable. Librarians have often pointed out that committees may hamper rather than promote the work of libraries. In Hungary, however, it is mentioned that the work of the scientific councils, the name given to library committees, has proved useful both in linking the university libraries with the universities and in linking the university libraries with other libraries of the universities.<sup>23</sup> In contrast, there are statements that the existence of library boards

is not justified. It is admitted that boards were of some use in the past when book acquisition was conducted on a limited scale and the librarian was not a specialist. Today, however, it is pointed out that conferences of library councils are often a sheer formality.<sup>24</sup>

Both universities and university libraries in Yugoslavia have adjusted their relationships to the new system of government in the country. Since university libraries have councils as their own organs of management, relationships between the universities and their main libraries are maintained through the medium of the library councils. The degree of dependence of the library on the university is reflected mainly in the number of university representatives on the library council. The majority of the council of the university library in Beograd are university professors. In the councils of the national university library in Zagreb and the national and university library in Ljubljana, the representatives of the respective universities are in the minority.

Since university libraries in Czechoslovakia are under direct control of the Ministry of Education and Culture, no administrative links exist between the university libraries and the respective universities. All threads by which the university library of Prague was attached to the university have been reduced to the fact that representatives of the university, among others, sit on the advisory committee of the library.

On observing the situation from the outside, it might appear that the loosening of links between university libraries and universities resulted from the opinion that university libraries no longer provide the same broad support to teaching and research work at the university as they formerly did. This may be correct, but only to a certain point.

The university libraries of Yugoslavia, regardless of whether or not they are entirely independent institutions, have maintained their sense of responsibility to the universities. Both the national library in Sarajevo and the national library in Skopje have taken on additional responsibilities in behalf of the universities. Consequently, the changes affecting university libraries in Yugoslavia are a proof of the broadened role of university libraries beyond the university structure rather than of a diminution in the importance of the university library for the university.

Not even the radical changes which took place in the university libraries of Czechoslovakia can be interpreted as a denial of the im-

*European University Libraries: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Etc.*

portance of university libraries in the field of teaching and research work at the university. Instead, it was felt that by serving research in general, university libraries will also serve the purposes of the universities; by serving all research workers, they serve also the professors and students of the university.

Yet, the loosening or discontinuing of links between university libraries and universities has had noticeable consequences. It is certain that the separation of the university library in Zagreb from the university administration has favored a stronger development of existing faculty libraries. At the same time, it fostered the establishment of central libraries for the faculties, old and new. Only three faculties in Zagreb, the faculty of philosophy, the faculty of sciences, and the faculty of forestry, have no separate central libraries.<sup>25</sup>

In spite of all the major or minor changes which have taken place in the university libraries of the socialist countries of central and southeastern Europe, the significance of university libraries for the universities is still remarkable. Of course, university libraries with no other responsibilities, as in Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria, predominantly serve the university. This is true also of the university library in Beograd. It is a matter of fact too that those national libraries in Yugoslavia which function also as university libraries have among their patrons a very large number of students. On the basis of the available data, it appears that the university library of Prague is particularly used by students, although it is a university library only in name.

It is certainly true that a library which is simultaneously a national and a university institution encounters certain difficulties in aiding the teaching and research work of a particular university as well as in performing its role as a central university library. Generally speaking, the problems of the combined national and university libraries in Yugoslavia originate from the fact that by statute these libraries are primarily national and secondarily university libraries. Consequently, the interests of university teaching and research are compelled to find their own place and solution within this wider national framework. The combined national and university libraries in Yugoslavia, like Janus, look in two directions: one face is turned to the university and its library network and the obverse toward other institutions and libraries in the particular republic.

It may be assumed that these libraries could extend more immediate support to the universities if this were their sole responsibility.

There are, however, no apparent reasons or possibilities for a change from the present condition because of the great financial burden such a change would place on certain Yugoslav republics. In Sarajevo, according to the available data, there are no prospects for the establishment of a specifically university library, although the library law of Bosnia and Hertsegovina provides that the national library in Sarajevo shall serve the university only as long as there is no university library.

The separation of the university libraries from the universities, as carried into effect in Czechoslovakia, had a particular affect on the libraries which remained within the universities. Efforts were made to overcome the gap by centralizing the library resources of the faculties and the creation of consolidated faculty libraries. A consequence of this was that certain faculty libraries created large units which paralleled existing state research libraries. This development gave rise to a new and major problem—the future coexistence of faculty and state research libraries.<sup>26</sup> The consequent duplication of resources between the faculty and the state research libraries on the one hand, and the dispersed resources among the faculties on the other, still cannot so effectively serve the university as could a single, organic university library.

Recently discussions have centered on whether the university library can develop without difficulty as a universal library, or whether its resources must necessarily be directed toward a more limited scope.

In their acquisitions policy, the university libraries of Yugoslavia put emphasis on the humanities. This policy is the more understandable because the university libraries in Yugoslavia are in most instances also national libraries. The university library in Prague is oriented in its procurement of books mainly toward the social and natural sciences. The university libraries in Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria are guided by the university demands. Consequently, the coverage and content of acquisitions depend in general on the number and type of faculties in the university system. The older universities in Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria have a relatively small number of faculties. The university of Budapest consists of three faculties: political science and law, natural sciences, and philosophy. The university in Szeged also consists of three faculties, the university of Debrecen of two, and the university of Pécs of only one, law and political science.

At the end of 1959, a conference was held in Szeged on the prob-

*European University Libraries: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Etc.*

lems of university libraries. The director of the university library in Budapest, Dr. László Mátrai, submitted a conference report on "The University and its Library" in which he stated that the library literature of the western countries frequently mentions a crisis in the university library, resulting from the ever-increasing specialization in knowledge which prevents the university library from maintaining any longer its position as a universal library. Mátrai added that the real question is not so much that of a crisis in the university library as of a deeper problem: in bourgeois philosophy the social and political sciences are not given an equal position with natural and technical sciences, and the partiality of such a concept is reflected in the university library. Nevertheless, Mátrai's discussion limited itself to a recommendation that university libraries specialize in particular branches of knowledge.<sup>27</sup>

In contrast, it was stated at the conference in Szeged that even in socialist countries there is a problem for both general and specialized research libraries. With regard to the specialization of university libraries in a limited field of knowledge, it was mentioned that specialization is in contradiction with the general character of the university library. If based on specialization, the university library would become only one of many libraries in a long chain of special libraries.<sup>28</sup>

In fact few dispute the value of the universal character of a university library, regardless of the fact that there is little possibility of paying equal attention to all branches of knowledge. There are some librarians, however, who feel that university libraries even within their general character could specialize in certain disciplines. Evidently such considerations are based on the system of coordinated acquisitions organized in German libraries.

At this point some general remarks might prove appropriate. If it is believed that the university library might specialize in one or more branches of knowledge, it is still necessary, first of all, that the library be of a good general standard. Otherwise it will be just a good special library. The specialization of university libraries is comparable to specialization in medicine; first a sound knowledge of general medicine is required, and then specialization follows. Furthermore, the distribution of special branches of knowledge among several libraries presupposes a fair number of libraries. In countries with only a limited number of general libraries, each would be assigned too many special fields, and this would not guarantee specialization. In Yugoslavia and some other small countries, the number of general libraries

is insufficient to allow an adequate distribution of special fields of interest.

Consequently, there is still the traditional alternative between the general and the special libraries, unless small countries associate, like the Scandinavian ones, and create a coordinated program such as the "Scandia Plan." But the factors essential to such a plan do not exist equally in all geographic areas.

It is impossible to draw clear-cut limits between the general and the special libraries and to delineate their fields of interests. Dr. István Csüry, director of the university library in Debrecen, was aware of this when at the conference in Szeged, and later in a separate paper, he attempted to delineate the trends in library acquisition which might be equally acceptable to both general university libraries and to special libraries. According to Csüry, the university libraries should concentrate in their acquisitions policy on general works, publications covering interdisciplinary sciences, books for undergraduates, reference works, collected works, basic texts and standard monographs, and general periodicals; special libraries should cover modern, specialized bibliographies, basic collections of source materials, voluminous historical works, authoritative handbooks, works from the fields of auxiliary sciences, materials on the theory and methodology of science, a limited number of monographs, reference works and serials, maps, dictionaries, and eventually, and most importantly, journals.<sup>29</sup>

Csüry's attempt at a delimitation of acquisitions between general research libraries and special libraries is worth attention. However, in his statement the field of coverage for university libraries is too scanty. On the other hand, some types of publications assigned to special libraries would be equally fitting for university libraries. All that seems practicable in the coordination of acquisitions boils down to considerations relevant to the profile of the individual library and the definite establishment of some general principles for a coordinated acquisitions program.

In the universities of Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria, where all libraries within a university are considered to be components or branches of a single university library, all conditions for coordinated book acquisitions are met. At the conference in Szeged it was indicated, however, that provisions for the cooperation of university libraries in Hungary included in the law of 1956 are only halfway put into effect and that centralization leaves a great deal to be desired.<sup>27</sup> In

*European University Libraries: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Etc.*

1961 a commission in Bulgaria stated that among the libraries of the university of Sofia there was no genuine cooperation in acquisitions policy, with the exception of some libraries.<sup>30</sup> There is evidence that during these last years progress has been made in inter-library cooperation. According to a report on Hungarian university libraries, the central library of each university orders all foreign and also some local books for an ever greater number of institute libraries, accessions and catalogs them, and records them in a union catalog.<sup>31</sup> As pointed out earlier, the university library in Sofia orders all books for all the libraries of the university. It seems that the more liberal the acquisitions policy of coordination, the less the problems. In the opinion of Hungarian librarians, the libraries of the institutes should be responsible for selection, while central university libraries should offer general supervision and implement procurement.<sup>27</sup>

Coordination of acquisitions policy among Yugoslav libraries is still only an object of aspiration. Library legislation which has been passed in certain republics includes but general provisions regarding cooperation in acquisitions policy. The library law of Croatia brings somewhat more specific provisions to bear on library coordination, particularly the procurement of foreign literature, although no mandatory measures are included. This situation is in accordance with the self-management of libraries, as enabling libraries themselves to establish patterns for mutual cooperation in the acquisition of foreign literature.

In some faculties of the university of Zagreb, the acquisition of books is channeled through the central library. Steps have been taken toward a coordinated acquisitions policy for foreign literature in Croatia. In December 1963, a committee was formed for that purpose at the national university library in Zagreb, with representatives of the council for scientific work of the Republic of Croatia, the Yugoslav academy of sciences and arts in Zagreb, the university, the national university library, and the research libraries in Rijeka and Split. First attention will be given to foreign periodicals for a variety of reasons.

In Czechoslovakia there are considerable difficulties in the way of organizing inter-library cooperation in book acquisitions. A coordinated acquisitions policy is provided for the faculties by the very fact that all libraries of a particular faculty form a single library network. The chief problem, however, is how to achieve coordination among faculty libraries and state scientific libraries, in fact among libraries

of two different networks. For the time being, a coordinated acquisitions policy is practiced between the state library in Prague and some special libraries. Judging from the writings of Czech librarians, the outlines of such a cooperation on a wider scale cannot yet be perceived.<sup>32</sup>

It is understood that libraries, insofar as they can, tend to organize their services for the benefit both of scholarship in general and of their particular patronage. It appears, however, that university libraries in Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria have been more successful in that respect than those in Yugoslavia. University libraries in Czechoslovakia need not be mentioned in this regard since only faculty libraries exist within the university framework.

As to such major enterprises as union catalogs, some results have been achieved at a few universities. In general, however, these catalogs are of a limited coverage. The university library in Budapest, for instance, maintains a union catalog of periodicals, and the university library in Szeged maintains a union catalog of books and periodicals acquired from Western countries.

In Yugoslavia, the university library in Beograd is working on the compilation of a union catalog of books in all the libraries of its university, although with considerable difficulty. The national university library in Zagreb and the national and university library in Ljubljana began compiling catalogs of foreign books published after 1918 and available in Yugoslav libraries. This was made possible because the Yugoslav Bibliographic Institute in Beograd was providing both libraries with copies of catalog cards. Recently it was recognized that the whole operation was too costly and that it was sufficient if a union catalog of foreign books and periodicals was maintained at the Institute in Beograd. The association of Yugoslav national libraries has recommended that the national libraries organize union catalogs of books in the libraries of their own republics.

Almost all university libraries are faced with space problems, whether they occupy quarters constructed for them or are accommodated in buildings which once served a different purpose. The libraries in Zagreb, Ljubljana, Beograd, Budapest, Debrecen, Bucharest, Cluj, and Sofia occupy their own buildings, which for the major part they have outgrown. The greatest problem lies in providing seating accommodations for students. Almost all the libraries express a need for more seats. It is true that the library in Cluj with a total seating capacity of 2,700 does not feel the need for new reading

### *European University Libraries: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Etc.*

accommodations. The university library in Bucharest, on the other hand, finds that it needs 500 more seats, although it offers accommodations for 2,100 readers, including the faculty libraries.

If the university libraries of these several European countries are considered in general, it is clear that their development and alteration during these last twenty years were due mainly to the importance attached to these libraries for learning in general and for national culture. Moreover, in that part of Europe the university libraries have generally been the most prominent libraries in their countries. The university library in Prague is the oldest, and with more than 2,000,000 volumes it is also the largest university library of Central Europe. The university library in Budapest, also a large institution with more than 1,000,000 volumes, possesses the richest collection of foreign scholarly literature in Hungary. The national and university libraries in Yugoslavia, together with the university library in Beograd, are by far the most important in the country. The largest of them, the national university library in Zagreb, has about 700,000 volumes.

In spite of all the changes, the university libraries continue to provide an invaluable support to university teaching and research. At the same time the university libraries in Yugoslavia are faced with an open problem: how to establish a system of cooperation among the libraries of a single university, an inherent problem so long as the university exists in the form of a community of separate faculties and institutes, each with a definite pedagogical and scholarly objective. As far as Yugoslavia is concerned, library cooperation within the framework of each university can be achieved only by recognizing the necessity for cooperation and good will, in accordance with a system of social management and respect for the autonomy of institutions. This creates problems, but not insurmountable ones.

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## MATKO ROJNIĆ

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