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## Special Libraries, January 1917

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# Special Libraries

Vol. 8

JANUARY, 1917

No. 1

## The Library of the Bureau of Railway Economics in its Inter-Library Relations\*

By R. H. Johnson, Librarian, Bureau of Railway Economics,  
Washington, D. C.

The Bureau of Railway Economics was founded in 1910 for the purpose of conducting investigations of interest to the railways in common. Its main purpose is to study the economic relations of the railways, to collect information and to publish it in statistical or other forms for the information of the railways, the public and special students interested in transportation. In fulfilling these aims it was necessary to build up a library of railway literature with such collateral material as could not be conveniently borrowed from sister libraries. Under the broad purview of the railway presidents who have directed our work the Bureau has developed into a quasi-public institution made use of by all classes of individuals, business firms and libraries, but in referring to the work we have done in connection with what we wish to continue to do we are compelled to state that the increasing demands from those who sustain the Bureau quite frequently abridge or at least delay undertakings of a more public character.

In building up the library collection it was not our idea that it would be possible even after considerable time to bring together in one library all of the available literature relating to the economic aspects of railway transportation. A large proportion of the literature is found not in treatises but in the so-called ephemeral pamphlet literature, in documents, state and federal, foreign and domestic, and as parts of books on more general subjects. Our first effort, therefore, was to obtain a record of the railway contents of other libraries both with a view to our own possible needs and also in order to be able to refer investigators in other cities to collections more accessible than our own. This work was originally

limited to thirteen libraries and our own in the expectation that in the larger collections as a total practically all of the railway literature would be disclosed. It was soon found however that local material and even material of the most general interest was to be found—sometimes only one or two items—in some of the less extensive collections. The records have accordingly grown by personal visit and by correspondence so that now we have almost a hundred libraries in our records, including three European libraries: that of the International Railway Congress, from manuscript furnished by the Congress; the library of the London School of Economics, from printed catalogues, manuscripts and correspondence; and the library of the Ministry of Public Works of Prussia, from the printed catalogues furnished by that library. Our original catalog was met with most enthusiastic reception in Europe, the Archiv für Eisenbahnwesen making a special article signed by the editor himself who was for twenty-five years the head of the railway system of Prussia. These libraries are as follows

American Philosophical Society.  
American Society of Civil Engineers.  
Amherst College.  
Bibliothèque de la Commission Centrale de Statistique, Brussels.  
Boston Athenaeum.  
Boston Public Library.  
Bowdoin College.  
Brown University.  
Buffalo Historical Society.  
Bureau of Railway Economics.  
California State Library.  
Clark University.  
Cleveland Public Library.  
Columbia University  
Connecticut Historical Society.  
Connecticut State Library.  
Cornell University.  
Cossitt Library, Memphis.

\*Paper read at the annual meeting, National Association of State Libraries, Asbury Park, June 29, 1916.

- Dartmouth College.  
 Denver Public Library.  
 Des Moines Public Library.  
 Goodwyn Institute, Memphis.  
 Collection of Professor Henry D. Gardner,  
 Providence.  
 Harvard University.  
 Collection of James Hillhouse, Esq., New  
 Haven.  
 Hopkins Railway Library, Leland Stanford  
 Jr. University.  
 Houston, Texas, Public Library.  
 Illinois State Library.  
 Indiana State Library.  
 International Railway Congress, Berne.  
 Interstate Commerce Commission.  
 Iowa Historical Society.  
 Iowa Legislative Reference Bureau.  
 Iowa University.  
 John Crerar Library.  
 Johns Hopkins University.  
 Kansas Historical Society.  
 Kansas State Library.  
 Kansas City Public Library.  
 Lehigh University.  
 Library Company of Philadelphia.  
 Library of Congress.  
 F. J. Lisman & Co., New York City.  
 London School of Economics, University of  
 London.  
 Los Angeles Public Library.  
 McGill University.  
 Maine Historical Society.  
 Maine State Library.  
 Maryland Historical Society.  
 Massachusetts Historical Society.  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology.  
 Massachusetts Public Service Commission.  
 Massachusetts State Library.  
 Mechanics Library of Altoona, Pa.  
 Mechanics Mercantile Library of San Fran-  
 cisco, Cal.  
 Milwaukee Public Library.  
 Minneapolis Public Library.  
 Minnesota Historical Society.  
 Nebraska Historical Society.  
 Nebraska State Library.  
 New Hampshire State Library.  
 New Jersey State Library.  
 New Orleans Public Library.  
 New York Public Library.  
 Omaha Public Library.  
 Pennsylvania Historical Society.  
 Portland, Ore., Public Library.  
 Princeton University.  
 Pliny Fisk Statistical Library, Princeton  
 University.  
 Bibliothek des Königl. Ministeriums der  
 Öffentlichen Arbeiten, Berlin.  
 Ridgeway Library, Philadelphia.  
 Rosenberg Library, Galveston.  
 St. Louis Public Library.  
 Salem, Ore., Public Library.  
 Seattle, Wash., Public Library.  
 Spokane, Wash., Public Library.  
 Springfield City Library Association,  
 Springfield, Mass.  
 Syracuse University.  
 Tacoma, Wash., Public Library.  
 Texas State Library.  
 Toronto Public Library.  
 Trenton Public Library.  
 Tufts College.  
 University of California.  
 University of Chicago.  
 University of Illinois.  
 University of Michigan.  
 University of Minnesota.  
 University of Nebraska.  
 University of Pennsylvania.  
 University of Toronto.  
 University of Wisconsin.  
 Vermont State Library.  
 Western Reserve Historical Society.  
 Worcester Public Library.  
 Worcester; American Antiquarian Society

By the use of this union catalog we have been able to assist inquirers at a distance, to render available to newspapers and individuals and even to libraries themselves, information contained in the larger libraries which because of their very size has not been treated as closely in indexing as our specially limited scope has enable this Bureau to do. We have also had the delightful testimony from the librarian of one of the largest university libraries that the printed catalog has been a great saver of time in connection with inter-library loans. We ourselves, while prohibited by our regulations from loaning to individuals, loan freely to other libraries any material which is not irreplaceable.

This work is also made to serve in another field of our inter-library activities. In so far as the subjects undertaken by the Bureau require the collection of material preparatory to a study, lists are compiled in which we embody the information from our bibliographical records. On these lists we indicate the various libraries in which the items included in them may be consulted. We have no means of tracing the extent to which this service is made use of in inter-library loans except that we ourselves are loaning to other libraries material listed as in this Bureau. These lists are distributed freely among libraries except in such cases where their preparation is the result of hurried labor. Even in these cases we are quite willing to send out copies when we have an opportunity to make the needed explanations.

It may be of interest as showing the breadth of the scope of the work of the Bureau of Railway Economics to submit here a list of the various typewritten, mimeographed and printed lists of references, long and short, which the Library has prepared:

- Select list of references on industrial accidents in the United States. 6 p.  
 List of references on accidents on railroads. Nov. 1912. 53 p.  
 Railroad accounting. Nov. 1, 1914. [Mimeographed] 26 p.  
 Railway publicity and railway advertising. Jan. 11, 1915.  
 Railroads in Alaska. Jan. 12, 1914. 5 p.

## SPECIAL LIBRARIES

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- Allocation of costs in railway accounting. Aug. 18, 1915. 4 p.
- Compulsory arbitration of railway labor disputes. Mar. 31, 1916. 2 p.
- Industrial arbitration in Australia and New Zealand. 4 p.
- Statements, etc., concerning railroads, of George Roberts Blanchard, 1841-1900. 2 p.
- Government regulation of business 5 p.
- Railroad capitalization 4 p.
- Recent articles on the British coal strike and minimum wage, 1912. 1 p.
- Railway clearances. Aug. 31, 1915. 5 p.
- Color blindness and defective hearing among railway employees, June, 1911. 4 p.
- Commerce Court. 5 p.
- Railway cost accounting. Apr. 3, 1915. 3 p.
- Costs of railway operation. Jan. 28, 1914. 3 p.
- Grade crossings on railways. [Mimeographed] 1914. 27 p.
- Dining cars and dining service. Aug. 18, 1914. [Mimeographed] 5 p.
- Minor economies in railroad operation. Apr. 14, 1914. 2 p.
- Industrial insurance and employers liability. Oct. 27, 1913. 13 p.
- Effect of European War on railways of the United States. Dec. 30, 1914. 2 p.
- Supplementary list, Sept. 30, 1915. 2 p.
- Transportation of explosives. May 25, 1915. 4 p.
- Express service. 7 p.
- Marketing farm products. Mar. 19, 1915. 2 p.
- Fast Freight Lines. Oct. 24, 1914. [Mimeographed] 2 p.
- Federal control of commerce and corporations. Sept. 2, 1915. 4 p.
- [Supplementary to Library of Congress list published 1913]
- Federal incorporation. Jun. 29, 1915. 5 p.
- Statements, writings, etc., of Albert Fink 1 p.
- Railroads and fire losses. 3 p.
- Rehearing of the Five Per Cent Case. Oct. 14, 1914. 3 p.
- Bibliography of Sir Sandford Fleming 6 p.
- Works of Sir Sandford Fleming relating to railroads. 1 p.
- Freight. Apr. 8, 1915. 9 p.
- [Includes Freight, Yards, Terminals, Freight Handling]
- Full Crew Laws. 1913. 5 p.
- Printed in *Special Libraries*, Jun. 1913, p. 121-25.
- Supplementary list, Aug. 28, 1914. 4 p.
- Minimum train crew and maximum length of trains legislation. Feb. 1, 1915. [Mimeographed] 20 p.
- Printed in *Special Libraries*, Feb. 1915, p. 25-39.
- Supplementary list, Apr. 10, 1915. 6 p.
- Writings of Hiram Glass relating to railroads. 1916. 1 p.
- References on Jay Gould. Nov. 20, 1914. 2 p.
- Government ownership of railways. Mar. 1913. Printed. 14 p.
- Revised to Sept. 1914. Issued as Bulletin 62 of the Bureau. 93 p.
- A14-1677. 93 p.
- Documents bearing on Hepburn rate bill. 5 p.
- Interlocking directorates. Oct. 21, 1914. [Mimeographed] 9 p.
- Writings of the Interstate Commerce Commissioners. Jan. 18, 1914. 22 p.
- Jitneys and jitney regulation. Jul. 15, 1915. [Mimeographed] 11 p.
- Railroad land grants. Nov. 29, 1913. 16 p.
- Transportation of live stock. Mar. 9, 1916. 5 p.
- Recent books on steam locomotives. Jan. 7, 1916. 8 p.
- Some references on the Long Island Railroad. Apr. 28, 1916. 4 p.
- Railway mail pay. 1911. 5 p.
- Locomotive mechanical stokers. Jul. 28, 1915. [Mimeographed] 9 p.
- Printed in Locomotive firemen and enginemen's magazine, Sept. 1915, p. 269-74.
- More important writings of Hon. Edward A. Moseley, Secretary of the Interstate Commerce Commission, 1887-1911. 1 p.
- General railroad laws of New York State. Compilations. 2 p.
- New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company. Trial Bibliography. Nov. 30, 1915. [Mimeographed] 144 p.
- Noise problem on railways. Jul. 7, 1915. 3 p.
- Use of oil as fuel for locomotive. May 11, 1914. 4 p.
- References on the Panama Canal 17 p.
- [Supplementary to Library of Congress list prepared by H. A. Morrison, Jr., 1900]
- Passenger fares: 4 p.
- Two-cent passenger fares. 4 p.
- Additional references on two-cent passenger fares. Nov. 2, 1914. 5 p.
- Additional references on two-cent passenger fares. Dec. 22, 1914. 5 p.
- References on railway passenger fares. Apr. 1, 1915. 2 p.
- Maximum railway passenger fares. Apr. 12, 1915. [Mimeographed] 14 p.
- Supplementary list, Jul. 29, 1915. 5 p.
- Parcels post. 1911. 6 p.
- [Extension of Library of Congress select list, 1908]
- Relief and pension systems on American railways. Apr. 13, 1914. 4 p.
- Revised to Jan. 21, 1916. 9 p.
- Periodicals published by United States railways in the interests of their employees. Feb. 29, 1916. [Mimeographed] 2 p.
- Physical examination of railway employees. Oct. 12, 1915. [Mimeographed] 17 p.

- Pipe lines. Jan. 19, 1915. Memo. list. 1 p.
- Railway pooling. Jan. 4, 1915. 8 p.
- Public service commission and corporations. Jan. 8, 1914. 13 p.
- Suggested list of works on railways. Feb. 8, 1916. [Mimeographed] 6 p.
- Early American railroad and early works on railroads. 6 p.
- Development of railways west of the Mississippi River. Feb. 12, 1915. 3 p.
- Railway motor cars. Nov. 30, 1915. [Mimeographed] 37 p.
- Printed in *Locomotive firemen and enginemen's magazine*, Feb. 1916: 130-32; Mar. 1916: 251-56; Apr. 1916: 390-96; May 1916: 520-24.
- Operation and maintenance of railways. Dec. 18, 1913. 3 p.
- Railway passes. Oct. 4, 1915. 5 p.
- List of books on regulation of railroad and public utility rates. Apr. 11, 1916. 4 p.
- Effect of regulation of railway rates on the development of railways in the United States. Oct. 21, 1913. 4 p.
- Conflict between state and federal regulation of railways. Mar. 25, 1916. 5 p.
- Railroads in South America. Mar. 24, 1915. 12 p.
- State documents relating to state aid for railroads. Jan. 16, 1914. 8 p.
- Railroad taxation. Oct. 23, 1913. 13 p.
- Use of railroads in war. Oct. 10, 1914. [mimeographed] 15 p.
- Printed in *Special Libraries*, Nov. 1914, p. 134-43.
- Revised to Aug. 2, 1915. [Mimeographed] 34 p.
- This list was used as a basis for the bibliography in Edwin A. Pratt's "The Rise of Rail Power in War and Conquest", London, 1915.
- References showing comparisons between railways of the United States and foreign countries. Feb. 23, 1915 9 p.
- Railway reconstruction. 2 p.
- Some references on savings plans for railway employees. Dec. 24, 1915. 2 p.
- Some references on the Seaboard Air Line Railway. Mar. 31, 1916. 5 p.
- Regulation of the issuance of railway stocks and bonds. Feb. 17, 1914. 6 p.
- Revised list, Feb. 6, 1915. 5 p.
- Additional references, Apr. 13, 1916. 2 p.
- Some references on ship railways. Feb. 19, 1916. 2 p.
- Sixteen-hour law. Dec. 16, 1915. 2 p.
- Some references on cost of operating high-speed trains. Jul. 6, 1915. 1 p.
- Some references on the speed of railway trains. Feb. 28, 1916. 6 p.
- Subways. Sept. 18, 1912. 6 p.
- Industrial railways and tap lines. Jul. 10, 1915. 5 p.
- Use of intoxicants by railway employees. Jan. 8, 1912. 2 p.
- Railroad terminals. Apr. 1, 1916. [Mimeographed] 41 p.
- Work done by railroads to increase traffic. Dec. 15, 1915. 4 p.
- Train loading. Oct. 25, 1915. 3 p.
- Valuation of railways. 1912. 26 p.
- [Revision in process of completion] 1916.
- Locomotive valve-gears. Mar. 24, 1915. 11 p.
- Printed in *Locomotive firemen and enginemen's magazine*, May 1915: 509-15.
- Select list on relation between railways and waterways as agents of transportation. 1909. 15 p.
- Railways and waterways. Feb. 1912. 20 p.
- Western and Atlantic Railroad. 1915. 3 p.
- Some references on railways and economic development. May 2, 1916. 13 p.
- Some references on the ownership of railways. May 4, 1916. 4 p.
- Some references on freight congestion at eastern terminals. Apr. 6, 1916. 5 p.
- Some references on railway fires and fire losses. Jun. 2, 1916. 3 p.
- Railway fire protection. May 25, 1916. 2 p.
- Early history of railroads in Alabama. Jun. 5, 1916. 3 p.
- Freight handling. Jun. 3, 1916. 9 p.
- Documents in the New Hampshire Railroad Controversy of 1887. Jun. 8, 1916. 5 p.
- List of briefs filed in Advanced Rate Case before the Interstate Commerce Commission, I. C. C. Docket 5860 and I&S Docket 333, 1913-1914. 2 p.
- List of briefs in the rehearing of the case, Oct. 1914. 1 p.
- List of briefs filed in Western Rate Advance Case, before the Interstate Commerce Commission, I&S Docket 555. 1915. 4 p.
- A third development from our records of the railway contents of other libraries of very large interest to us is our work with the library scrap heap. One of the large eastern railways sold its scrap metal for the year 1914 for \$2,157,241.24, a sum less by a million dollars than it received in 1913. We have found much of value in the duplicate collections of other libraries. We solicit from other libraries any and all of their duplicates which relate to railways. In our purchases of lots at auction and otherwise we acquire duplicates of our own. These duplicates we attempt to distribute on open exchange except in the few instances where they have cost us any large sum. The distribution is conducted with a view to localities, relative completeness of sets and relative interest. Our largest distribution heretofore has been of the annual reports of the railway companies, due to the fact that these records are more easily kept up to date than non-serials. It

may be readily appreciated that the incorporation of the records of one hundred libraries into our bibliography must take its place with the current demands upon the Bureau. Now that this record is getting more close to date we expect to distribute some thousands of duplicates of a more general and non-serial character. The following table will illustrate the growth of this phase of inter-library work:

	1911	1912	1913
Items sent out.....	8,591	4,906	6,747
Items received.....	15,982	2,177	3,981
	1914	1915	1916
Items sent out....	14,922	15,477	12,759
Items received.....	4,673	6,967	4,647

a total of 63,401 items sent out as against 38,427 received from other libraries. The number of items received on exchange which find a place on our own shelves is not now as large as it was in the earlier years but the placing of material on the shelves of other libraries facilitates inter-library work, promotes the use of literature relating to railways and adds to the general information about railway affairs which is far from being the matter of common knowledge so generally supposed.

We consider that the information which we furnish to other libraries of the contents of our own library is one of the important aspects of the work we do in common with other American libraries—the furnishing of copy for Library of Congress printed cards. Through the galleys of the Library of Congress, the records of the depository catalog, and the union catalogs now quite common in the larger libraries, the cards printed for this Bureau come under the eye of students and catalogers.

The Bureau supplies copy to the Library of Congress for printed catalog cards for

current books and important pamphlets which relate to transportation and particularly to railways, which are not already provided with cards. But we make an especial effort to supply copy for books which our records show are contained in four or more other libraries. Cards for certain series, such as the Interstate Commerce Commission accident reports, are supplied to the Library of Congress regularly by agreement and we comply with all requests or suggestions from the Library of Congress that copy be furnished even when the material is in the possession of the Library of Congress. Approximately 1,800 cards have been thus provided during the last four years. About five hundred have already been furnished during the current year, of which, however, only about four hundred have been so far printed by the Library of Congress.

The Bureau library does not attempt to take too broad advantage of the opportunity afforded by the Library of Congress to add entries within brackets for headings not used by them. Such entries however as "Railroads—Government ownership"; "Railroads—Financial conditions"; "Railroads—Use in war"; and "Railroads—Passenger rates"; we have so added when there seems to be a real need for them.

The Bureau is very glad to respond to inquiries from other libraries. We do not expect to cover the broader phases of railway economics or even those more special aspects which the larger public libraries and the Bibliographical Division of the Library of Congress are handling to a rapidly increasing extent. The special library is intended to supplement, not to supplant, the general library and there are some of the more minute questions which this Bureau is in a better position to handle than perhaps any other general library. Some indication of the nature of such inquiries may be afforded by the following table:

#### INQUIRIES RECEIVED BY THE BUREAU OF RAILWAY ECONOMICS LIBRARY FROM OTHER LIBRARIES

[Selected chronologically from the Library Log]

<i>Inquiry.</i>	<i>Reply</i>
Railway Mail Pay Committee Report and other mail pay material. LC.	All furnished.
List of insurance libraries in US. LC.	List compiled and forwarded.
"Recent periodical article" on railway fuel economy. Bur. Mines Liby.	Found in Railway Age Gazette.
System of filing and indexing periodical clippings. Naval War College, Newport.	Bureau's system described.
Methods of computing earnings of proposed railways. ClevePL	References furnished.
Panama Canal Act and railroad owned steamships. UI	References furnished.
Collections of railway tariffs. CU	Information as to best collections.

## SPECIAL LIBRARIES

- Material on government ownership of rail-ways. UW  
 Railway maps. LC  
 Fire protection by Monitor hose nozzles. In-dependence Inspection Bureau, Phila.  
 Train-length limit legislation. VaSL.  
 Railroad reports to copy for files. Penn-sylvania Lines West Library.  
 Transportation of farm produce by water routes. Mass. Agric. College Lib.  
 Rolling stock of Trans-Siberian Railway. Pan.  
 Methods of filing periodical clippings. Bur. of Indus. Research Liby. D. C.  
 Material for article on improvement in transportation since 1891. Dept. of Agri-culture Lib.  
 Minimum passenger rate laws. LC.  
 Maximum passenger rate laws. LC  
 References on railway pooling. LC  
 Trunk Line Committee Publications. Bangor, Me., Pub. Lib.  
 Montana Railroad Commission Reports. Bur. of corporations Lib.  
 Material on safety first and trespassing. UW  
 Government ownership of railways. UW  
 Railroad reports to be copied for file. Penna. Lines West Lib.  
 Western Rate Case Exhibits. American Tel. & Tel. Co. Lib.  
 Conant's testimony in Five Per Cent Rate Case. Amer. Tel. & Tel. Lib.  
 Material for use in course of transportation of produce. Mass. Agric. Coll.  
 Railway cost accounting and cost of operat-ing high speed trains. NW Univ.  
 Information rel. to Railroad Commission reports. Allegheny County Law Lib.  
 Transportation of explosives. Insurance Lib. Ass'n.  
 Publications of Nebraska Railroad Commis-sion. Allegheny County Law Lib.  
 Rare government documents. Ill. Leg. Ref.  
 Rare government publications desired. Penna. Lines West Lib.  
 Noise problem on railways. NYMR  
 School ticket regulations. ICC  
 Passenger service and rates in U. S. and Europe. LC  
 Railway clearance. Ill. Leg. Ref. Bur.
- Printed material furnished.  
 References given.  
 References furnished.  
 Memo showing states having legislation.  
 Copies desired borrowed on inter-library loan.  
 Referred to waterways expert and refer-ences suggested.  
 Information furnished.  
 Our system suggested and explained.  
 References suggested and books loaned to the Library.  
 Memo prepared showing states having such laws, etc.  
 Memo as in previous inquiry.  
 List mailed to correspondent as requested.  
 Bibliographical information furnished.  
 Bibliographical information furnished.  
 Printed material forwarded.  
 Printed material forwarded.  
 Copies desired borrowed on inter-library loan.  
 Copies secured through Committee.  
 Transcript furnished.  
 Material furnished.  
 References furnished.  
 Bibliographical information furnished.  
 References furnished.  
 Bibliographical information furnished.  
 Borrowed on inter-library loan.  
 Copies secured.  
 References furnished.  
 Copy of one road's regulation secured.  
 Memo. furnished.  
 References, copies of laws, bills, etc., for-warded.

## SPECIAL LIBRARIES

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Electrification of terminals. NYMR	References furnished.
Exhibits in Western Rate Case. Amer. Tel & Tel. Lib.	Copies secured and forwarded.
Railroad reports to copy for file. Penna. Lines West Lib.	Copies borrowed on inter-library loan.
Traveling railway libraries. StPPL	Material sent; referred to other sources.
Copy of rare item desired for file. Penna. Lines West Lib.	Photostat copy secured from NY. Pub. Lib.
Methods of increasing railway traffic. Ohio State Univ. Lib.	References furnished.
Employees' saving plans. American Bankers Assn. Lib.	References furnished.
Minimum railway rates. LC	References furnished.
Issuance of railroad stocks and bonds. HU Graduate School of Business Adm'n.	References furnished.
Recent material on locomotives. LC	References furnished.
Periodicals published by railway companies for employees. Ohio State Univ. Lib.	List furnished.
Addresses of Wilson and Post before Railway Business Ass'n. Ala. Dept. of Archives & History.	References.
Railway clearances. Later data than previously given. Ill. Leg. Ref. Bur.	Copies furnished.
Speed on American railways. Waseda Univ. Lib., Japan.	Additional references sent.
Wig-wag signals at grade crossings. NYSL	Table of speed records furnished.
Pullman sleeping cars. ICC	References furnished.
History of early passenger cars. Penna. Lines West Lib.	References furnished.
Railroads publishing annual reports. LC	Material and references furnished.
	List of such roads sent.

Among the things we are endeavoring to do and in the accomplishment of which we shall have to ask for much assistance from the state libraries is the completion of the record of the documents relating to railways in the states not covered so far in Miss Hasse's monumental work. It has already happened that among our miscellaneous accessions there have appeared documents copies of which were not in the files of the state library concerned because not printed in the jumbo set. While we do not find these things in the ground covered by Miss Hasse we have been able at times to advise her that an item marked "not seen" has strayed into our collection. Until the happy time arrives when Miss Hasse shall have covered the entire list of states we have some hope that our work in this field with the co-operation of the state libraries may prove of mutual advantage.

In a small way the Bureau library is now calling the attention of the librarians of some of the special libraries to titles relating to their field which crop up within our own. Such matters as fire losses, banking questions, street railway questions such as the jitney matter, telephone and tele-

graph operation of trains, occur in the railway technical literature and might fail to meet the eye of those very much interested in them. We would be glad to extend this service. Of course it is part of our regular duty to notify railway folk of articles of particular interest in their line of investigation.

Printed cards fill but a minor part of our needs. For magazine articles and a large number of our pamphlets we are thrown on our own resources. Because of our need for a large number of cards to represent the varied aspects of these articles and pamphlets we have adopted the Belknap tag and label addresser for printing these cards. The stencils used in the addresser will take in nine lines of seven words each. They are prepared Japanese Silk Fiber, readily cut on any standard typewriter, and the printing is made by placing the stencil in the addresser, running an inked rubber roller over it as many times as we need copies, and the stencil can then be filed for further use. It is our idea that as the Library of Congress will not be printing cards for magazine articles and analytics for a long time to come, our work in cataloging the contents of the



railway periodicals such as the Railway Age Gazette and its predecessors, the Railway Review, the Railway World and its predecessor, might be made available to other libraries if the extra cost of printing and distributing the cards were met by them. It would be our idea to add the railway articles in the files of the general magazines such as the North American Review, which even if indexed in Poole are not so indexed as to give all of the information of interest to the special student. It would also be our idea to distribute cards for currently received material not found important enough to be included in the Library of Congress or John Crerar printed cards.

We find it would be possible to furnish such stenciled cards or the card regularly used by us (LB-33110 unpunched), two copies to the order, at the rate of one and a half cents, with additional copies, ordered at the same time, at a half a cent each. This does not include any over-head charges but represents only that additional labor and material needed to make the cards for other libraries. We have also considered that if a library did not care to take a series of cards, current cards, but wished to make a selection, it might be possible to furnish

copies of the stencils on waste paper cut to the three by five inch size at the rate of one and a half cents for ten titles. These figures include postage in the first case in lots of twenty-five cards and in the second case in lots of forty slips, and suppose a subscription to either one or the other service of not less than ten libraries. It might be added that if an additional number of libraries should subscribe the cost would probably reduce in proportion, as the library of the Bureau would not seek to profit by the undertaking.

If other libraries should feel that this label addresser could be used in similar work and the library should cross some of the ground that we would wish to cover, we would be very glad to enter into an exchange proposition. The Bureau would not feel free to add subject headings or do more than reproduce the main card which we would need for our own records.

However halting it may be in its methods the object of the library of the Bureau of Railway Economics is to be as helpful to other libraries as its scope and facilities will allow, and we will welcome any suggestions that will help us to further this object.

Formation of the National Industrial Conference Board, with twelve of the most important industrial organizations of the country in its membership, as a "clearing house of information" in the proposed study of problems confronting manufacturers of the United States, was announced at a meeting of the National Founders' Association, an organization of iron manufacturers, in New York city, Nov. 16, 1916.

Frederick P. Fish, banker, of Boston, is chairman and Magnus W. Alexander, of West Lynn, Mass., is manager of the organization. William H. Barr, of Buffalo, president of the National Founders' Association, commenting on the necessity for the conference board, summed up its significance as follows:

"The developments of the last year, politically and industrially, emphasized as never before the need of more comprehensive co-operative action in industry."

The industrial bodies which have joined the board are the National Founders' Association, National Metal Trades Association, National Council for Industrial Defense, National Association of Manufacturers, National Erectors' Association, National Association of Cotton Manufacturers, American

Cotton Manufacturers' Association, National Association of Wool Manufacturers, Silk Association of America, United Typothetae and Franklin Clubs of America, American Paper and Pulp Association and the Rubber Club of America.

Membership in these organizations is said to number 15,000 employers, giving work to approximately 7,000,000 persons and representing about \$8,000,000,000 of capital.

"Heretofore to a substantial extent," Mr. Alexander said, "each manufacturer has studied only the problem directly affecting himself, ignoring the fact that all industry is interrelated and that there is a vital need for co-operative action and united effort. The war has brought many new problems and peace will bring many more. These must be studied and solved."

"The Conference Board will be a clearing house of information. Its purpose will be to analyze and present the essential elements in the situation, suggest methods and inspire united and intelligent action. Industry in this country must have the sympathetic support of the public. It must have the co-operation of the government and it must act intelligently and definitely on its own account."

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## MOBILIZING AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION

There is a vast and growing literature of agriculture. Information on every phase is available in print, and the problem of the agricultural educator is to translate that literature into increased production of farm crops.

As research it amounts to nothing if it remains inactive upon the shelves of libraries or if it goes into the waste baskets of the farmers, yet, that is just what has happened with the greater part of the output in the past. Learned researches were made and careful investigations and experiments were carried out, but the results lay dormant.

The demand of today is that the results of investigations and experiments shall be put into practice on the soil. Enough information has been created to revolutionize farming if it were put to work. The publications of state experiment stations, bulletins issued by the federal departments, results of research workers in universities, publication of the state boards of agriculture and of the various national associations for the advancement of agricultural science,

and practical work of farm journals constitute a valuable reference library, and all of this material is practically free.

The principal hindrance to its use in the past has been the lack of a system of classification for use and the lack of a key to the material. Agricultural libraries, as a rule, kept their material in complete files and were more regardful that they should have a complete set for the use of research workers, than that they should have a particular article for practical reference by farmers. When the material was once put upon the shelves, it was lost so far as the average worker was concerned.

Today the leaders in agricultural library work are developing a means by which the information in the thousands of books, pamphlets and magazines may be mobilized for constant use. This mobilization has been made practical by the publication of an agricultural index published by the H. W. Wilson Company.

Because of this index the great store of agricultural information is constantly at the command of experiment workers and agricultural agents, and through them to the farmer on the soil. One can hardly estimate the possibilities which may come to agriculture from the union of the two agencies, the classified agricultural library and the agricultural index. It is not too much to expect that they will serve more powerfully to bring about the application of agricultural knowledge on the soil than any other two agencies engaged in the promotion of agriculture.

The possible uses of the agricultural index by county agents of agriculture are very great. The live county agent will, in the future, maintain a library of practical information. When a farmer wants to know about certain plants or insect pests or plant diseases, the county agent will be able to bring to him the latest practical publication on that subject.

By gathering the free material from the experiment stations, the U. S. department of agriculture, the state departments and a few of the agricultural journals, the county agent will, by means of the agricultural index, be able to focus concrete facts and definite data upon the problems of the farmer. He will no longer be compelled to try to carry it all in his own head. He will more readily use the material because of the ease of getting in touch with it through the index.

Leaders of agricultural education should study the possibilities of the use of the library in the promotion of real vocational education in agriculture. There is no place where special library work can be so effectively and easily done as in agriculture. The material is free. It is also concrete and the machinery of distribution is available through the county agent and extension workers. The agricultural index rounds out the scheme, and the mobilization of agricultural information is accomplished.

# List of References on the Milk Industry

Compiled under the direction of H. H. B. Meyer, Chief Bibliographer.  
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- Creamery and milk plant monthly. Chicago, 327 LaSalle St.
- Creamery journal. semi-monthly. Waterloo, Iowa, F. L. Kimball co.
- Creamery patron monthly. St. Mary's, O., Creamery patron printing co.
- Dairy produce. weekly. Chicago, 136 W. Lake St.
- Delaware County dairyman. weekly. Franklin, Joseph Evcland & son.

- Farm and dairy and rural home. weekly  
Petersborough, Ontario Rural pub. co.
- Guernsey breeders' journal. monthly. Peterboro, N. H., American guernsey cattle club.
- Hoard's dairyman. weekly. Ft. Atkinson, Wis., W. D. Hoard & son company.
- Holstem-Friesian register semi-mo. Brattleboro, Vt., Frederick L. Houghton.
- Holstein-Friesian world. weekly. Ithaca, N. Y., Holstein-Friesian world co.
- Jersey bulletin and dairy world. weekly. Indianapolis, Ind., 238 S. Meridian St.
- Kimball's dairy farmer. semi-monthly Waterloo, Iowa, F. L. Kimball co.
- Live stock and dairy journal. monthly. Sacramento, Cal., 423 J St.
- Maritime farmer and co-operative dairyman. semi-monthly Sussex, New Brunswick, R. D. Robinson co.
- Milk dealer monthly Milwaukee, Wis., 719 Germania Building.
- Milk news monthly Chicago, 29 S. LaSalle St.
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- Nebraska food and dairy journal. monthly Lincoln, Neb., C. E. Harman.
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- Northwest horticulturist and dairyman. monthly Tacoma, Wash., C. A. Tonneson.
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Not in the Library of Congress.

## News and Notes

Mr. John Cotton Dana, Librarian of the Newark Public Library, has been reappointed Chairman of the Committee on Libraries of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World. The club, the committee and special library interests are all to be congratulated on Mr. Dana's acceptance of the position a second time. The work of this committee, under Mr. Dana's inspiring leadership, means the inauguration of new business libraries and the building up of already existing ones throughout the country.

A health information bureau is the latest development in the work of the American Public Health Association, 755 Boylston street, Boston. It will endeavor to answer queries from all health workers, whether members of the association or not, on policy, ascertained fact, methods, work of others, authorities, or similar subjects.

Claribel R. Barnett, Librarian of the Library of the U. S. Department of agriculture has issued her Report for 1916. This library includes in addition to the main collections, libraries in the following bureaus, divisions and offices:

- Bureau of animal industry.
- Dairy division.
- Biochemic, pathological, zoological and other divisions.
- Bureau of chemistry.

- Bureau of entomology.
- Forest service.
- Bureau of plant industry.
- Office of farm management.
- Office of markets and rural organization.
- Office of public roads and rural engineering.

The Report of Frederick W. Jenkins, Librarian of the Russell Sage Foundation Library, is an interesting document, showing, what the Librarian says a report of a library should show, i. e., "four definite gains—a more valuable collection, added facility for its use, a wider field of service, and larger use made of the resources offered." In discussing the typewritten bibliographies compiled by the Library, the report says:

"In 1915-16, 223 such lists were made. These range from a letter incorporating the titles of two or three of the best books on a subject, to a 4-page bibliography such as was made for the Jewish Community on the Clothing Industry, or a 12-page reading list prepared for the Cornell Civic and social committee. These lists are made with the belief often expressed by Dr. James Harvey Robinson that one worthless entry invalidates an entire bibliography. To include only the really valuable is a difficult proposition, but a sincere attempt at doing this has made the output of much greater value."