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BUSINESS LIBRARY CLASSIFICATION,  
Ruth Alexander

PAPER PRESERVING PROCESSES  
Amos Weston

RECENT TECHNICAL BIBLIOGRAPHIES,  
Raymond N. Brown

MORE INFORMATION BOOTH WORK,  
Jessie Woodford Lyman

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Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1105. Act of October 3, 1917, authorized December 17, 1929.
Classifiers in business libraries should find a very helpful tool in Miss Elliott's admirable "Business Library Classification" recently issued by the Indexer's Press, Chicago. Well-planned and easily used, it shows the result of a careful analysis of the field of business and of the practical and useful grouping of books in this subject. Using a numerical decimal system, the author has developed the classification from the following main divisions: 600, Reference works; 100, Organization and administration of business; 200-300, Reserved for special collection, or used for special finance collection; 400, Finance and banking, public finance; 500, Economics, industry; 600, Public utilities, transportation, commerce; 700, Economics, commercial and political history and conditions; 800, Miscellaneous; 900, Unassigned.

An experiment recently tried at the Harvard Business School Library brought interesting and gratifying results. Two hundred books were chosen at random as test cases for the use of Miss Elliott's classification, one hundred from the recent accessions and one hundred from the finance section.

The group of one hundred from the recent accessions, as testing for all the classes except the 200-300 Finance section, seemed small and inadequate, but chance ruled that each of the remaining hundreds was represented in every case by more than one book, twenty-nine in the 400s being the largest number appearing in any section, and four in the 600s being the smallest. Out of these one hundred books, seventy-one were quickly and easily placed in satisfactory divisions of the classification. Of the remainder, sixteen were found to be in classes which needed further subdivisions, and thirteen were considered unsatisfactory because of an alphabetical arrangement of subdivisions; none were laid aside as indicating a lack in the classification.

Of the classes needing further subdivision, perhaps the most important were Labor (530), Foreign trade (680), Insurance (449), Railroads (630), and Law (674). Without further subdivisions in these classes the arrangement of books placed in them in a library the size of the Harvard Business School Library (thirty thousand volumes) would be extremely confusing. There would, however, seem to be no reason why satisfactory subdivisions could not be worked out for these classes; perhaps Miss Elliott will continue to add to our debt to her by inserting these in a later edition.

Miss Elliott recommends an alphabetical arrangement of the subdivisions; experience at this library, where both methods are still in use, has seemed to be against such procedure and entirely in favor of a classified arrangement. In the preface of the book Miss Elliott states "wherever feasible an alphabetical arrangement is advised" but no reasons supporting this decision are given. The arguments against this alphabetical arrangement are several: 1st, the exceedingly cumbersome call numbers, e.g., Cherington's Wool Industry, 571 T35W C423 or 571 T350 C423, such call numbers causing mistakes wherever they are written and typed, confusion in shelving, and exasperation in hunting for the book.

2d, a still further cause of confusion in shelving by the use of Cutter numbers for both author and part of the classification number.

3d, less elasticity in expansion.

4th, the inconsistencies caused by varying terminology.

5th, the illogical and perplexing arrangement of the subjects on the shelves.

Nor can one believe, from a study of the tables to be used with the classes 555 and 571 in Miss Elliott's book that the alphabetical arrangement is of great help to the reader at the shelves. With Tea, Ice Cream, and Bricks under "C," Nuts under "F," Wheat under "G," Hay under "F," Molasses under "S," Steel under "I," Gloves under "T," subdivided "D," to note a few of the arrangements, it at least seems possible that the user would need more help than the alphabet. A library directory, at least.

An alternative arrangement of placing
individual books alphabetically by their specific subjects is also suggested. By this plan a book on wheat would be placed in the “Ws,” separated from the books dealing with the grain industry in general, which are placed in the “Gs,” similarly, milk would be in the “Ms,” away from the Dairy industry in the “Ds,” and wool in the “Ws,” separated from textile industries in the “Ts.” This would not seem to be a happy solution for a growing and frequently-used collection of books.

In Table C Miss Elliott gives an adaptation of the Treasury Department classification of industries, but this is to be used in conjunction with Tables A and B, thus requiring the use of two and sometimes three Cutter numbers as before. A far better arrangement would seem to have been an adaptation of the Treasury Department classification, developed decimally, and inserted in the classes 555-579. If this were done, then books in these classes would be assigned call numbers similar to those in other groups and consisting of only two parts, a decimal class number and a Cutter author number.

Of the classification of the one hundred books taken from the class of finance, eighty-four were pronounced satisfactory, twelve were in classes needing subdivisions, and four in classes subdivided alphabetically. Of the twelve in the classes needing subdivisions, the majority were in Taxation (470), some in subjects which seemed to need a country subdivision, while the rest were minor cases that could easily be remedied.

While this development of the finance classes will doubtless prove useful, one wonders why, for even a library specializing in these subjects, the 400s could not as easily answer the purpose. The headings in the 200-300 scheme seem the familiar ones of the 400s, now spread over a larger space. The most obvious additions are the special classes for banking in the United States (280-296), the classes for the Federal Reserve System (300-317), and those for banking in foreign countries (329-347). Otherwise the two systems appear to parallel each other rather closely, and if these omissions, and other minor ones, were corrected by inserting subdivisions in the 400s, it would seem possible for this class to take care of as many books as the 200-300 development.

It is to be noted that Miss Elliott recommends an alphabetical arrangement also for cities and countries, while again experience at the Harvard Business School Library seems to bring a contrary decision and to indicate a preference for a geographical arrangement of these subjects.

In the February 1923 issue of the Special Libraries, a notice concerning Miss Elliott’s book comments upon the similarity of its notation to the Dewey and asks if this similarity will prevent its use with the latter. On the contrary, it would seem to be an argument for combining it with the latter, a letter or any simple symbol, placed before the numbers would prevent confusion with the Dewey while the similarity of notation would tend to insure the correct shelving and the quicker understanding of the principles of subdivisions.

It will be a pleasure to classifiers to see that although Miss Elliott has provided so generously for books on all manner of subjects, including Literature, Philosophy and Education, provision is also made for special collections. In view of the fact that many collections, especially those of pamphlet material, can be sufficiently classified by color, or style of binders, or by color bands, or by the combination of these factors, and thus would not need classification numbers, the provision for the special collections would seem to be ample. If not, some device like that suggested when combining with Dewey could be used,— the placing of a letter before certain numbers signifying a different series of subjects.

A comparison between Miss Elliott’s classification and “The Expansion of the Decimal Classification 658” prepared by the Engineering Societies Library quickly reveals the handicaps which make the latter scheme the inferior. The lengthy and cumbersome numbers are obvious at first glance, and further inspection reveals classes needing much further subdivision, e.g. 658.381-658.385. Then it would seem impossible to avoid scattering through the other classes in Dewey many books which it would be preferable to have near the 658s, e.g. Taxation in 336, Insurance in 368, Commercial geographies in 910, and Ethics in the 100s. Again, because such an elaborate division of the subjects was not foreseen when these classes were first planned by Mr. Dewey, there is a separation of material within the 658s, e.g. Advertising in 659.1, while other branches of marketing are developed in 658.8.

The above paper was submitted to Miss Elliott, who sent a full reply to the points raised. As the paper was then revised it will not be necessary to reprint Miss Elliott’s replies to some of the points, but only those which apply to Miss Alexander’s paper in its final form.—Erton.
Miss Elliot's Reply

I wish to express my pleasure at the very thorough and careful review of the "Business Library Classification."

First, I should like to say that the Classification was devised mainly for libraries of a single business or industry, which makes it especially gratifying that so large a library as the Harvard Business School Library should find it a workable plan. I have been very much interested in the suggestions made for further expansion, as well as in the comments on the difficulties met. These will be extremely useful in planning for future editions, and I appreciate such constructive criticism.

In regard to the alphabetical subdivisions, to which the reviewer objects: The libraries that use Cutter author numbers were not taken into consideration, as many libraries in the Middle West have discontinued their use for non-fiction as well as for fiction. A note should have been made to that effect, as I do not recommend using Cutter numbers for subject divisions if they are also used for author numbers. I am glad this point has been raised, as I shall emphasize it in future editions of the Classification.

In regard to the confusion in the alphabetical arrangement referred to, where "Tea, Ice Cream and Bricks are classified under C," etc., I believe the confusion is more apparent on paper than it would be in the arrangement of books or printed material on the shelves. It is necessary for each library to determine in advance whether commodities and industries shall be grouped by classes or by arranged by specific subjects. The decision will be determined by the type of library, the variety of subjects, and the way in which material is used. When the group classification is adopted, then the notation assigned to each group must be known or ascertained through the index, just as a class number for that group would have to be known or found. When found, the alphabetical subarrangement is more easily followed than arbitrary numbers and the notation may be kept within smaller limits; at least that is our experience, but, of course, there is room for difference of opinion on this point. I believe that the type of library would very largely settle the question.

The preference expressed for an alphabetical scheme whenever possible, is due to the fact that there are many subjects which cannot be limited to nine divisions; for example, in the case of cities, countries, industries, commodities etc. An alphabetical arrangement allows for indefinite expansion with the minimum number of symbols in the notation, with the advantage that the alphabetic feature is an aid to the memory; whereas the numbers are entirely arbitrary. However, the open numbers provide for decimal expansion if this method is preferred.

I can quite understand that there would be instances not only in the large libraries but in some small ones, where it would be preferable to arrange cities and countries geographically rather than alphabetically. In such cases, the outline given in the 700s might be used in connection with any number needing geographical subdivisions. This suggestion was not made in the Classification. Here again, we have found that in a single industry or business, it is usually information about a specific city or country that is wanted and less often a general survey of a geographical division.

I am very glad to have an opportunity to answer the points raised in the review. I believe most of the difficulties noted have arisen chiefly from the difference in the sizes of the libraries under consideration. At the same time, there is no reason why, as the reviewer has suggested, all of these may not be overcome with a little thought and consideration, and I shall be exceedingly glad in future editions to bear in mind the needs of the larger and more comprehensive libraries as well as those of a single industry.

Paper Preserving Processes

By Amos Weston, Production Manager, Christian Science Monitor

That the files of newspapers and many magazines printed today will have but a comparatively short existence, because of the nature of much of the paper as now manufactured, is a striking fact with which we are confronted. An increasing recognition of this condition, fortunately, has been to stimulate a search for a method of preserving the priceless records of this most progressive and most interesting generation.
While prolonged efforts have been made to find new and suitable materials from which to make paper, in order to help to save our fast disappearing forests, there seems to have been but little effort to find a paper preservative. Our Federal Government has issued a few small pamphlets on this feature of the paper situation which discuss the preserving problem, but nothing that meets the need has been offered.

Private enterprise has been active in a few instances for a number of years, and now there are at least three methods available for treating any kind of paper. In 1914, Mr. H. M. Lydenberg, Reference Librarian of the New York Public Library, began experimenting with chemical compounds, varnishes, etc., but none of these proved satisfactory. Finally a method was developed known as the Japanese tissue process. A specially made tissue paper, thin, tough and quite transparent is pasted on both sides of the paper to be preserved. This excludes the air, holds the paper together and adds greatly to the wearing quality. Old, brittle, worn and torn leaves are very successfully held together and made serviceable for indefinite use by this process.

Legibility is of necessity considerably reduced in reading through the tissue paper, but if the page is properly printed the smallest type of the daily newspaper is quite legible, and cuts retain their essential values.

The process of applying the tissue is much like preparing the matrix paper for use in stereotyping. Paste is applied to the paper to be covered, and the tissue covering is drawn carefully over this by means of a sliding frame. The tissue is then pressed down by rubbing the hands across it. After pasting, the paper is hung on racks to dry. In drying, the pasted paper wrinkles somewhat, and it is put into an ordinary book press to remove the wrinkles. To give the paper a smooth finish and also to reduce somewhat the thickness which the tissue and paste have added, it is then run between heated iron rollers, similar to the drying rollers on a paper-making machine. The paste used is made of rice flour, to which is added liquid dextrine.

Books treated by this method are necessarily taken apart and the tissue pasted on the leaves. This increases the thickness of the book so that in rebinding a larger cover is required. The cost of covering one page of an ordinary size newspaper is about four cents. Much credit is due the authorities of the New York Public Library for their persistent efforts in developing a practical paper preservative.

A process similar to the Japanese tissue paper is one that makes use of a thin, transparent silk cloth for the covering. This method is used mostly to preserve valuable legal papers, letters, etc., and is quite expensive.

Another simpler and less expensive method of paper preserving, which has been developed by Mr. John A. Seaverns, a well known Boston chemist, is a process of treating the paper with a chemical solution. In 1892-1893, Mr. Seaverns first used a lacquer to preserve ancient manuscripts in the Department of Egyptology of the American Museum of Natural History of New York. This lacquer is a solution of cotton in amyl acetate, to which has been added a vegetable gum to give strength and flexibility. It will be noted that the cotton is similar in its makeup to the substance of Japanese tissue paper, therefore it has, doubtless, similar preserving qualities. There is nothing in this solution that will react chemically upon anything used in the manufacture of paper. It fills the pores and leaves a surface film that protects and toughens the paper.

Where blue ink is used, as in the illustrated sections of some newspapers, this compound will start the color somewhat in the darker cuts, though if care is used in immersing and removing the paper from the liquid the running of the color will not be serious.

The operation and equipment for applying the lacquer are very simple. A table, a shallow tray somewhat larger than the sheet to be treated, some strung wires and clothespins complete the equipment. The preserving liquid is poured into the pan and the paper to be treated is immersed in the liquid and allowed to remain a few minutes, or until no air bubbles appear. The paper is then taken from the pan and hung up to dry. It dries in a few minutes, and then may be taken down for filing or binding. The paper does not wrinkle through being immersed in the liquid, legibility is not impaired and but a slight change is made in the appearance of the paper.

The liquid should be used where there is no danger from fire, as it is quite inflammable, though, according to Boston underwriters the paper is less flammable after treatment than before. It can be bought in any quan-
tity, and in ten-gallon lots costs $1.75 per gallon.

A number of severe tests of lacquer treated paper have been made with gratifying results. Long exposure to the sun, soaking in water and favorable tensile strength tests by the Mullen tester leave little but the element of time to be proved. A newspaper exposed to the sun behind glass for a week reduced its tensile strength but a trifle, though the paper became quite discolored. Paper immersed in water four days showed but little change in appearance, and the tensile strength was not greatly reduced.

It is but reasonable to conclude that this lacquer process strengthens paper, makes it more pliable and will multiply its years of endurance.

We think that the special librarians will enjoy meeting some of their friends and acquaintances in the above cut which shows the impression made upon Mr. Collier, a well known Boston cartoonist, at a meeting of the Extension Service Committee where the correct use of English was under consideration.
Recent Technical Bibliographies

Compiled by Raymond N. Brown, Engineering Society Library, New York

This list includes the more important bibliographies that have come to our notice during 1923. All entries have been made from the originals.

Aeronautics


Marcia B. Konstanzer. Automobile tires, 1903-1922. Ottawa, 1923. 5 p. 34 references with notes.

Alternating current measurement


Air photography

Canada Air Board. Selective bibliography on air photography generally. Ottawa, 1923. mimeo. 5 p. 34 references.

Andes—geography


Arc generators


Armature conductors


Arsenic


Automobile tires


Automobiles


Bauxite, India


Bolliers, superheaters and economizers


Brass


Briquetting


Building stones

Cables, Heating of

Cables, High voltage, underground

California—minerals

Canadian Pacific Railway

Casein

Carbon. Activated

Caucasus region, Geology

Celtium

Cement in sea water

Cement. Manufacture

Ceramics

Chemical literature

Chemicals. Manufacture

Chemistry. Bibliographies

Chemistry. Organic

City planning

Coal. Low temperature carbonisation of bituminous

Coal. Pulverized

Coal. Whatcom Co., Washington

Coal Industry

Colorado. Geology. Denver Basin
Colorado River

Combustion

Corrosion

Crystal structure data

Delaware and Hudson Company

Diesel engines

Dusts in air. Explosive

Electric drive
 Electricity in pulp and paper mills. In Paper Trade. Jl. 1923, v. 76, p. 50-3. This is a reading list of about 118 references arranged alphabetically.

Electric lamp, three electrode

Electric waves

Electricity on the farm—a bibliography

Engineering. Early

Engineering economics

Engineering. History

Engineering materials

Evaporators

Explosions. Oxygen-oil explosions

Feed water. Treatment

Fertilizer. Basic slags and rock phosphates

Floor tests. Hollow tile and reinforced concrete floor

Forests. New York
February, 1924

SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Freight handling. Container system
U. S. Library of Congress. List of references on the container system of freight handling. Wash. 1923. typed. 29 p. 21 references of recent date.

Fuel

Gaseous mixtures

Geological literature

Geology. Bibliographies

Georgia. Geology

Glass. Gases in

Glues. Fish

Gold. Arizona placers

Gold in South Bohemia

Granite. Economic geology

Graphite

Greenland. Geology

Gypsum

Hardness testing

Hearing

Helium

Highways

House heating by gas

Illumination
Iron alloys
Indiana. Geology
Industrial engineering
India. Geology
Iron and steel
Iron.
Iron and Steel. Strength
P. M. Atkins. A selected bibliography of industrial engineering and accounting. In Industrial Management. 1923. v. 65, p. 177-8. 83 references, all books, in English.
Iron alloys
Iron, Malleable cast iron
Iron and steel
E. H. McClelland. Review of iron and steel literature for 1922. In Blast Furnace and Steel Plant. 1923. v. 11, p. 7-11. About 120 items. The aim is to list all significant published works on the subject for 1922. This is the 11th annual review.
Iron and Steel. Strength
Irrigation projects. United States
Job analysis
Lighting and photometry
Lighting of public buildings
Liquid air
Lubricating oils-testing
Lumber industry
Luminescence
Ernest Merritt and others. Selected topics in the field of luminescence. National Research Council Bull. Mar. 1923. 126p. P. 79-126. Bibl. by J. A. Becker. 1890 references covering 1900-1922. The first 40 references are to books; the remainder are to journals and are grouped by years and alphabetically by authors within each year.
Magnesia cements
Magnesium
Magnetic measurements
Mammoth Cave, Kentucky
Manganese ore

51 references with descriptive notes.

Manganese silver ores


Measuring instruments

About 800 classified references, largely in German.

Mercury compounds, Organic

77 references.

Mercury ores

51 references arranged by country.

Metals. Crystallisation

157 references arranged by country.

Metals. Hardness

28 references.

Metals. Recrystallisation of non-ferrous

21 references.

Mica

87 references.

A general list on mica. About 75 references.

Molecules

163 references.

Molybdenum

163 references.

About 120 references on mining and metallurgy of molybdenum.

Nickel ores

51 references arranged by country.

Odors

84 references, mostly very recent.

Oil pumping

About 35 references, many in foreign languages.

Oil shale


Oil shale

Many hundreds of references arranged alphabetically by author. The bibliography begins with this sentence: "The following list includes practically all the important reports on oil shale published up to March 1, 1922."

Oil shale, Chemistry

51 references on the chemistry of oil shales.

Ore dressing and coal washing

About 225 classified references, mostly for 1922.

Oregon. Geology. John Day Region

W. R. Jillson. A bibliography of the geology and paleontology of the John Day region, Oregon. Frankfort, Ky. The Author. 1923. 130. 105 titles, arranged by author, complete to 1917.

(To be concluded in March issue.)
More Information Booth Work

Being the substance of a letter from Mrs. Jessie Woodford Lyman, of the Chicago Public Library, to Miss Rankin

Your article "The Information Booth at New York Silver Jubilee," interested me greatly for it brought so vividly to mind our experiences at the Patriotic Food Show, held at the Coliseum, December 1917-January 1918 and at the All American Exposition in September 1919.

At the Patriotic Food Show, the Illinois Food Administration, through its Library Publicity Committee with the co-operation of the United States Food Administration, the Chicago Library Club and the Chicago Public Library installed a library booth, and to demonstrate the practical usefulness of a library included an information section which through its efficient working, on the third day of its existence became the official information booth of the show, upon the request of the director, and took over the work of the booth erected by the exposition officers transferring it to the library booth. At the "All American Exposition" owing to the success mentioned above, original plans called for a similar service in the Library Section. The Chicago Public Library was the responsible party in this instance and asked the co-operation of the other large libraries of the city.

At the Food Show the information booth contained a card file of all exhibitors, exhibits, and subjects of exhibits with card bulletins of daily events, bulletin boards containing programs, press notices of coming and past events and general information. Typewriter service was always available with volunteer operators. Reference books, directories, city guides, dictionary, document files on subjects of food show, etc. were shelved for reference use, additional material and information were supplied at call from the Public Library or other large libraries. Two people were always on duty from 9 A.M. to 10 P.M. and usually four or five from various libraries. Regular reference work and information bureau work were combined and so successful had been the experiment that the booth received a personal word of appreciation and thanks from the director of the Food Show.

This experiment showed the opportunity, and when it was again presented, the short-comings and needs of the first were kept in mind and corrected as far as possible. At the All American Exposition, in addition to the card index of exhibitors, booths, subjects contained, meetings, organizations, and events, a telephone was installed, additional reference books were on file, but the general plan was the same and attendants from all libraries were under the general supervision of three heads one of whom was always on duty. Having the various libraries represented kept up the spirit and added breadth and zest to the work. Again success of a high order crowned our efforts.

I believe with you, and very strongly and earnestly, that in expositions, fairs, conventions and all similar gatherings the library has a great opportunity for advertising its usefulness to the community and especially so if it shows this through a practical information bureau in the setting of a little library, giving opportunity for a bit of work with children, recreational reading, resting, meetings for a limited number of persons. A typewriter is a valuable addition for it not only writes notices, letters etc., but is ready for demands from exhibitors and so adds to the spirit of co-operation which is the basis of a successful exposition.

As a member of the Illinois Food Administration, Library Publicity Committee I happened to be one of the active "promoters" of the Food Show Library Booth, and had full charge of all plans for the booth at the All American Exposition.

References to exhibits and library information service carried on in them, appear in:

Library Journal, March, 1918, p. 180-1
The Library’s part in the 1st. food exhibit by O. E. Norman. Picture opposite p. 176.

U.S.—Food Administration.
Food news notes for public libraries no. 5. p. 20-1.

How a little booth helped a big movement.

Special Libraries, October, 1923.
Miss Rankin’s article.
The association has a number of applications for positions on file, showing that there is a real demand among its members for service of this nature. The trouble is that, without considerable more organization, we are not in a position to develop satisfactory service. What we should have is some organization to reach the employer and to keep a careful record of the applicants, with someone in charge who can select with discrimination in each case. Then, having the means at hand, the service should be widely advertised to the possible employer.

Meanwhile the Boston S.L.A. has done a good deal locally and is in a position to help those interested in openings in its territory. Mr. Howard L. Stebbins, librarian of the Social Law Library, Court House, Boston 9, Mass., will be glad to give any information or assistance he can.

One of our members writes: "I feel very hesitant in sending these for I do not like to have the other Federal Reserve Librarians feel that I am pushing our library into the foreground too much, when theirs are just as deserving of notice, or more so."

We agree with her entirely, but if others of our members do not let us know what they are doing, it is hardly possible to keep those who do, out of the lime light, and we are certainly most grateful for all they will send us and will use all of it we can.

Trade Catalog Committee

A study is now being made by a special committee of the Special Libraries Association of the United States, pertaining to trade catalogs, and information is desired as to what firms in this country keep historical collection of trade catalogs. Information regarding this subject would be gratefully received by Lewis A. Armistead, Librarian, Boston Elevated Railway, 31 St. James Avenue, Room 711, Boston 17, Mass.

Technology Group

The chairman sends circular letters from time to time with the expectation of having reports on sources of information on different subjects. He hopes that these reports will together form the beginning of a loose leaf handbook for reference workers. Such handbook need not at first be in form, or on printed sheets, but typewritten or mimeographed,—in other words, tentative, until the experiment has been sufficiently tried out and the market promised for printed sheets.

If any members of the association would like to join this group, the chairman would be glad to hear from them.
Associations

A.L.A. Mid-Winter Meetings

The usual meetings were held in Chicago from December 21 to January 2. Saratoga Springs was selected for the 1924 annual meeting, the Grand Union Hotel to be headquarters.

Other decisions of the board included the vote to solicit funds among the A.L.A. membership for the University of Louvain, which is being restored as a war memorial to Belgium; and the instructions given the Committee on Salaries, Insurance and Retirement Annuities to investigate schemes of group insurance, retirement allowances and pensions, with a view to making recommendations for a general scheme for library use.

Plans for a training school to be conducted at the American Library in Paris, under the supervision of Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, received formal approval of the board, when it accepted a grant of $50,000 from the American Committee for Work in Devastated France.

Council

One of the proposals which brought out animated discussion in the Council meetings was that for a bill for a Bureau of Libraries, to be created within the new Department of Education, should this department be established. The proposed bill was submitted for discussion by J. I. Wyer, chairman of the Committee on Federal and State Relations. It describes the function of the bureau as being the promotion of library progress through research, surveys, and publications relating to libraries of all kinds, and library conditions, problems and opportunities, and the diffusion of such data in such a way as shall help toward a more efficient library system in the United States, co-operating in all this with the Library of Congress and with other library and bibliographic agencies of the government. Provision is made for a Commissioner of Libraries with full power to initiate and carry on the work of the bureau, and appropriations are authorized.

The council voted to endorse the Bureau of Libraries as a project for future legislation and that the matter be referred back to the committee with recommendation that it study the question of the proper articulation of the bureau with the department and refer back at some future time.

During the discussion there was again brought forward the proposal initiated and fostered by Miss Edith Guerrier of the Boston Public Library for the establishment of a National Library Information Service within the present Bureau of Education. This plan has received the endorsement of the American Library Association more than once and was actually undertaken by the Bureau of Education for a short time, proving of real interest and value to librarians. When funds for its continuance lapsed, the Boston Public Library, for perhaps a year, carried on the work of circulating a Government News Bulletin with a current document service, thus demonstrating the value of such a service. Bills providing for the establishment, with ample appropriations, of such a service have been before Congress for years, and have made progress but have encountered obstacles. These bills have had the approval of the A.L.A. It was stated at the recent meetings that the obstacles seem to have been overcome and the bills will probably come before the present session of Congress with a good chance of passage. When President Coolidge was Governor of Massachusetts he expressed his approval of the plan.

A resolution recommending biennial instead of annual conferences, with regional meetings on alternate years, was introduced. It was voted that the president appoint a special committee to ascertain the sentiment of the association and to draw up the arguments for and against changing the Constitution to provide for this. A show of hands of those present was: eighty-four for biennial, fourteen for annual, and fourteen not voting.

A resolution was adopted approving the Classification Act of 1923, but urging that the professional status of librarians be recognized in remuneration rates as well as in titles; that the dividing line between professional and sub-professional grades should be so drawn as not to exclude an undue proportion of trained library workers from full professional status; that certain persons be re-allocated to appropriate professional and sub-professional grades, that in making allocations due weight should be given to specialized types of library work along reference, research and bibliographical lines and that the A.L.A., without committing itself on all points covered, commends the report of the Reclassification Committee of Government Libraries of the District of Columbia, as being the best information available. The Executive Board was authorized to give the support of the A.L.A. to the District of Columbia Library Associa-
tion as these matters come before the committees of Congress.

A plan for making libraries the principal agencies for the distribution of educational motion pictures and centers of information about entertainment and industrial films conceived by Ben Howe of New York City was presented to the Council. The plan contemplates the selecting and cataloging of all films as well as the establishment by the A.L.A. of storage facilities, printing laboratories and regional distributing centers. The plan was referred to the Executive Board with power to appoint a committee if it sees fit.

In connection with the recent appointment in one of the Middle Western states, of a librarian, without previous experience or training, the Council was urged to authorize a committee of the A.L.A. to investigate appointments of state librarians and library commission members for political reasons and regardless of professional qualifications, and it was so voted.

The discussion of library training which followed will be taken up in a paper which we hope to publish in our next number.

A number of affiliated societies held their meetings at this time.

**Boston**

The Boston Association again offers a course open to its members and others interested at the rate of $8 for twelve lessons. The teacher this year is Mrs. Ruth M. Lane, Vail Librarian of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and secretary of the local association. Registration is open now and it is hoped to settle upon a night which will be convenient for all who wish to take the course which is planned to begin early in February. The general outline, subject to modification, is as follows:

1. Development of the special library.
2. Material, its acquisition and arrangement.
3-4. Classification, D.C. & L.C.
5-7. Cataloging.
8. Periodicals and government documents.
9-10. Reference, general and special.
12. Special problems, library values.

**Los Angeles**

The January meeting was held in the Pig'n' Whistle with an informal dinner. Professor Albert W. Olmstead, director of extension for the University of Southern California, spoke on "Democracy—Historical and Hysterical."

The regular business meeting followed.

Recent members of the association include Miss Cora Hatch, who has charge of the Munk Library of Arizona Literature in the Southwest Museum. The Museum was founded by Charles Lummis, former city librarian of Los Angeles, and a group of philanthropists. Other new members are Miss Elizabeth H. Burroughs, librarian of the Union Oil Company, Wilmington; Miss Helen S. Pavey and Miss Annette Raynard of the Cinema Research Bureau, and Mrs. Lucie T. Edwards, librarian of the San Diego Medical Library.

The association's committee on a union list of serials, under Miss Blanche McKown, principal of the periodical department of the Public Library, is preparing a comprehensive list of serials in the larger libraries of Southern California.

**New York**

The New York Special Libraries Association held one of its most interesting meetings on Tuesday, January 15, 1924, at the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York. The special librarians realized the treat in store for them and one hundred and fifty accepted the cordial invitation. We were received by Miss Loeber, the librarian, and Mr. Gwynn, the secretary, in the Great Hall of the Chamber. The speeches following dinner were by Mr. Frederick H. Ecker, vice-president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Chamber, who explained the advantages of the new Mellon Tax plan and Mr. Irving T. Bush, president of the Chamber. Mr. Bush spoke on conditions in Russia, economic, political and religious. His analysis of the causes for failure of the Communist Government, his sympathetic view of conditions, and his intelligent grasp of the entire situation in Russia gave us a picture that cannot be obtained from the reading of contradictory newspaper reports.

A number of interesting announcements were made. Most important was that of the establishment of a national financial library.

**Philadelphia**

The January meeting of the Special Libraries Council of Philadelphia and Vicinity was held on Friday, the eleventh.

The meeting in the form of a round table,
led by Miss Louise Keller, was devoted to a discussion of the various points in the Preliminary Report of the S.L.A. Methods Committee.

It was agreed that the Council ought to assist to the utmost in the study of the findings of the Methods Committee, and to this end, the Council was authorized to form as large a local committee as possible to do intensive work along lines presented by the S.L.A. Committee.

Pittsburgh

The December meeting was a social one, and was held in the library of the Carnegie Institute of Technology. Our president, Mrs. Wappat, was hostess. Miss Frances Kelley, the speaker of the evening, told of the American Library in Paris, and of various other French libraries with which she is familiar. Following the talk, Miss Fawcett took the members to see her architectural library, which is a very interesting collection. A decidedly Christmas spirit pervaded the meeting due to the big open fire place, the candles and other decorations, and the illuminated Christmas tree. Refreshments were served.

The meeting of January 17th was held in the library of the Bureau of Mines. The progress on the annotated list of membership was called for, but Miss Stateler, in charge of this work, was not present. All commented on the importance of getting this out at once; Miss Callan of the Membership Committee, offered to help, as her membership work is held up until the list is ready.

Miss Lynch of the Academy of Medicine stated that work on the union periodical list will be begun in February.

Miss Macrum read a draft of a letter to be sent to a selected list of business concerns, explaining our association and the benefit they will derive from membership. Free blocks of a shorter notice will be put in a number of local publications at once.

The meeting adjourned to attend an open meeting of the Pittsburgh Division of the American Chemical Society which was being held in the same building, and which had a program of interest to special libraries. The head of the Department of Health of the city explained his problems; the head of the Filtration Bureau discussed pure water and how to get it; the Food Inspection man gave amusing and instructive examples of food adulteration; the representative of the Bureau of Smoke prevention discussed his work, and an engineer representing a large engineering firm in town, discussed modern methods of sewage disposal.

News from the Field

The Republican County Committee of New York County on January 1, established a political research bureau, at 115 Nassau Street. The general control is vested in a committee made up of Ogden L. Mills, Chairman; Charles D. Hilles, Treasurer; Mrs. Ogden M. Reid, Mrs. John T. Pratt, Miss Sarah Schuyler Butler, Winthrop Aldrich, Samuel McCune Lindsay and Nathaniel A. Elsberg.

The actual work will be in charge of T. David Zuckerman, a graduate of Columbia, and a specialist in political research work. The bureau is to be in no sense devoted to propaganda, its work being unbiased and non-partisan. Its duty will be to investigate, to gather data and facts and to make available for the use of the Republican Party its conclusions on such investigations.

The Newark, N.J. Chamber of Commerce has established a bureau of research under the administration of John B. Blandford.

The formal opening of the Providence Public Library Business Branch in the Chamber of Commerce, took place on Friday, January eleventh.

The Western Statistical Association has been recently organized in Los Angeles, to provide a forum for statistical workers and research people in the Pacific Southwest.

The California Bank and the Bank of Italy, both of Los Angeles, have organized libraries within the past few months. Margaret Morrison is librarian of the former and Estella A. Brooks of the latter.

The Southwestern University in Los Angeles, moved into its new building in January. The new quarters provide ample facilities for the professional libraries of law, commerce and economics, as well as executive offices.

With the re-opening of Hollywood's movie industry, the studio libraries again take on signs of increased activity. There are libraries at Thomas Ince, Universal Film, Hal Roach, Metro, and Lasky and Famous Players organizations.
SPECIAL LIBRARIES

February, 1924

Personal

Suda L. Bane, of the American Relief Administration under Secretary Hoover, is soon to be transferred with her work to Stanford University.

Margaret R. Bonnell, of the Federal Reserve Bank Library, New York, has resigned to accept a position with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Library.

Estella A. Brooks has been appointed librarian of the Bank of Italy in Los Angeles.

Helen Carleton, Simmons 1914, has become librarian of the Borden Company, New York.

Josephine B. Carson, former librarian of the Pennsylvania Compensation Rating and Inspection Bureau, has accepted a position in the library of the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Edith R. Daly, librarian of the National Council of Workmen's Compensation Bureau, has resigned to work with the Information Department of the Pennsylvania Hotel, New York.

Ruth Delaney, Los Angeles 1923, has been appointed librarian of the General Petroleum Company, Los Angeles.

Grace B. Dixon is doing research and library work for the California Gas Research Council in Los Angeles.

Charlotte Ford, Simmons 1918, has resigned her position with the Goldwyn Picture Corporation and is spending the winter in California.

Cora Hatch, of the Southwest Museum, has recently joined the Southern California S.L.A. She has charge of the Munk Library of Arizona literature, in the Museum.

Eleanor E. Hegeman, Pratt 1905, formerly of the Public Health Service in Washington, has become assistant librarian of the Engineering School of the Army.

Sigrid C. Holt, N.Y.P.L. 1916-17, formerly with the National Health Library, has been appointed librarian of the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association, New York.


Genevieve Kelly, Los Angeles 1918, has resigned her position in the Children's Bureau at Washington to become librarian and research assistant in the Scripps Foundation for Research in Population Problems at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

Cora Love has been appointed librarian of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, Los Angeles.

Guy E. Murray, former president of the association and now president of the Southern California S.L.A., is preparing statistical and historical data on harbor facilities and export trends for the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce of which he is Research Director.

Mary S. Marsh succeeds Mrs. Mary K. Black as librarian of the Atlantic Refining Company, Philadelphia.

L. M. Maynard recently resigned as manager of the Economic Research Department of the Citizen's National Bank to become associated with the National City Bank of Los Angeles.

Anna A. McDonald, for fifteen years consulting librarian of the Pennsylvania Library Commission, has been appointed state librarian of Pennsylvania. Miss McDonald, a Pratt graduate, has had twenty-seven years experience in library work.

Margaret Morrison has been appointed librarian of the California Bank, Los Angeles.

Ralph L. Power has given nearly fifty radio educational lectures during the past year from the Los Angeles Examiner station. The talks included several on opportunities for training to become librarians, museum curators and teachers.

Annette M. Reynaud, N.Y.P.L. 1914-15, has been appointed assistant scenario editor and research assistant, Thomas Ince Studios, Culver City, California.

David T. Zukerman, formerly of the Bureau of Municipal Research, is now director of the Political Research Bureau, New York.
Things in Print

Federal Library Service Specifications
The District of Columbia Library Association has published a ninety-four-page pamphlet entitled "Specifications for Library Service in the Federal Government" which describes in detail the qualifications, duties, and responsibilities of the great variety of library positions in the government. Publication was made possible through the co-operation of about seventy public libraries which placed advance orders for the report.

The specifications were prepared at the request of the chairman of the Federal Personnel Classification Board to aid that body in the allocation of librarians to the salary grades established by the Classification Act of 1923. The compilation was done by a special Government Librarians Reclassification Committee. This committee was responsible to government librarians as a group and its specifications were adopted by formal vote at a meeting held in November. The report then received the official sanction of the Executive Committee of the D.C.L.A.

The membership of the committee was as follows: Miles O. Price, Chairman, Claribel R. Bainett, Clara W. Herbert; Mary G. Lacy, Charles H. Hastings, Frederick W. Ashley, H. H. B. Meyer, George F. Bowerman, Helen C. Gilliman, Anne G. Cross, Alice C. Atwood, and Ola M. Wyeth.

The report contains: detailed specifications (with chart) for each type of position in the sub-professional and professional library services; a general brief in support of the specifications and short sub-briefs covering particular branches of library work; a suggested plan for grading government librarians in accordance with a scale of points; and a summary of the educational qualifications and experience of one hundred and twenty librarians in the government service.

The report was printed in haste in order to have copies for the consideration of the American Library Association Mid-Winter meeting and this resulted in some typographical errors.

Copies, while they last, may be obtained from Miss Mary P. Carpenter, Library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., at $1.00 per copy.

The Library Journal for January 1, 1924 contains Miss Mudge's "Reference Books of 1923." Like Miss Mudge's earlier contributions, this is a comprehensive and ably presented study of the outstanding reference books of the year. It will form the second supplement to the "New Guide to Reference Books."

"Convention Dates of National and Trade Associations; dates and places of meeting of conventions to be held . . . arranged alphabetically and by months. Issued January 1, 1924, by the . . . Chamber of Commerce of the United States, Washington, D.C." A forty-four page pamphlet will prove invaluable as an address list which is strictly up-to-date, for over five hundred associations.

"A Survey of City and Regional Planning in the United States" by Miss Theodora Kimball, of the Harvard School of Landscape Architecture. This comprehensive and well-written article in Landscape Architecture for January 1924 has a list of Plan Reports 1922-1923 appended to it.

In the Municipal Reference Library Notes published by the New York Municipal Reference Library, there is each month a list of New York City publications. This is not elsewhere available. It serves admirably as a checklist for libraries interested in civic affairs.

The Wilson Bulletin for January has as its leading article "A Vertical File in Every Library" by Delia G. Ovitz and Zana K. Miller which is worthy of a careful reading. It contains substantial argument for the filing of periodicals in vertical files instead of binding.

The Monthly Circular of New Publications of H.M. Stationery Office has a convenient thumb index at the corner carrying the titles: "For the Statistician," "For the Scientist," "For the Trader" and "Miscellaneous," which suggest a convenient up-to-date method of keeping track of current publications of the British Government.

The Chicago Trust Company has issued a very attractive historical sketch of its bank, a small number of copies of which have been reserved for distribution to libraries.

Incidents in its history have been used to illustrate the circumstances under which trust
company banking has attained its present popularity, especially the effects of expansion in corporate industry since 1900.

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company issues each month a multigraphed list of additions to its library. There are some three pages classified under such headings as "Public Utilities, Labor, Agricultural, Industrial and Commercial Activities," etc.


The Company has a business library of several hundred books, "but nary a shelf to keep them on. No bookcases are needed because the books are in constant circulation among employees in nine southern states." The library had its beginning a dozen years ago under the direction of Kendall Weisiger, educational director of the company.

The Municipal Reference Library of Chicago has tabulated from the 1920 "Census of Occupations," information bearing upon the number of librarians and librarians' assistants and attendants in the United States, and in cities of the United States having a population of three hundred thousand or more, according to number, sex, age, color or race, nativity and parentage. A copy of these tables is in the hands of your secretary who will gladly lend it to anyone interested.

Those interested in book repairing will find Gaylord Brothers free pamphlet "Stretching the Library Dollar," of considerable value.

The First Wisconsin National Bank has a special edition of Hick's Almanac, to which Miss Reynolds has supplied half a dozen preliminary pages, a chronology of "Wisconsin Happenings in 1923."

In System for January there is a brief notice of the Methods Committee report which calls attention to the fact that it is valuable to both librarian and executive.


Library Logic, edited by Forrest B. Spaulding. A monthly house magazine, newspaper style, published by Gaylord Bros. on the syndicate plan. Each number will consist of four pages, illustrated, and will contain news of general interest concerning libraries and library work, for the busy man or woman who generally fails to realize the importance of a library in a community. This promises, judging from the first number, to be of more interest to public than to special libraries.