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SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Official Journal of the Special Libraries Association

VOLUME 17

March 1946

NUMBER 3

The Education of Medical Librarians
Estelle Bradman

Bibliography on Standards—Medical, Hospital and Nursing Libraries and
Librarians, 1925-1945
Alice M. Purington

The Bacon Library of the American Hospital Association
Helen V. Pruitt

Report of the Activities of the Biological Sciences Group of the
Southern California Chapter
Ella Meyers and Elaine Adams

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In Memoriam
Marion Kappes

Sept. 27, 1889 — Dec. 8, 1945.

The death of Marion Kappes, after a prolonged illness, has brought a distinct loss to her many friends in the library field and especially to those located in the Chicago area. Miss Kappes had a scholarly background as well as a gracious personality. She attended Wellesley College (1909-1910) and graduated from Northwestern University in 1913. In 1913-14 she studied in Germany and in 1920 in Switzerland. From 1914-1930 she taught Dalcroze eurythmics in California and music to the blind in New York City and Cleveland. During this period she also continued her studies at the University of Chicago and Western Reserve University, where she obtained her master's degree in psychology, and at Northwestern University, where she did graduate work.

Her career as a librarian included an initial period in the library of the American College of Surgeons (September 1930 — January 1931). She was the medical librarian at the Evanston Hospital from 1931-1933, and in 1935 went to the Children's Memorial Hospital where she developed the library which later became the Joseph Brennemann Medical Library, consisting of a very fine collection in the field of Pediatrics. In 1941 she extended her services to the medical library of the Women's and Children's Hospital of Chicago. She was a member of the Medical Library Association and of the Special Libraries Association. She was especially active in the latter organization in which she held the following appointments—for the Illinois Chapter: Member of Methods Committee, 1940-41, 1941-42; Member of Defense Committee, 1941-42; Member of War Activities Committee, 1942-43; Vice-President, 1943-44; Chairman, Biological Sciences Group, 1943-44; 1944-45; Chairman of Committee to edit *A List of Periodicals in the Special Libraries in the Chicago Area*, 1942-44, and in the National Special Libraries Association: Chairman of Biological Sciences Group, 1942-43; Chairman for distribution of the *Directory of the Biological Science Library in the Special Library Association*, 1942-43.

Miss Kappes was Secretary of the Medical Library Section of the Tri-State Hospital Assembly from 1941 until the time of her death. She was the author of several articles having to do with her professional work. These include the following:

Cooperation between hospital and medical libraries. *Bull. American College of Surgeons*, 26:217-218, June 1941.

Library on a war basis. *Hospitals*, 16:110-112, May 1942.

The hospital library mobilizes. *Hospital Management*, 54:20, August 1942.

Medical library goes co-operative. *Modern Hospital*, 58:57-58, June 1942.

A plan for a small hospital library. *Special Libraries*, 36:340-343, October 1945.

The Joseph Brennemann Library. *Journal of Pediatrics*, 27:84-86, July 1945.

As a medical librarian, Miss Kappes was most helpful to members of the medical profession with whom she came in contact, rendering research and editorial assistance and giving unstintingly of her time and effort. In this capacity and as a member of the two library associations, she exercised initiative and leadership, serving as an inspiration to all with whom she was associated, especially younger librarians.

This issue is dedicated to the memory of Marion Kappes.

THE EDUCATION OF MEDICAL LIBRARIANS

By ESTELLE BRODMAN

Reference Librarian, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University,
New York, N. Y.

THE traditional argument about the education of medical librarians¹ can be put in this form: "Should a medical librarian be a physician or should he be a trained librarian?" According to the figures of the U. S. Department of Commerce, the average net income of a physician in the United States in 1941 was about \$6,000.² Except for such large libraries as the Army Medical Library, the New York Academy of Medicine, the Boston Medical Library or the Osler Library, which can afford to pay their librarians adequate salaries, the remuneration offered medical librarians is certainly not large enough to lure many physicians from their practices. Although the large medical libraries mentioned above can, and probably do, pay their chief librarians more than \$6,000 per year, the average salary of American medical librarians in general unfortunately falls far below such a sum.

PHYSICIAN OR TRAINED LIBRARIAN?

The traditional question: physician or trained librarian, thus turns out to be an academic one. The more pragmatic question, instead, may be stated thus: With the salaries being offered librarians today, what can we expect of beginning medical librarians, and how shall we provide training for those medical librarians who are already installed in positions? But to answer this question we must go one step further back and ask what is the purpose

and the duty of the medical library to its users.

For many years librarians in charge of most medical collections, large and small, felt that their responsibility for their collections was purely a custodial one. The story of the nineteenth century college librarian who was stopped on the campus by the president of the college one day and asked, "Well, Mr. Smith, how is the library coming along?" and who answered, "Fine, Mr. President, all the books are in their places on the shelves except one, and I am on my way now to get it," could unfortunately be matched by many a medical librarian. Nor should we forget that it was the difficulty John Shaw Billings experienced in obtaining medical literature from the libraries of the Ohio Valley while writing his medical thesis that determined him to publish the *Index-catalogue of the Surgeon-General's Office*, when he was in a position to do so.

Few medical librarians today can be accused of having precisely this attitude. As a matter of fact, while there is perhaps more emphasis on getting a book back to the library after its allotted "circulation period" than is warranted, most medical librarians go to the opposite extreme and make a fetish of circulation figures. They point with pride whenever these show an increase and are alarmed when these decrease. Instead of being a vast museum of books, the modern medical library is too often thought of as a stockroom in which the librarian's job is to act as stock clerk. In such a set-up the borrower requests a book by name or call number, and the librarian secures it for

¹ For the purpose of this discussion, a medical librarian is anyone who works in a medical, pharmaceutical or nursing library on a professional level.

² Doctor's incomes rise sharply under wartime impetus. *Medical Economy*, 21:40-43, 170, Dec. 1943.

the borrower who takes it away with him. Here the entire transaction ends.

For libraries like these, librarians need no special training. The clerk of the chemistry department stockroom, one of the students working his way through school, or a bright high school student can master the intricacies of most of our medical libraries in a few hours, and can procure and reshelve books on request with little trouble. Trained librarians, i. e., college graduates with a library school degree, who are doing this clerical work are either lazy or ill-informed. In any case, they are being overpaid, and the vicious cycle of poor pay, inability to attract the best people as librarians, and, therefore, further poor pay, has been strengthened.

The modern ideal, and one to which more and more medical libraries are coming, is that clerical work should be left to clerical workers, and that trained librarians should give professional service to library users. This professional service consists of choosing the books and periodicals which make up the collection with intelligence and an understanding of the problems involved; and of making available to the users the information contained in these books and journals which have been collected and cataloged and prepared with such care and expense. Just as the physician is the specialist in the knowledge of his field, so the medical librarian should be the specialist in the field of bibliography—in finding the fact that is wanted in the tremendous cascade of information which pours from our modern presses every day.

If we say, then, that the duty of the medical librarian today is to build up a well-rounded collection of medical literature for the users of the library, and to know the literature of the field so well that he can find his way around in it with ease and dispatch, we can then begin to answer our original question: What should be the training of medical librarians before they enter the field, and how shall that training be added to while on their job?

It is obvious that the most important prerequisite for a beginning medical librarian is a knowledge of the terminology and fundamental principles of the biological sciences. Mr. Ballard of the Boston Medical Library has called for a "wide but superficial knowledge of the medical sciences."¹ This knowledge cannot be gained at the library school; instead, library schools should attempt to attract more students who have done their college work in zoology, bacteriology, chemistry, physiology, comparative anatomy and the like.² It is easier to pick up a knowledge of French history or of philosophy after one is out of college than it is to study histology by oneself. If the prospective librarian does not know the kind of library in which she will work after graduation from library school, we can comfort her with the knowledge that she will have an easier time of it if she is trained in zoology and enters a teacher's college library, than if she were trained as an elementary school teacher and entered a zoology library.

LIBRARY SCHOOL CANNOT GIVE COURSES IN MEDICINE

The library school cannot and should not attempt to give a knowledge of the subject fields of medicine. But it should presuppose some knowledge of the basic facts of modern science, and concentrate on that part of science which is not usually taught to undergraduate science students and which is properly the province of the library school; namely, a knowledge of the indexes, bibliographies, catalogs and histories of the fields of science. As an example, the library school should not be expected to teach the theory of inorganic chemistry, but it should make its students aware of the information contained in *Chemical Abstracts*, *Chemisches Zentralblatt*, the chemical section of the *Internation-*

¹ Ballard, James F. "Training for medical librarianship," *Bulletin, Medical Library Association*, 14:30-31, 1925.

² If they do this, they will automatically secure students who can handle scientific French and German with some degree of ease.

tional Catalogue of Scientific Literature, etc. How to diagnose typhoid fever is no concern of the teaching of the library school, but the ability to find out how to diagnose it through the use of standard treatises on the subject, the *Index-Catalogue of the Surgeon-General's Office* and the *Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus*, should be a concern of the library school teaching. The old saw that a librarian never knows anything, but always knows where to find information about a subject should be pondered. The librarian needs to understand only enough of the subject matter to know where to look to find the information she is seeking.

Until recently, the only way the library school student could obtain this information was from casual mention of these indexes in the classroom, or from actual work with them on the job. About six years ago, however, the School of Library Service at Columbia University began to give a summer course on Reference Work and Bibliography in the Medical Sciences under Mr. Thomas P. Fleming, the Medical Librarian. This course attempted to give the student an idea of the literature of some of the sciences underlying medicine; and particularly to introduce the student to the keys to the literature, the indexes, reviews and bibliographies in the field. Later, Mr. Fleming broadened the course to include other aspects of medical library work. Now, under the present writer, the course is being given as one on Medical Library Administration including such topics as medical classification and cataloging, the relationship of the medical library to the hospital, rare books, etc., although fully half of the course is still devoted to medical literature. It is hoped that this course, or one very similar to it, will be given to the first year students during the regular winter or spring semesters of the Library School. Individuals entering the medical library field should have the knowledge presented in this course, and library schools are the logical places to acquire that knowledge.

To recapitulate, then, we have said that the medical librarian should have a knowledge of the basic sciences, which she is to acquire during her college days, and a knowledge of the indexes to and bibliographies of scientific literature, which she is to get in library school through some such course as the one given at Columbia. The next question is how shall this new medical librarian add to her stock of knowledge on her job?

There is no doubt that a tremendous amount will be learned by the librarian merely by using the tools which she has studied in library school. An internship of from three to six months in a well-run, large medical library immediately after library school would undoubtedly pay dividends to all concerned. Actually, I believe it is only a matter of time before large universities with good medical libraries will be offering short internships or fellowships or scholarships to outstanding library school graduates who are entering the medical field. Room and board in one of the dormitories run by the college and a small monthly stipend would be accepted by most beginners as part of their education.

EXCHANGESHIPS

For those who have been longer in their positions, there should be some method of exchangeships, whereby librarians from one library might spend six months or a year at another library. This has been done to a certain degree in the past, but not nearly as much as the advantages gained by all concerned would lead one to expect. Any librarian who remains in the same library for any extended period tends to become ingrown. To see other problems, or how similar problems are handled by other people, is one of the best prophylactics the profession has against getting into a rut.

The usefulness of membership in library organizations and attending meetings, such as those held by the Medical Library Association or the Special Libraries Association, and of reading the pro-

fessional literature is so well known that it will only be mentioned here. Any medical librarian who is interested in her work will do these things anyway, and for those who are uninterested, it is a waste of time to discuss the matter.

Nowhere, thus far, have we mentioned formal education after library school. For the medical librarian this education is more valuable in the scientific fields than in the library school fields. But a master's degree or a doctorate in a scientific field will take more time than most medical librarians can afford to give. Since at present the PhD. is not a prerequisite for a high library position, I am going to side step the issue.

The problem of the continuing education of the medical librarian is not purely a personal one, however. A chief librarian must actively encourage the further education of his staff, and give personal example of not having stopped learning the day he left school, or his staff will sink to a level of intelligent clerkship. Not much is required of the chief: a willingness to schedule work so that further study is possible, the realization that reading professional literature on the job is not a waste of time, and the occasional discussion of some point agitating modern medical librarianship is all that is necessary. The rest is up to the individual.

HOW THE MEDICAL LIBRARIAN CAN CONTINUE TO GROW

The final and most important way in

which the medical librarian can continue to grow, it seems to me, is by working on some problem connected with her work, no matter how small, and publishing her conclusions. Is the problem of duplicates a bothersome one? The librarian should read the literature of duplicates, compare what various medical libraries do about the problem, formulate her conclusions and then present the matter at a staff meeting, a meeting of the Medical Library Association, one of the Groups of the Special Libraries Association, or at an informal get-together of librarians anywhere. Has no one ever worked out exactly what the four series of the *Index-Catalogue* contain? Why not a medical librarian? How should one purchase material in a new field—e. g., psychosomatic medicine? Why shouldn't a librarian prepare a bibliography of the most important materials to purchase in that field? Or is the librarian interested in the history of her specialty? Then why not study the costs of certain rare books in the last 50 years; the method of identifying the important ether controversy pamphlets, or the history of the practice of medicine in some community in the past 50 years? The problems need not be so long that they require many years and much extra time and energy to solve. They should be real problems and there should be some conclusions drawn from them. Beyond that, there are no limits.

*"I love vast libraries; yet there is a doubt,
If one be better with them or without
Unless he uses them wisely, and, indeed,
Knows the high art of what and how to read."*

—JOHN SAXE (1816-1887)

BIBLIOGRAPHY ON STANDARDS—MEDICAL, HOSPITAL AND NURSING LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS, 1925-1945

By ALICE M. PURINGTON

Librarian, N. Y. Orthopedic Dispensary and Hospital, New York, N. Y.

THIS annotated list of articles on standards for libraries and librarians of the medical, hospital, nursing, dental and public health fields does not include any material that would be covered by the work of the other S. L. A. Groups on Standards. Hospital libraries in this paper means only medical and nursing libraries, not patients. Only a very few articles are included which describe a given library and then only when they give a more complete picture of the ideal; likewise, only a few articles are included on special libraries and special librarians as a whole.

While there are many references and those on libraries are specific and detailed as to content, location and administration, the standards for the librarian are not well defined. The American Medical Association and the American College of Surgeons state in the minimum standards that a "qualified" librarian be in charge. The National League of Nursing Education requires a "trained" librarian. These two words are not explained.

In searching through the literature all the indexes published in English, including the *Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus*, *Reader's Guide*, *International Index*, *Library Literature* and *Public Affairs Information Service* were checked. A great many of the articles read were not used because they did not specify standards.

I feel that while we have accomplished a great deal in raising the standards of the libraries in these fields we have not as yet done much for the status of the

librarian. It is still the practice in some libraries to put in an available person already in the institution, a former secretary, record librarian, supervisor or someone "who likes books." While these people often do a good job, they could do a much better one if they also had technical library training, subject knowledge and the other attributes of high intelligence, scholarship, initiative and leadership which make for an outstanding person in any of the professions, librarianship included. Since there is such a tremendous opportunity for such people, we ought to attempt to bring forth a standard for librarians to match that set for libraries.

GENERAL

Alexander, M. L. Undeveloped opportunities for special librarians. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 31: 183-192, July-August 1940.

Proper salary range for certain types of work. Information on cost of organization and operating a library should be available, also standardized subject headings and how to measure reference use of library.

Brunn, Stella M. The library—a valued asset. *American Journal of Nursing* 45:835-837, October 1945.

The nursing library is now a contributing factor in turning out a nurse well versed in science and culture. This article includes a job analysis of the librarian—a college degree and one year of specialized library service required. The position is comparable to a supervisor in nursing service.

Fair, Ethel M. Professional training for special librarians: report of progress of the Committee on Curriculum Revision, Association of American Library Schools. *Special Libraries Association, Proceedings* 2:5-7, 1939.

Qualifications, internship, job analysis, common denominator for all good library service and where it branches for special libraries,

importance of subject knowledge, demand for qualified librarians.

Fuller, F. Need for a "united front"; notes on professional standards and salaries. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 30:45-48, February 1939.

(1) Chart for positions; (2) educational, personal qualifications; (3) duties in library job; (4) salary.

Hering, H. W. The research library and the research librarian. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 22:7-8,11, January 1931.

Four characteristics are given that must be looked for in an ideal research librarian.

Howe, Harriet E. Library school and the special library. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 24:107-111, June 1933.

Student begins in college to specialize; continues in library school with special emphasis on own field but hears others discussed. Advanced courses in field of knowledge desirable following library school year. Describes one year course at Denver.

Leonard, Ruth S. The recruitment and training of special librarians to fit the present and future needs of the special library profession in the United States, (Paper read at the 19th annual conference of the A.S.L.I.B. London, Dec. 9-10, 1944, reported in *Nature* 155:25-27, Jan. 6, 1945.)

Mayer, C. F. (Higher standards for the selection of staff members) *Bulletin Medical Library Association* 30:183-184, April 1941-42.

"Leadership in a librarian requires high intelligence, high scholarship, wide experience, as well as linguistic ability. Library schools should recognize this, they should be more rigorous in selecting their students, and they should exercise much more vocational guidance than at present is the case."

Morley, Linda H. What a job analysis would do for professional training and standards. *Special Libraries Association, Proceedings* 2:7-9, 1939.

Most important objective would be to discover what kind of curriculum and pre-vocational education is needed for special librarian. Need job analysis of activities and a classification of types of special libraries.

Postell, W. D. Is there a need for a certification program for the medical library profession? *Journal of the Association of American Medical Colleges* 16:385-386, November 1941.

The school, college and university librarians have standards which must be met. Why should not the medical library profession have a certification board appointed or sponsored by the Medical Library Association which would set up certain standards for members? The author does not suggest any standards but thinks there must be some common denominators which could be used in setting up standards for this highly specialized group.

Questions in education for librarianship. 10th Annual report of the Board of Education for Librarianship for 8 months ending March 3, 1934. *Bulletin American Library Association* 28:290-295, June 1934.

(1) More care in selecting personnel with proper qualifications; (2) nationwide study of needs of library profession; (3) training agencies spaced to prevent oversupply in one place; (4) determination of best pre-professional training for various types and levels of library work; (5) basic professional instruction for all librarians; (6) Clarification of objectives of advanced study; (7) Enough financial provision for institutions engaged in this training; (8) increased scholarships and fellowships for librarians; (9) wider adoption of certification and its enforcement.

Ridley, A. F. Suggestions on the training of special librarians. *Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux, Proceedings* 1929: 103-106; discussion 107-112.

Compares general library course and new subjects to be added to train special librarians in own field.

Ruth, S. DeC. Reading list on special library training. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 25:186-187, September 1934.

List on training program and bibliography.

Severance, H. O. Are the A.L.A. standards for librarianship too high? *Library Journal* 57:643-645, August 1932.

Scholarship necessary if librarians are to rank on equal basis with teachers; professors need a doctor's degree, librarians should have one. Staff members ranking with assistant or associate professors should be productive scholars. Must know bibliography of subject.

Thornton, J. L. *Special library methods: an introduction to special librarianship*. London, Grafton, 1940. chap. 3, pp.53-80.

Necessary to have a person with broad subject knowledge as well as skilled in librarianship to make library as useful as it should be. Values and standards, by a Kansas librarian. *Library Journal* 57:767, 1932.

Need standards but must study carefully before formulating.

Wyer, J. I. Training of the special librarian. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 23:339-344, September 1932.

People in the profession differ as to requirements but all agree that a year's training is necessary with special emphasis on own subject. Look forward to the time when chairs in library schools will be endowed by American Medical Association, American Bar Association and similar organizations. Speaks highly of the Rankin report (*SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 18:226-228, 1927).

Wilson, J. E. Professional librarianship among medical librarians. *Bulletin, Medical Library*

Association 31:42-48, January 1943.

Urges greater cooperation of medical librarians with library profession as a whole. Thinks library schools are raising standards of scholarship but must do more. The Medical Library Association has done much for libraries but little for librarians.

DENTAL LIBRARIES

Bowler, Inez. *An elementary manual of dental library practice*. Ann Arbor, Mich., University of Michigan press, 1932.

"... prepared ... with a view to aiding persons who are required to take charge of the library of a dental school and who have not had the opportunity to study in a library school."

Denton, G. B. Beginnings and growth of dental libraries. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 31:403-406, 436-439, November, December 1940.

First dental libraries at beginning of present century. Need trained librarians to insure growth and usefulness of dental libraries.

Gies, W. J. Need for improved library facilities in the interest of dental research. *Proceedings of the Dental Centenary Celebration, 1940* pp. 252-255.

In research original sources are important and all that is available on any given subject should be made available to the worker. Offers suggestions as to ways librarian can assist the research worker.

Weinberger, B. W. The Dental library, its past and present. *Journal of the American Dental Association* 14:1183-1189, July 1927.

Good article on what the dental libraries in dental schools and in a large medical library should aim for, including collection and use. Suggests a complete dental library and museum association international in character with a bibliography giving the location of all dental books, wherever located.

Hunt, Mrs. J. W. Foundations for a dental library. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 26:81-85, October 1937.

Books necessary for collection in dental library, especially of the Bio-Medical Libraries of the University of Chicago for their Dental Clinic (Walter G. Zoller Memorial). No material on other phases of dental libraries.

Radusch, D. F. Dental library and the faculty. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 25:125-130, September 1936.

Gives qualifications of library in a dental school for the teacher and student; the first to know what the library has, the second to read for themselves.

Robinson, J. B. Organization and administration of a special library from viewpoint of dental

use; abridged. *Special Library Association, Proceedings* 2:62-64, 1939.

Need reasonably complete collection of past and present literature and well qualified, trained personnel. Gives essential qualifications and training for librarian.

MEDICAL LIBRARIES

Adams, N. P. G. Medical libraries in approved hospitals for Negroes. *Journal, National Medical Association* 30:49-53, May 1938.

Must have libraries for these men; so far not available. Mentions American Medical Association requirements.

American College of Surgeons. *Manual of hospital standardization*. Chic., American College of Surgeons, 1943, pp. 71-72.

Minimum standard for the hospital medical library: content, housing, personnel, extension facilities, committee on the library. A hospital of a hundred beds should have a thousand volumes.

Babcock, Heath. The subject specialist. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 30:67-71, October 1941.

Need of subject specialization, especially in medicine and allied fields for the serious research worker.

Ballard, J. F. Presidential address. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 27:3-17, October 1938.

Library must have 500 volumes to be a member of the Association. Committee on library management, technics and methods.

Ballard, J. F. Training for medical librarianship. *Library Journal* 50:535-536, 1925; *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 15:30-31, 1925.

Need library training, plus languages, plus extensive but superficial knowledge of medicine and allied and collateral sciences.

Ballard, J. F. Information, reference and bibliographic service. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 17:18-27, July-September 1927.

There is a great need for a manual of medical library methods. Libraries must avoid duplication and cooperate with others. Bibliographical sources must be known.

Brinton, Margaret. Medical librarianship. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 14:28-39, 1924-1925.

Good article on qualifications for librarians and library. Stresses special training (six years). Professional status, proper pay and differentiation between professional and clerical workers. Mentions union lists, library manual and duties of medical librarian.

Brodman, Estelle. New York City Department of Health periodicals and serials published 1866-1939. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 31:23-29, 59-65, Jan-

uary, February 1940.

Complete list for checking, acquiring and cataloging with index of author and title and some subjects. Believes it necessary to have good subject knowledge for medicine, engineering and physics but salaries offered not adequate to interest those qualified.

Crowe, Mildred R. A medical society library in a public library. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 32:221-229, April 1944.

Recommendations "for establishing a medical library connected with a public library." Description of the Medical Section of the Chattanooga Public Library.

Cushing, Harvey. *The doctor and his books*. Cleveland 1925.

"The soul of an institution that has any pretense of learning comes to reside in its library . . . and no less well may one gauge the quality of a medical school, of a hospital, of a laboratory, of the individual doctor himself, than by the condition of its library." Given in an address at the opening of the new building of the Cleveland Medical Library in 1926.

Frankenberger, Charles. A suggested hospital medical library. *Bulletin, American College Surgeons* 16:30-44, June 1932.

"Suggestions for location, supervision and classification of library for use of interns and house staff with a classified list of books for a foundation and a longer list for extended collections arranged by authors."

Geist, D. C. Hospital medical library. *Hospitals* 15:85-88, November 1941.

Gives essentials of good medical library, library hours, qualifications of librarian and also place of medical libraries in medical graduate education. Selected bibliography.

Graham, Mrs. Gladys W. Library service in hospitals. *Journal of the Indiana Medical Association* 33:383-385, July 1940.

Need a professionally trained person for a library in a hospital. Suggestions for cataloging, classification, adding to collection. For most effective service the hospital library should be organized in three divisions, one for doctors, one for nurses, one for patients, with a head librarian and committee for each division.

Greenbaum, Jennie R. Work analysis of functions and duties of the medical library staff. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 31:339-343, October 1943.

"List of the duties and responsibilities of the medical librarian and assistants and volunteers, arranged with regard to the qualifications required." Analysis made with special reference to the Lillian W. Florsheim Memorial Library of the Michael Reese Hospital and

Michael Reese Research Foundation, Chicago. Hidden, Eleanor H. The hospital medical library. *Southern Hospitals* 13:35-74, August 1945.

Equipment, services; no qualifications for librarian mentioned.

The hospital medical library, American College of Surgeons, from the Department of Literary Research. *Bulletin, American College Surgeons* 22:32-53, January 1937.

Organization of library, financial support, location of library and the duties of the librarian set forth with a list of periodicals by subject, monographs and textbooks by subject and author and a list of publishers.

The hospital medical library, American College of Surgeons, from the Department of Literary Research. *Bulletin, American College Surgeons* 26:131-160, April 1941.

The minimum standard for the hospital medical library. Includes content of the library, housing, personnel, extension facilities, committee on the library; also a revised list by subject and author of monographs and textbooks, subject and title list of periodicals and publishers. Corrected to September 1, 1943, issued in reprint form.

Hospital medical library suggestions; prepared by the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals, American Medical Association. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 128:228-232, May 19, 1945.

Minimum needs for the medical reference library of hospitals approved for Internships, Residencies and Fellowships in organization, location, reference material and suggested periodicals and books arranged by subject and a list of publishers. The first article appeared in the *Journal* May 26, 1934. The American Medical Association publishes the requirements in the Hospital number of the *Journal* each year.

Hunt, Mrs. J. W. Reserves for pre-clinical and clinical courses. *Journal of the Association of American Medical Colleges* 14:175-186, May 1939.

How to make the latest texts and treatises for various courses available to students in medical school and a tabulated study of texts found most useful in pre-clinical and clinical courses.

Inlow, W. D. Organization of the small hospital library. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 113:1683-1688, October 28, 1939.

Brief aims and policies of the small hospital and clinic library, with a suggested classification of the books for the two special groups of doctors. No qualifications for librarian.

Jones, Perrie. Hospital libraries today and tomorrow. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association*

32:467-478, October 1944.

Mostly on patient's libraries but also mentions requirements for a nursing library. Wishes the American Medical Association would define "qualified librarian" and hospital library service.

Kappes, Marion. A plan for a small hospital library. *Special Libraries Association, Proceedings* 36:340-343, October 1945.

Need experienced, imaginative and resourceful librarian to head library of small hospital to serve needs of all within its walls, from staff to patients. Gives requirements of equipment, books, journals and personnel and the use of volunteers in the three libraries, medical, nursing and patients.

Keys, T. E. Medical librarianship: looking toward 1970. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 27:208-212, March 1939.

Definite need for graduate school for research and for the training of medical librarians. Suggests it should be sponsored by the Medical Library Association and be a special school or department of one of the leading universities.

Keys, T. E. Medical Library—a laboratory for the literary physician. *Minnesota Medicine* 22:633-636, September 1939.

What the library should offer to the doctor—lectures on the use of the catalog, medical indices, interlibrary loan and other services.

Lathrope, G. H. Why medical history for the medical librarian? *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 28:17-23, October 1939.

Medical librarian needs librarianship, general knowledge of medicine and medical terms and a reading knowledge of two or more foreign languages.

Lentz, R. T. Survey of hospital library service. *Hospital Progress* 22:321-322, October 1941.

Library service that includes compiling bibliographies, abstracting periodical literature, translations and editorial assistance marks an efficient library, active staff and progressive hospital. Book selection should be shared by library committee and librarian.

Licht, Sidney. An Army General Hospital Medical Library. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 32:456-466, October 1944.

Describes set-up of Army medical libraries, especially the one at Lovell General Hospital, Fort Devens, Massachusetts, for medical officers assigned as librarians. Includes quarters, books and periodicals, reprints, hours, use and service.

MacEachern, M.T. The hospital medical library. (In *Medical records in the hospital*. Chic., Physicians Record Co. 1937, pp. 304-314).

Includes scope, development, relationship,

accommodation, support, control, arrangement, classification and the librarian. Quotes the requirements of the American College of Surgeons and the American Medical Association.

Macrum, Adeline M. Community service of a public health library. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 19:42-43, February 1928.

Scope of the library of the Tuberculosis League of Pittsburgh and its services to readers.

Macrum, Adeline M. Special library profession and what it offers. Medical and public health libraries. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 27:12-18, January 1936.

Gives necessary qualifications for the Librarian and assistant librarian with salaries, vacations and an outline of a day's work. The policies and practices of various kinds of medical libraries are noted.

Mary Monica, Sister. Some phases of hospital libraries. *Hospital Progress* 20:84-85, March 1939.

References must be available to resident staff and nursing libraries. They should be up to date and include recreational and cultural books as well as material on nursing.

Medical Library Association. *A handbook of medical library practice* including annotated bibliographical guides to the literature and history of the medical and allied sciences. Based on a preliminary manuscript by M. Irene Jones. Compiled by a Committee. Edited by Janet Doe. Chic., American Library Association, 1943.

This book will be a mainstay of all medical librarians. Standards for a medical librarian are noted in the first chapter.

Naylor, Mildred V. The medical librarian. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 30:124-125, January 1942.

The qualifications of a medical librarian, such as translator, organizer, architect, editor and beggar for material.

Prime, L. Marguerite. The hospital library and its administration. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 28:81-90, December 1939.

Statement of library requirements and librarians' duties but no note of necessary qualifications of librarian.

Prime, L. Marguerite. Organization and use of the medical library. *Bulletin, American College of Surgeons* 27:34-36, January 1942.

Gives much material on the administration of the library with duties and obligations of the Library Committee and what the library should contain.

Sanger, H. F. Suggestions for a hospital library. *Hospital Progress* 12:51-52, February 1931.

Mentions location of library for best use, furnishings, reading matter and librarian's task in helping doctors to keep abreast of

- literature of own field. Quotes American Medical Association minimum standards.
- Spicer, E. M. Some principles for the selection of reference tools, books and periodicals for the hospital library. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 22:99-101, November 1933.
- Reference tools for a clinic hospital library and for a research hospital library.
- Steinke, Eleanor G. Organization and development of the Winnebago County Medical Library. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 33:315-318, July 1945.
- Objectives for a county medical library are outlined.
- Walter, F. K. Training for hospital librarianship. *Library Journal* 63:579-583, August 1938.
- Mostly on patients' libraries but mention is made of a course given at the University of Minnesota which includes medical reference in case the patients' librarian needs to give help to the staff.
- Weissbrenner, R. F. What a medical library means to the hospital. *Hospital Management* 38:27, December 15, 1934.
- Description of the Ravenswood plan—combined library and record room.
- #### NURSING LIBRARIES
- Agnes Miriam, Sister. The library of the school of nursing: statement prepared by the Council on Nursing Education. *Hospital Progress* 23:343-347, November 1942.
- What a library in a Catholic school of nursing should be, including the selection of a librarian.
- Bailey, D. M. The nursing school librarian. *American Journal of Nursing* 40:873-875, August 1940.
- Qualifications needed for a nursing school librarian, training necessary and fundamentals of library service for nurses.
- Doyle, Ann. Building a library. *American Journal of Nursing* 34:776-782, August 1934.
- Must have books available through a catalog with a trained person in charge, to have full use of the library.
- Doyle, Ann. How to have a "live" library: a philosophy for the nursing school library and the essentials of book selection, book replacement and use. *American Journal of Nursing* 40:1006-1011, 1115-1118, September, October 1940.
- Discusses library service, function of the library, routine jobs of classification and discards together with the necessity of having a trained librarian in charge.
- Doyle, Ann. Library as an educational essential in nursing schools. *Library Journal* 62:111-114, February 1, 1937.
- The nurse must be taught how to use the library and get all from it to make her an educated, adult, responsible person. To do this an adequate library is needed with a trained librarian.
- Doyle, Ann. Reading maketh a full nurse. *American Journal of Nursing* 33:765-772, August 1933.
- Place of reading in the life of a nurse and the necessity of a well equipped library and a librarian in charge to guide the students, faculty and administrators in its greatest use.
- Doyle, Ann. The value and need of the trained librarian in the nursing school curriculum. *Special Library Association Proceedings* 36:328-332, October 1945.
- Stresses the need and value of a trained librarian since most nursing schools have good libraries due to the National League of Nursing Education requirements started in 1933.
- Dunbar, V. M. The library can help you. *American Journal of Nursing* 38:996-1000, September 1938.
- To develop the use of the library there should be ward supervisors on the library committee who have the reading habit and who will steer students to the library for information. Need a qualified librarian in charge.
- Gormley, Maxine Bailey. The importance of the nursing school library in the accelerated program. *American Journal of Nursing* 44:784-785, August 1944.
- Describes how the library in the nursing school at Burbank Hospital in Fitchburg is set up.
- Ingersoll, Margaret M. and Howe, Ann. The special library at work. *Modern Hospital* 55:70-72, November 1940.
- The Children's Memorial Hospital (Chicago) Library in the pediatric nursing school is described in detail. A trained librarian is a necessity in a library of this kind.
- Joan, Sister M. Essentials of the school of nursing library. *Hospital Progress* 22:322-324, October 1941.
- The library must be adapted to the needs of the school. The librarian should be on full time, have special preparation in library science, keen mental ability, be capable of giving the service required and particularly trained to meet these requirements. The problems of finance, location, book selection and periodicals are noted.
- Jones, E. Kathleen. The library in the nursing school. (In *Hospital Libraries*. Chicago, American Library Association, 1939. pp. 114-119.)
- Good article on standards for a well equipped library with a trained librarian in charge.

Libraries for nursing schools. *American Journal of Nursing* 33:749-751, August 1933.

Although nursing libraries are poor they should at least meet standards put out by North Central Association of College and Secondary Schools. A deeper appreciation of the place of books in a teaching program and a planned budget for buying new books as they are published is needed.

Library standards. *American Journal of Nursing* 36:493, May 1936.

The sub-committee on Nursing School Libraries of the National League of Nursing Education to prepare a basic list of books and a handbook of library administration.

National League of Nursing Education. Committee on Nursing School Libraries. Report. *National League of Nursing Education, Proceedings* June 1944, pp. 89-90.

Committee appointed to work on a manual for guiding the use and development of nursing libraries. The 1943 supplement to the *List* will include books and editions published in 1942. The new edition of the *List* will include material published in 1943.

National League of Nursing Education. Curriculum Committee. Subcommittee of the Nursing School Library. *Library handbook for school of nursing*. New York, National League of Nursing Education, 1936. Reprinted 1941.

This is an excellent manual for the nursing school. Includes a scheme of classification and a list of subject headings. A well trained librarian and a well qualified nurse can work together to bring the library to its greatest use.

National League of Nursing Education. Curriculum Committee. Subcommittee on the library. *Books suggested for libraries in schools of nursing*. 3d ed. rev. New York, National League of Nursing Education, 1944.

The first edition of the *Basic list* published in 1937 was to represent the foundations for a moderate-sized nursing school library. The revisions bring this material up to date and are arranged under broad subject headings with some books listed under more than one heading.

National League of Nursing Education. *Statement of policy for the accreditation of schools of nursing*. 1944. 8p.

This pamphlet has a section on page 6 giving the requirements for the nursing school library. It covers content of the library,

methods and techniques and suggests the employment of a competent person for full-time or part-time administration and supervision of the library.

Nursing School Library. *American Journal of Nursing* 34:129-130, February 1934.

The Grading Committee discovered that out of 5,079 texts used in schools only 433 were graded excellent by judges. This shows a need of a list of texts and references recommended by the National League of Nursing Education, to be revised yearly.

Patricia Miriam, Sister. Cultural aspects of a nursing school library. *Hospital Progress* 23:391-393, December 1942.

Stresses need for books for general culture and recreational reading as well as books of instruction for both student and faculty. Mentions three lists to use for a Catholic school besides the *League Handbook* and *List*.

Rose Victor, Sister. Responsibility of the administrator toward the school of nursing library. *Hospital Progress* 20:85-87, March 1939.

Discusses the physical set up, educational equipment or content and personnel.

Smith, Susan T. Equipment for a nursing school library. *American Journal of Nursing* 37:854-857, August 1937.

Suggestions for physical equipment. "No matter how efficiently the collection may be housed, it will not be used to its fullest advantage unless there is a trained librarian to select the material and guide the students in its use."

Thomas, M. L. Nursing school libraries. *Trained Nurse* 104:140-143, February 1940.

Discusses location, content, library committee members and their duties in keeping library up to date. No qualifications listed for librarian.

Wigmore, Ethel. Responsibility of the medical library to the nursing profession. *Bulletin, Medical Library Association* 28:91-99, December 1939.

The nursing school library standards have been improved by the publication of the *Handbook* in 1936 and the *Book List* in 1937.

Wigmore, Ethel. Work in a hospital school of nursing library. *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* 27:81-82, March 1936.

Outline of the work necessary in a nursing school library. At Bellevue a library school graduate was appointed librarian of the nursing school library in 1935.

Knowledge is in books—thinking minds, intelligent spirits, put their essence into books.

—PEARL BUCK

THE BACON LIBRARY OF THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

By HELEN V. PRUITT

Librarian, Bacon Library, American Hospital Association, Chicago, Illinois

THE American Hospital Association maintains a Library which has been called the Bacon Library to honor Mr. Asa S. Bacon who was an outstanding hospital administrator. Members of the Association through institutional and personal membership dues support the Library although its services are not limited to the membership. The Library is housed in the headquarters office of the Association at 18 E. Division Street, Chicago 10, Illinois.

Because the Association is a national one and its members are located in every state with some, as associate members, outside our own country, it has been necessary to set up a file of information which will be available to these people and which can be mailed to them. As in any special library a large proportion of the material is taken from current periodicals and is filed in vertical files with the subject headings written on the articles. The book collection with a few exceptions is also permitted to circulate. The books are cataloged using the Library of Congress classification with our own expansion of the R schedule. Subject headings are a combination of Library of Congress and those used in the vertical file. The shelf list card is the official card with tracings checked, source and number of copies. We do not keep an accession book and our books are not numbered. A stock record is maintained by means of the shelf list.

The Library subscribes to some 300 current publications. In most instances from three to ten additional copies are purchased for clipping. One copy of

those periodicals of permanent value is bound in addition to the copies clipped. As each periodical is received its contents are checked for possible use in the clipping file. The duplicate copies are then clipped immediately, classified and filed. In order to have the articles in suitable condition for mailing they are mounted with staples on punched white paper. When a collection of articles is put together in answer to a request, brads are used to hold them together inside a cover which is simply a notebook with the name of the Library imprinted. The cover helps to keep the material in good condition and is an aid in keeping together all of the material sent out. A form letter is used as the top sheet. On this page is listed the contents of the collection and the regulations of the Library regarding the loan of the material. All loans are made for one month subject to renewal at the request of the borrower. There is no charge for the use of the Library other than the amount necessary for the return postage. A very simple system is used to keep track of the material loaned. A carbon of the information typed on the cover sheet is made on the back of the original request and then filed chronologically. A narrow date loaned slip is gummed to the inside of the back cover and the date of loan written on it. When the material is returned the date on the cover is used as the guide to find the corresponding charge. The charge is marked returned and is filed in an alphabetical file. These returned charges are kept for several reasons—they serve as an indication of the trend in current think-

ing and to check on inquiries regarding previous material loaned. Overdue notices are sent out routinely on the first of every month. Reminder cards are used if the collection is one month overdue. If this fails to arouse the borrower, a letter is then written. It has been very satisfying that there has been an extremely small amount of material lost. We attach a return gummed label to the cover sheet so that mailing may be facilitated.

The Library maintains a file of blueprints of hospital construction which is available for study. As new hospitals or additions are built, a copy of the plans is sent to the Library and then filed according to size and type of hospital. The plans are cataloged and a code system is used to identify the location of the plan in the file case. The code number is typed on the catalog card taking the place of the call number and it is also written on the plan and on a small label which is affixed to the first sheet of each set. It has been the policy of the Library not to loan the plans because we usually have but one set and they are in danger of being lost. Also it is necessary to have them in the Library when hospital administrators and architects come in to study them. However, photostats are made of any of the plans upon request and the copies then become the property of the person requesting them.

The nucleus of a collection of rare historical books about hospitals is a prized possession of the Library. These books have been purchased from time to time through a special fund and are kept in locked cases but may be seen and studied by visitors to the Library. The same classification system is used, with a star to indicate their location in the rare book collection. Age has not been the sole determining factor as to whether a book should be placed in this category, e. g., some books printed in 1880 and which we know are not replaceable and should not be sent out of the Library. Several of the books have an imprint date of 1500

and 1600 and describe hospitals in Italy, France, Germany and the British Isles.

The Association has recently purchased a photocopy machine and the Library is perhaps its principal user. It is installed in a windowless room next to the Library. We have used it to great advantage when our supply of a certain article becomes low. Extra copies may be made quickly and inexpensively. Quite often when a collection is returned the borrower may ask to have a copy of a particular article for his own use. A copy is made with the machine and sent to the inquirer. Pages from books and bound periodicals may also be reproduced by this process. A black on white print is obtained of the same size as the original.

An active acquisition policy is necessary to keep the collection up to date and usable. All sources are tapped for possible purchase or request. Pamphlets, reports and studies, of course, form a considerable part of the cataloged material. Book lists, reviews and bibliographies printed in the current journals are always checked. Books are not purchased at any stated time but orders are usually sent once a week. The periodicals with a few exceptions are purchased from an agency and there is the same renewal date for all of these subscriptions—September. It would perhaps be worth while here to describe briefly our serial record system. A visible index in a multiple ring binder holds all of the cards which were designed in the Library to suit our particular needs. The size of the card is $5\frac{1}{2}$ by $8\frac{1}{2}$; not only are the current magazines entered in this record but also all open entries which are cataloged. It provides a quick way to check the non-arrival of certain publications.

When requests come into the Library either directly or by referral by a member of the headquarters staff they are answered immediately. Promptness in sending material has been one of the best means of establishing the usefulness of

our services. Attention is given to the location, size and type of the hospital from which the inquiry comes. All possible sources are used to try to fill the request—articles in the vertical file, books, and, if the problem demands an exhaustive answer, the indexes are also searched. We urge the users to make their requests as specific as possible so that we will be able to send them more nearly what they desire. It should be emphasized that the purpose of the Library is not to offer a definite solution to a problem but to provide the administrator or department head with a background of information on the subject so that he may arrive at his own decision.

Because the great proportion of users are outside the city it is necessary to devise methods of keeping them informed about the Library. The Journal of the American Hospital Association, *Hospitals*, carries a two page section every month which contains book reviews, notes from current journals and other items of interest coming from the Library. At national, state and regional meetings, exhibits of

the type of material available from the Library are displayed. Two different types of leaflets have been prepared and distributed to the membership. These leaflets describe the Library's services and have a page to be filled out by the inquirer when he wishes to borrow material.

This year the Library has inaugurated a new project—an *Index of Current Hospital Literature* published every six months and cumulated at the end of two years. The *Index* lists the articles on all phases of the hospital field appearing in current periodicals by both author and subject in one alphabet. This *Index* is available by subscription and we feel it will serve both as a reference source and as a guide to current thinking. The first issue published in July 1945 contains some 2,000 entries. The Library staff finds it helpful in connection with the use of the vertical file inasmuch as there is no other record of the clipped articles.

It is our aim to make the Library worthy of its distinction as the only library devoted exclusively to the field of hospital literature.

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES GROUP OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

By ELLA MOYERS and ELAINE ADAMS¹

THE development of biological science libraries on the West Coast is more or less in the young adult stage. However, much in the way of service is expected of them, and they are making great strides to meet the demands. Much thought has been given to ways and means of best serving the de-

mands imposed upon them during the war and also in the postwar development. Special resources in many fields have been made available and used with greater accessibility than ever before.

Probably the old adage: "There is no evil in human affairs that has not some good mingled with it" can be applied to war. For out of all this chaos great advances in science have been made, and the whole of civilization is benefiting.

¹ Miss Moyers is Librarian, White Memorial Hospital, College of Medical Evangelists, Los Angeles, Calif.; Miss Adams is Technical Librarian, Research Dept., Hawaiian Pineapple Co., Ltd., Honolulu, Hawaii.

To best tell you what is taking place in the biological sciences libraries in Southern California we are picking a few libraries at random and stating briefly what they are doing. We have included university and research, medical, hospital and public health libraries.

UNIVERSITY AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES

University and research libraries have as their important function the accumulation and maintenance of the many irreplaceable materials without which future scientific investigations would be impossible.

The scientific library of the Allan Hancock Foundation for Scientific Research, located on the campus of the University of Southern California, has made an important contribution to the field of biological research with the recent purchase of the scientific library of foreign serials of the Boston Society of Natural History. This addition was incorporated into the collection of the library in March 1944, and consists of about 1,000 titles of serial publications, issued by scientific and learned societies in foreign countries. In addition, there are a few serials from North America and a fine section of the history of early scientific societies.

The classification of titles is by geographical distribution and represents all continents. These came from South America, especially Brazil and Argentina, also from Africa, Australia, Asia, especially China, Java and India. Europe is represented through contributions from the British Isles, including some from England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland; central Europe is represented by Germany, Poland, Austria and Switzerland; the Iberian Peninsula with journals from Spain and Portugal, Scandinavia by Norway, Sweden and Denmark; the low countries by Holland and Belgium together with their colonies (notably the important studies from Buitenzorg) Italy, Russia and Finland are also represented. The number of titles approximates 600.

The subject matter covers a wide va-

riety of interest in many scientific spheres. Notable among these are agriculture, anthropology, astronomy, botany, general biology, geography, geology, meteorology, microscopy, ornithology, ichthyology and zoology, totalling approximately 400 titles, with a large majority in zoology.

These serials have been published over a long period of years. The oldest dates from the early seventeenth century, the most recent, 1940. The greatest value, however, lies in the continuity of many of these rare journals, especially since most are long out of print and inaccessible even to the most ardent collector, and may not even be available again after the war.

The value of these important serials to the student of science may be appreciated when it is realized that the collection contains many items that are seldom seen, even in large scientific libraries, and certainly seldom in most of the younger institutions of learning. For instance, the publications of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, published from 1833 to date; the *Investigator Reports* (1899-1910) including the important Alcock reports on the fauna of Indian Seas; the oldest publications of the prominent Swedish Academies which were the forerunners or even prototypes of all successive studies in systematic zoology and botany; the numerous voluminous tomes issued by the scientific societies of Vienna and Berlin, of London, Edinburgh, Paris and other European societies of long standing. Of particular interest is the large section of Russian scientific literature, including especially the publications of the Russian Academy at St. Petersburg (later Petrograd and now Leningrad) dating from 1838, also those from Moscow and other important Russian centers, and covering especially the scientific work of the numerous earlier expeditions that were sponsored by the Russian government toward the exploration of North America. The wide range of subject matter is of particular importance in the fields of descriptive

zoology and botany, of geology and geography, also in anatomy, morphology, developmental mechanics and histology. These are the decades during which were laid the foundations of all modern sciences. This invaluable purchase will doubtless serve as the nucleus for most important future studies by learned institutions of western North America.

The Donald R. Dickey Library of Vertebrate Zoology was presented to the Library of the University of California at Los Angeles, by his widow, Mrs. Florence V. V. Dickey, in December 1940. It comprises some 10,000 volumes on vertebrate zoology, in addition to 50,000 specimens of birds and mammals, a bird egg collection and many photographs. In private hands, it was the outstanding zoological collection in the American southwest, and its importance has been largely increased by its addition to the library of the University. Donald Ryder Dickey, a native of Dubuque, Iowa, and a graduate of Yale University, was a veteran zoologist. A field naturalist writer and lecturer, he specialized in the study of the birds and mammals of North and Central America, travelled widely and collected avidly. At the time of his death in April 1932, he was a recognized specialist in his field and had been since 1926 research associate in vertebrate zoology at the California Institute of Technology.

In the Dickey Library ornithological materials are predominant, but other zoological fields, particularly mammalia, are well represented. The collection is strong in scientific journals and series, including many important nineteenth century publications, both American and foreign, and files of short-lived periodicals. A large proportion of the collection relates to North America, but much is also present pertaining to Central and South America, the Pacific, Cuba and other parts of the world. Scientific and technical studies, general and popular accounts, border line materials, monographs and reports of expeditions, societies and institutions, zo-

ological manuals, catalogs and handbooks are all included. The collection, minus duplicate materials, greatly enriches the library of the University.

The Cooper Ornithological Club Collection was acquired by the Library of the University of California at Los Angeles in April 1945. The Club's ornithological library becomes a part of the University Library, and the in-print stock of the Club's publications will be administered jointly by the Club and the University Library.

The Cooper Club Library comprises a small collection of ornithological books (about 150 volumes of non-serials material, including some rare items) and a very valuable library of periodicals, scientific series and society publications. The latter collection contains approximately 135 titles, many being currently received and in normal times representing ornithological groups throughout the world. The Cooper Ornithological Club Collection and the Donald R. Dickey Library of Vertebrate Zoology, recently acquired by the University of California at Los Angeles makes the combined collection one of the outstanding special libraries in the field.

MEDICAL, HOSPITAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH LIBRARIES

In medicine the fields that have made the greatest progress are therapy, surgery, plastic surgery, orthopedics, neurology and psychiatry, rehabilitation and preventive medicine.

The Veterans Administration Hospital located in West Los Angeles has four library collections.

There is the Wadsworth General Hospital Library of approximately 65 volumes, serving about 1,100 general medical and surgical patients between the ages of eighteen and one hundred years. About seventy per cent of these patients are seriously ill bed patients. The service consists of book truck contact. Available for selection are seventy odd books and one hundred fifty magazines. Most of the ma-

terial is recreational reading. The patients read for escape and temporary diversion. Then they also have what is termed "Prescription" reading recommended by the ward surgeons as a therapeutic measure.

The Neuropsychiatric Hospital has an age group similar to the Wadsworth General Hospital and serves approximately 1,100 patients. The library emphasizes recreational, non-fiction and the type of material that will develop the patients' confidence. It also organizes and supervises library clubs, literary and Spanish clubs for the benefit of the patients.

The Medical Library consists of a reference medical collection emphasizing psychiatry and current medical journals. It is for the accommodation of the staff doctors, staff nurses, cadet nurses and student dietitians. Besides reference work it is used a great deal for teaching purposes in training student physiotherapy technicians and ward attendants.

The Domiciliary Library serves approximately 3,000 domiciliary members, 2,000 personnel as well as members of the army service detachment on duty at the station. The library has a main reading room and a reference and circulating room. The collection has some 10,000 volumes of books, magazines and newspapers. It is used for recreational, rehabilitative and educational reading, for continuing interrupted studies, reading of new subjects due to "Curiosity developed when I was a G. I." and vocational reading.

The Veterans Administration Library also does a great deal for the blind by securing the majority of books from the state library and volunteers as part of their work to read to them. The administration hopes to expand this program but as yet has no definite plans.

The White Memorial Hospital has two libraries, the Medical and the Hospital Libraries, both of which are located on the hospital grounds. The Medical Library has approximately 15,000 volumes, placing special emphasis on periodicals and indexes. It serves the medical staff, many

of the practicing physicians of the city, research workers, medical students, student nurses, physical therapy, X-ray, as well as laboratory technicians and students from these departments. Approximately 80 people use the library daily. The type of service rendered by the librarians is compiling bibliographies for papers, for research and teaching purposes, and helping with special research projects of the armed forces. They also give formal instruction to medical students and student nurses in the use of the library, stressing the main library tools and how to compile a bibliography.

The Hospital Library serves the patients and employes of the White Memorial Hospital. The patients are contacted twice a week by book truck service and the library is open to the employes during the noon hour four times a week, in order that they may check their books in and out. A large portion of the collection is loaned to the library from the Los Angeles Public Library and is supplemented by books purchased by the hospital. This collection consists of approximately 800 volumes, current periodicals and newspapers and is housed in the main entrance of the administration building in attractive book cases. The attendants visit the Los Angeles Public Library Order Dept. meetings regularly so that they will be better informed on current literature.

The library is used for recreational reading, rehabilitative reading and vocational reading.

The Public Health Division, Los Angeles Municipal Reference Library, is located at Civic Center and serves the city health officials. The library collection consists of material on child hygiene, food inspection, industrial hygiene, laws concerning public health, public health housing, smoke control, epidemiology, maternity care, nutrition, public health nursing and vital statistics.

The library is very active and is at the present time checking with all health cen-

ters of the city to gather all information possible pertaining to public health, to learn better the needs of the department, and to increase the use of the library by the personnel of the district offices. This is to be done by routing of books and periodicals from the Health Library to the individual staff members, and by the installation of small book collections in the district offices.

The Science Department of the Los Angeles Public Library is one of the most active libraries. Its resources as well as its services are excellent. Besides serving the general public it is continually rendering special service to all the bio-

logical sciences libraries.

CONCLUSION

The interlibrary loan service which we have makes it possible for each library to serve much more efficiently and completely. With all the libraries working together much has been accomplished in rendering worthwhile service.

Again we wish to state that we have only tried to take a sampling of the biological sciences libraries of Southern California, and that there are many more libraries as active as the ones included. We have a very energetic Biological Sciences Group and we hope that in the near future we shall be able to report on new progress.

EVENTS and PUBLICATIONS

THE REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTIETH CONFERENCE, 1945, of ASLIB, contains an article by Miss Eleanor S. Cavanaugh, Chairman, International Relations Committee, S. L. A., entitled "The Work of the Special Libraries Association".

* * *

Through March 21 the Brooklyn Museum is holding a most important exhibition entitled "5,000 Years of Fibers and Fabrics". This three-dimensional history of textiles shows the inventions and developments in all phases of the textile arts and techniques from the earliest fibers, dyes and looms to the present. To accompany this exhibit the Museum has published a handbook, including a bibliography, 5,000 YEARS OF FIBERS AND FABRICS, by M. D. C. Crawford, Research Editor of Fairchild Publications (Brooklyn, N. Y., Brooklyn Museum, 1946. 34p. 35¢).

* * *

The *STM Book News*, a new service published bimonthly, will have Volume I ready for mailing in March. It is important for those subscribing to do so in time to receive this first volume which will contain a complete list of every scientific, technical and medical book published during 1945, classified as to subjects and in some cases subdivided into various branches of the subject; titles; prices; and names of authors and publishers of about 1,200 books classified under approximately 85 headings. Succeding issues will carry books published during

the current year only. A second listing will give title, price, names of authors and publishers of almost 2,000 reference books classified by subject. A third listing will give more detailed information on new books published during the past 60 days. The final listing will give advance information on new books to be published during 1946 by practically every scientific, technical and medical book publisher in the United States and England. A research service will be given to all subscribers, details of which will be announced in the first issue. The publisher of the *STM Book News* is W. E. Falk, 701-3 Main Street, Cincinnati 2, Ohio.

* * *

Several years ago the International Relations Office of the American Library Association asked Special Libraries Association for help in preparing the list, BOOKS PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES, 1939-1943, A SELECTION FOR REFERENCE LIBRARIES. This has now been published after a delay caused by wartime conditions. Mr. Lydenberg, the Director, is deeply appreciative of the help given him by S. L. A. members, to whom acknowledgment is made in the introduction of the booklet.

* * *

In the *Northwestern University Bulletin* for January 7, 1946 (V. XLVI, No. 6, pp. 4-10) is an article by George B. Denton, Professor of Dental History and Literature, entitled "Making Dentistry a Reading Profession". Includes bibliography.

Activities of Chapters, Groups and Committees

CHAPTERS

San Francisco Bay Region

The Library of the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco has received a bequest of several thousand volumes of scientific publications from the library of Professor George Davidson, known as the "Geographer of the Pacific Northwest". Miss Veronica J. Sexton, Executive Librarian of the Academy, reports finding copies of the early *Proceedings* of the Academy that had been lacking in their collection since the great fire of 1906.

Washington, D. C.

Dr. Leendert Brummel, Director, Royal Library, The Hague, and Wouter Nijhoff, head of Martinus Nijhoff's bookselling and publishing firm, The Netherlands, spoke before a special called meeting of the Washington Chapter, S. L. A. and the District of Columbia Library Assn. on November 5, 1945.

GROUPS

Science-Technology

In the December 1945 issue of *SPECIAL LIBRARIES*, page 491, mention was made of the possibility of the Science-Technology Group forming a pool of bibliographies to which S. L. A. members could contribute any extensive bibliography. Since then the Pool has become a reality and the following bibliographies are now available for lending purposes:

Blast Cleaning with Metallic Abrasives
Fuel Injection in Spark-Ignition Otto Cycle Engines, 1930-1943

List of References to Boron Literature, January-March 1944

Literature on Analyses of Leaf and Other Plant Tissues, with Special References to Content of Mineral Nutrients

Literature on Potash as a Plant Nutrient
Paper on periodical literature of physics
Powdered Metals

Safety Films for Clubs, Schools, Revised to August 1, 1945

Sintering of Ore and Blast-Furnace Flue Dust
Subject Index of National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics Technical Memorandums Nos. 1-1062

Traffic Safety Materials

Full particulars regarding contributions to the Pool or borrowing from it may be had by writ-

ing Miss Mary A. Johnston, Technical Librarian, Lukens Steel Company, Coatesville, Pa.

COMMITTEES

Classification

WANTED: Special classification systems and subject heading lists for the National Loan Collection at S. L. A. Headquarters. If a copy of your system is not on file, please let us know that you have one, so that we may later make arrangements with you for getting a copy. If you have a copy immediately available for deposit in this important file, please send it to Mrs. Stebbins, Executive Secretary, S. L. A., 31 East 10th Street, New York 3, N. Y.

We are interested in expansions or revisions of the D. C. as well as original systems. We urge also the deposit of any special subject heading list you may have developed. Address all correspondence to:

RUTH S. LEONARD, *Chairman*
Classification Committee
School of Library Science
Simmons College
Boston 15, Mass.

Announcements

S. L. A. Convention, June 13-15, 1946

The theme of the 1946 Convention of S. L. A. is to be "Special Libraries Face the Future." Names of Committee Chairmen follow:

Exhibits

Mr. James F. Ballard
Director, Boston Medical Library
8 The Fenway, Boston.

Hospitality

Miss Abbie G. Glover
Librarian, Insurance Library Association
89 Broad Street, Boston.

Information

Miss Marcella K. Geary
Boston Public Library, Business Branch
20 City Hall Avenue, Boston.

Local Arrangements

Miss Natalie Nicholson
Harvard University Graduate School of Engineering, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Publicity

Mr. William Alcott
Librarian, Boston Globe
244 Washington Street, Boston.

Registration

Miss Ruth Leonard
Assistant Professor
Simmons College School of Library Science
300 The Fenway, Boston.

Visits

Miss Marcena L. Ring
Librarian, Ginn and Company
Statler Building, Boston.

Banquet, Breakfasts, Luncheons, Dinners

Dr. Dennis A. Dooley
Librarian, Massachusetts State Library
State House, Boston.

Convention Treasurer

Mr. John J. Connolly
Assistant to the Director
Boston Public Library.

Education and National Defense Pamphlets

The Federal Security Agency, U. S. Office of Education, has on hand a few extra copies of a series of pamphlets issued prior to the war under the series title, *Education and National Defense*. Any librarian who missed receiving them at the time, or who would like duplicate copies, may have them gratis on request. Titles are as follows:

E and ND
Pamphlet

- No. 5. The Schools and Community Organizations
- No. 7. Living Democracy in Secondary Schools
- No. 8. Practicing Democracy in the College
- No. 11. Populations Adrift
- No. 12. Understanding the Other American Republics
- No. 13. Hemisphere Solidarity
- No. 14. Inter-American Cooperation Through Colleges and Universities
- No. 21. Helping the Foreign-Born Achieve Citizenship

Hospital Library Activities in England

September 12, 1945 Meadow Cottage
Brasted, Kent
England

Dear Miss Tews:¹

When I saw in your Hospital and Nursing *News Letter* No. 2 the very kind words of welcome to me after a rest from hospital library work, and when you suggested news of hospital

¹ Letter to Miss Ruth M. Tews, Chief, Hospital Library Service, Minn. Assn. of Hospital and Medical Librarians, St. Paul Public Library, St. Paul 2, Minn.

A List of Subject Headings for Chemistry Libraries

Compiled by

A COMMITTEE OF THE
SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY GROUP

Grace R. Cameron, Chairman
Chemistry Library
Louisiana State University

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library activities in England during the war years, I felt inspired to send you this letter.

Although I resigned from the national side of this work in 1941, I have, amidst a variety of other work and speaking, tried to keep abreast of the main activities of the Hospital Libraries under the British Red Cross & Order of St. John War Organisation, so I shall give you a very brief account of them as they have been, together with a few thoughts on the international side. Also, a vista of what may be some of the chief needs in the future of nearly all countries constantly comes into my mind, and may call forth ideas between your readers and me.

Any figures I mention should be taken as approximate; but it is safe to say that in all, the Red Cross & St. John Hospital Library will have despatched over 3½ million books to military and civilian hospitals and convalescent homes at home and overseas, including also hospital ships, sick bays, and so on. Wherever books were needed, in any part of the world, there they went to service men and women. Moreover, there was no haphazard method of sending them, for a special feature of the work—as in pre-war times—was the attention paid to Special Requests, which were very varied, and were received by thousands.

It has been no light task to maintain the vast supplies that were requested and which has been met in three outstanding ways. First, early in the war, and largely before I resigned, a great effort was made, which has since spread all over the country, to decentralize the work of Hospital Library Headquarters in London, and to set up in the larger cities, and in nearly every county, Book Collecting and Book Distributing depots, with county organisers to deal with their own districts. London Headquarters supplied all the hospitals overseas, many service and civilian hospitals at home, and parts of certain home counties.

Then the vast work of saving every book worth saving was tackled by setting up in London a book binding and a book mending room. The book binding has been done by volunteers who worked under a professional binder. Thousands of books have been most efficiently and attractively handled in this way; while many more thousands have been mended by volunteers, and paper-covered books have been recased. There are now many such centres throughout the country. During the first three years of war the book supply was kept up largely by collections and appeals; but since then the Red Cross & St. John Organisation has granted money generously for the purchase of new books; and counties and cities have also been liberal in their gifts of money and books for overseas work. And now, as in earlier days, books without librarians are lost and wasted,

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the right books not reaching the patients who need them; and so throughout the war there was a drive to keep up the numbers of voluntary librarians wanted in hospitals at home. This was not easy, as it was affected by the call-up of women. But the position was eased when Red Cross & St. John members were allowed to study and undertake the work, and in England and Wales over 1,000 voluntary hospital librarians have been giving their services. That does not seem to be a large number in comparison with the importance of the job, and the number of hospitals of all kinds; but it is on a par with their numbers just before the war; in fact it shows an increase of 200 or so librarians.

Amongst other questions, the one concerning the training of librarians, the maintenance of an adequate number for various types of hospitals is foremost amongst peace-time problems in this sphere of hospital life.

It can be said with truth that not only has the work grown enormously, at home and abroad, but the standard has been maintained, and in certain ways improved, especially in view of the war-time difficulties that had to be faced, not least of these being libraries in the bombed-out hospitals and the transport problems. Before I resigned, and when the first big blitz was at its height, and foundations were being laid in as many counties as I could reach for the decentralisation which was essential for any wide-spread efficiency, travelling was hard, but extremely interesting. Early departures in black-out and arrivals under the same conditions, bombed railway lines, trains delayed hours in a snowy winter, were a part of the background of those earlier years; and transcending what may appear a grim background was the warm welcome, ever ready help, and hospitality in every county visited; the unflinching courage of book collectors and librarians in keeping going in blitzed areas and remote districts, and the amazing fact that in not one service or civilian hospital out of the large number contacted personally was there a refusal on the part of hospital, Red Cross or other authorities concerned, to co-operate with suggestions to set up or improve the libraries. From these facts I reaffirmed for myself the belief I had held for some years, and had at times had to fight for, that first and foremost hospital librarianship, and all that a hospital library should involve, is a great human work. A certain degree of efficiency and training is essential. Overstep that degree by even too rigid suggestions, and the healing and educative power of the right book for the patient who needs it is endangered; and the librarian tends to become a small part of a theoretical undertaking. These last remarks bring me to the question of libraries for patients in mental and nerve hospitals. A very wide field of work still

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remains to be tackled in these hospitals, and a field in which there are important varied opinions. One school of thought believes that these patients should have books which have been most closely vetted, criticised and the distribution of which should be controlled by co-operation between the medical and nursing staffs and the librarians. This school teaches that patients' reactions to various types of books should be carefully watched and recorded.

The other school, and the one that really holds good today in England, (though during the war libraries in mental hospitals could not be kept going as one would have wished) feels that too watchful an attitude, too highly trained and supervised librarians, are apt to increase the uphill task of achieving success in mental hospital libraries. An eminent authority concerned with mental hospital libraries has said: "Give a mental patient books that you would not be ashamed to see in your own house". After many conversations, and a good deal of study and visiting, that theory seems to me to be sound in that it contains the elements of freedom, safety and common sense. Over and above that, success depends on having very well-read librarians, with a reasonable amount of technical training, and a special kind of sympathy. Over-train, or over-theorise, and the very slender threads of sympathy between librarians and patients will almost certainly become damaged. I have written rather fully on these points because it seems inevitable that after such a war as has just been fought, frayed nerves, leading perhaps in certain cases to some kind of mental disorder, may call for extra attention to be paid to libraries for those types of patients.

And now for a glimpse into an unknown international future. Until war broke out it was clear that hospital libraries had come to stay, and that their development in many countries was growing apace. It seems equally clear now that they must again become an integral part of every hospital; and it seems clearer still that much elasticity will be needed in their administration. Perhaps closer co-operation than formerly will be called for between hospital and public library authorities, social welfare organisations, and indeed all appropriate societies and individuals that can help to tide over the shortage of books, personnel and money during the immediate postwar years.

Each country will, it seems to me, have to work out its own solution to these problems; but there is little doubt that exchange of opinions between all countries concerned should point the way to a good workable future.

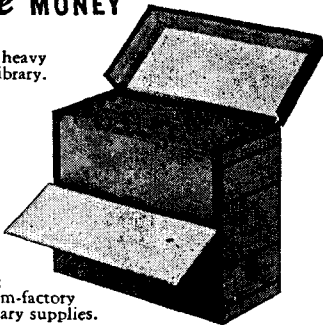
I am, in all humility, grateful to have been asked by the authorities of more than one association concerned with hospital libraries internationally to try to give a lead again to this side of the work. A questionnaire has already been



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sent to a few countries and now that peace has come, will go out as widely as seems possible and sensible. Meanwhile if you, or any members of your organisation, care to send me views and suggestions, I shall value them, and make an effort to co-ordinate them, and in due course to give them publicity through the wisest channels. It is rather early as yet to put in print some ideas I have for what I hope might lead to the most economical and effective plan for handling hospital libraries internationally. At present, I would like to see all willing hands to the plough, in an unhurried, well considered plan to work out a helpful future for the work, in which co-operation without rivalry should be the strong foundation.

Yours sincerely,
MARJORIE E. ROBERTS, Chairman,
 Hospital Library Study Group
 of the
 International Hospital Association.

Obituary

Catherine B. Van Dyne

Miss Catherine B. Van Dyne, head of the reference and lending departments of the Newark Public Library, died on February 9, 1946. She was a former president of the Library Workers' Association and was affiliated with the American Library Association and with S. L. A. From 1925-1930 she was director of library publications at the Newark Library, and also editor of the joint publication of the library and Newark Museum, *Design in Industry*, until it was discontinued.

A Correction

It has been called to the Editor's attention that there was an error in the name of the hospital of which Miss Jennie R. Greenbaum is Medical Librarian. In the January issue this appeared in Announcements as Walter Reed Hospital, when it should have been Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, Ill.

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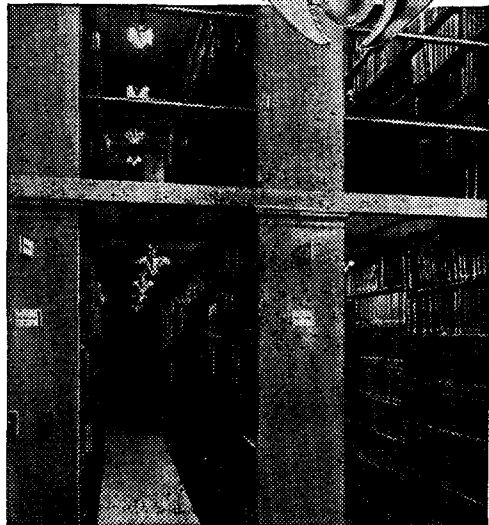
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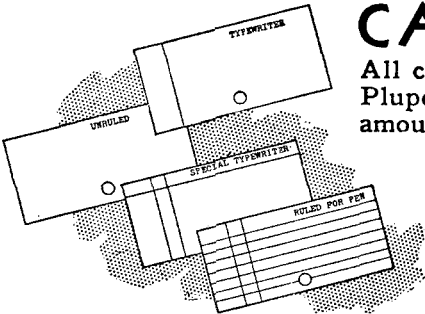
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PLUPERFECT CATALOG CARDS

MEDIUM WEIGHT—260-2 (pen-ruled) 261-2 (type ruled) 262-2 (sp. type ruled) 263-2 (unruled)

	Ruled	Unruled
500 -----	\$2.75	\$2.50
1,000 -----	4.55	4.25
3,000 per 1,000 -----	4.45	4.15
5,000 per 1,000 -----	4.35	4.05
10,000 per 1,000 -----	4.20	3.95
25,000 per 1,000 -----	4.00	3.75

LIGHTWEIGHT—260-3 (type ruled) 261-3 (type ruled) 262-3 (Sp. type ruled) 263-3 (unruled)

	Ruled	Unruled
500 -----	\$2.25	\$2.00
1,000 -----	3.60	3.30
3,000 per 1,000 -----	3.50	3.20
5,000 per 1,000 -----	3.45	3.15
10,000 per 1,000 -----	3.35	3.05
25,000 per 1,000 -----	3.15	2.85


PARAMOUNT CATALOG CARDS

MEDIUM WEIGHT—225-2 (pen ruled) 226-2 (type ruled) 227-2 (sp. type ruled) 229-2 (sp. type ruled-blue) 228-2 (unruled)

	Ruled	Unruled
500 -----	\$2.10	\$1.85
1,000 -----	3.40	3.05
3,000 per 1,000 -----	3.30	3.00
5,000 per 1,000 -----	3.25	2.95
10,000 per 1,000 -----	3.15	2.85
25,000 per 1,000 -----	2.90	2.65

LIGHTWEIGHT—225-3 (pen ruled) 226-3 (type ruled) 227-3 (sp. type ruled) 229-3 (sp. type ruled-blue) 228-3 (unruled)

	Ruled	Unruled
500 -----	\$1.60	\$1.30
1,000 -----	2.80	2.50
3,000 per 1,000 -----	2.70	2.45
5,000 per 1,000 -----	2.65	2.40
10,000 per 1,000 -----	2.55	2.25
25,000 per 1,000 -----	2.30	2.20



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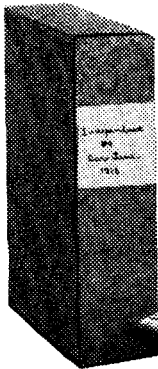
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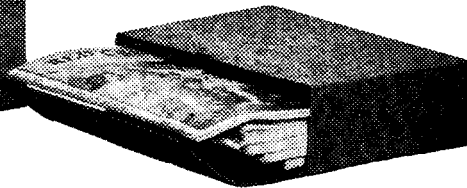
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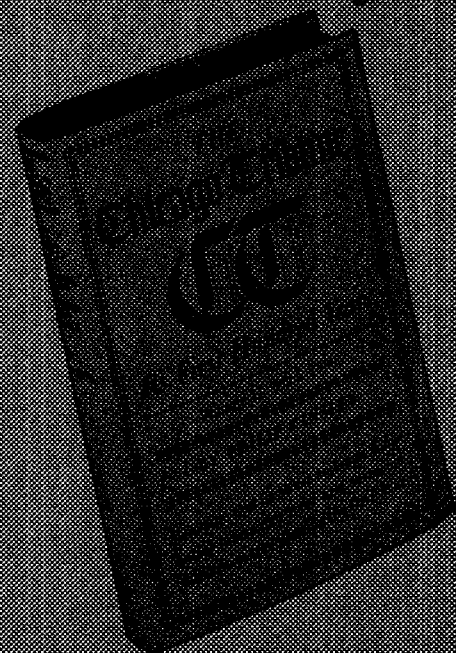
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