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Second International Issue Including A Paper on Training in the U.S. Information Centers

Vol. 41, No. 6, July-August, 1950 Special Libraries Association

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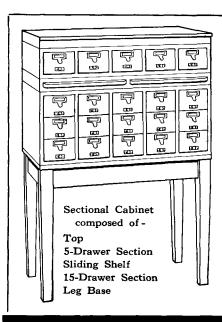
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Widening Horizons

The present International Relations Committee of Special Libraries Association can report that its major activity — that of acquainting special librarians in foreign countries with the aims, techniques and accomplishments of SLA and its membership has definitely been accomplished.

One of the results of this accomplishment was seen last year when the July-August issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES was devoted exclusively to articles of an international character. Our foreign colleagues responded so generously at that time to requests for material that lack of space precluded the publication of all that was received. This material was considered too interesting and too informative to be discarded, however, and accordingly, a second international issue was planned.

The International Relations Committee has for some time anticipated the possibility of taking part in or promoting some formal plan that will bring groups of working librarians from specialized fields to this country. Such a congress could make an invaluable contribution to an enlarged and more unified concept of special librarianship. It is hoped that this idea will take tangible form in the not-too-distant future.

In the meantime, the Chairman of the International Relations Committee and the Editor of SPECIAL LIBRARIES take pleasure in presenting to the readers this second issue of international scope which they hope will help to cement to some degree the growing bond of international professional unity.

ELEANOR S. CAVANAUGH, *Chairman*, International Relations Committee.
ALMA C. MITCHILL, *Editor*

Some Libraries and Library Problems in Finland

Dr. Olsoni is Director, Publication and Library Department, State Institute for Technical Research, Helsinki, Finland.

LL FINNS READ, as should be expected in a country which is one of the oldest democracies of the world and where the educational standard is very high. In total book production, Finland stood thirteenth among the nations, while the United States was eighth in 1940. (See Union Catalogs in the United States edited by Robert B. Downs, Chicago, ALA. 1942, pp. 79-82.) This fact is an impressive one for a country the size of Montana and with the population of Massachusetts. The present production is about 3000 new titles, 1200 periodicals and 500 newspapers a year.1

Fundamentally, library problems are universal. The amount of knowledge to be mastered and brought to library patrons is practically the same everywhere. But in a small country like Finland the problems are sometimes more acute and more pressing.

The war and reconstruction after the war brought the problems of libraries into focus with the sharpness of an emergency and made wider circles aware of the importance and indispensability of libraries. Industry was taxed especially by war demands, and after the war, by production problems to satisfy reparations and to serve reconstruction. Finland had to change its industrial structure to new fields, especially as heavy industry expanded. Finland discovered through costly experience how important libraries are. During the war libraries had to be evacuated to safer places and the principle important technical library was lost through bombing. This was the Library of the Finland Institute of Technology in Helsinki with about 80,000 volumes, consisting mainly of irreplaceable scientific and technical periodicals and serial sets. It was the only technical library of importance in Finland. Only 800 volumes were saved. It was a nerve-racking and most difficult problem to evacuate books in such a way that they would still be accessible.

Replacement of Losses

The second great problem was the replacement not only of the losses, but of the great gaps resulting from the fact that very few foreign books could be acquired since 1939. This is a difficult task as every librarian well knows, but it is especially so when funds are lacking and when currency difficulties and other restrictions complicate it. There is a feeling of optimism in Finland at present since the situation has steadily improved since the war. The lack of space is probably the number one problem now, Finland has been very fortunate in receiving generous gifts from the United States through the Ameri-

¹ Recent articles about Finnish libraries in English:

Tudeer, L. O. Th., The Scientific Libraries of Finland, 1939-1946.

Kannila, H., The Public Libraries of Finland, 1939-1946.

Niemi, Taisto John, reviews in the *Library Quarterly* for January 1949, p. 75, the present situation, on the basis of Finnish library reports.

can Book Center and other agencies, as well as through individuals. This kind of help is most encouraging to a country which has decided to cope with its difficulties as it has coped with its debts. The Library of Congress and the New York Public Library, to mention two individual institutions, have played an important role in this work.

However, the lack of literature, especially in the field of science and technology, is still enormous and the needs are great. As an example of existing gaps it may be mentioned that the *Engineering Index* is available only from 1946 to date in any Finnish library. The American Information Centre in Helsinki, a most useful and excellent institution and a library of great importance, has the 1945 volume. But that is all in the whole of Finland. The technology of Finland must work at present without this fundamental tool.

Interlibrary Cooperation

Since Finland is a small country, it is absolutely imperative that the main scientific and other larger libraries serve the nation as a whole and not only their paternal institutions such as universities, societies, research institutes, etc.; they do this essentially on a basis of equality. Interlibrary loans throughout Finland are a necessity; every book brought in to the country must reach every possible patron. It is a matter of economic necessity. This necessity has in practice brought about arrangements somewhat like those established by the Farrington Plan. The different branches of the sciences and of the humanities are divided broadly between the major libraries. The main cooperative tool is the printed catalog of foreign accessions in the most important scientific libraries, (Tieteellisten Kirjastojen Lisäluettelo. 1929) published continuously. This catalog and the corresponding Swedish catalog are the main tools for locating materials in the libraries of Finland and Sweden. The generous and extensive interlibrary cooperation with the excellent libraries in Sweden has been of im-

mense value. This cooperation between the Scandinavian countries makes all Scandinavian material available to all. The development of microfilm and photostat has made this intercountry use of material still more effective and the airplane has made it quick. The use of photostat and microfilm is proportionately very great and is increasing. The national bibliographies are of high quality. The published catalogs of accessioned books make it easy for small libraries to locate books. The main difficulty, as always with current bibliographies, lies in getting them published in time and at present, of course, in covering the backlog accumulated during wartime. To cover this gap and to assist the patrons, all the major scientific libraries and special libraries publish weekly or monthly accession lists of the same type as the ones issued by the Science Museum in London. These lists not only assist the patrons but aid librarians in their acquisition work, where the great problem is to decide what books to buy and which to eliminate and how to secure the most for the money. It is a different situation from that in the great American libraries, where the question is: Do we have everything worth while? The Finnish problem is utmost selectivity, the American, relative completion.

Abstracting Journals

All the main technical and scientific periodicals and serials print abstracts or references of their articles generally in English. They are also classified according to the Universal Decimal Classification. They can be ordered in card form (3 x 5) like the Engineering index cards from the Teknika Literaturrällskapet in Stockholm (Swedish equivalent of the Special Libraries Association). These cards cover all material of importance in technical fields published in Sweden and partly published in Finland. Both in Denmark and in Norway, cards are published in much the same way but they include also foreign material in those countries. These tools, together with the international reference material, are the means for struggling with the ever-expanding gigantic flow of new knowledge. The abstracting and indexing journal, *Byglitteratur*, serves the fields of architecture and building excellently and is operated on an inter-Scandinavian basis.

The printed catalogs and indexes are extremely important tools because such a large percentage of the library patronage is not able to come to the library to use the catalogs. The service is not centered around the catalogs to the same degree that it is in the United States where the heart of the library is the mammoth dictionary catalog. The problem is not only one of serving the patron who is able to come to the library but also one of bringing the knowledge to the patron wherever in Finland or in Scandinavia he may be, as quickly and as effectively as possible. The library should be considered a medium for the dissemination of knowledge, not an institute to guard and worship the book. The educational aspect of the library is only one of the library objectives, and in a scientific and industrial research library not the most important one. A research library serves people who are using their education and knowledge for the common benefit and for the objectives to which their institution is dedicated. The needs are so important and so fundamentally different from educational and curricula requirements that separation becomes necessary when they clash with each other, as has also been seen recently in some institutions in the United States.

Libraries of Finland

The main libraries in Finland are: The University of Helsinki Library, and the National Copyright Library with nearly one million volumes. This library has four major departments. The "Fennica" is collecting all Finnish material, material printed in Finland and material dealing with Finland and Finns (e.g., Finns in the United States). The Foreign Literature Department

covers the foreign language material except that printed in Cyrillic characters. This material is handled by the Slavic Department, one of the most important Slavic libraries in Europe outside of Russia, which is especially strong in all Russian materials for the period from 1820-1917. The University Library received one copy of every book printed in Russia during that time. The fourth major department is the Manuscript Department with good collections of academic and scientific manuscripts as well as letters and papers of important men and scholars. The library has extensive exchange relations with foreign countries and a great collection of foreign dissertations.

The Students' Union has its own very remarkable 100-year-old library of 100,000 volumes in Helsinki. It is supported partly by the state and partly by its own funds. It corresponds to an undergraduate library in the United States and provides students with all the materials needed in their curricula, i.e., textbooks, reference material and recreational reading. It is managed by a board of students which is a part of the students' self-government as free academic citizens, aimed at education for good citizenship.

In Turku, the old capital of Finland, there are two university libraries which divide the fields of knowledge between themselves. The important scientific societies have a common central library mainly developed by exchanging their publications with corresponding learned societies in other countries. The Commercial Universities, the Pedagogical University in Jyväskylä and the Civic College in Helsinki, have their own libraries. The Diet has a good library in a fine building which consists mainly of materials in the social sciences, law and government. Several government departments and the defense forces have good libraries.

The Finland Institute of Technology, whose function is mainly to educate engineers and architects, and the State

Institute for Technical Research, which was founded during the War and which is in charge of technical research, have important libraries in their fields. Both Institutes are endeavoring, with great difficulties, to build up their libraries and both are weak in American materials. The State Institute for Technical Research has a publication series of its own and is trying to develop its exchange relations.

Central Technical Library Committee

To investigate the problems of technical libraries, the government appointed a committee, under the chairmanship of Baron John Palmén, professor of chemistry, which made extensive studies in other countries. The report of this Central Technical Library Committee proposed an independent Central Technical Library directly under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and governed by its chief patrons: industry, The Finland Institute of Technology, The State Institute for Technical Research, all the engineering societies, and the librarians of the University of Helsinki Library and of the Central Technical Library itself. The committee stressed that the large national libraries are institutes with general national functions and responsibilities and that as such they are used not only by their original patrons but also by all technical research interests in the country. Statistics in Sweden and Denmark show that in the fields of technology and allied industrial fields 80-90 percent of the patrons are from the field in general, not staff members of the institutes. The situation, in most cases, is different in the United States, where both groups usually can afford their own libraries. The experience in cooperation with industry has shown how economical it can be for both sides. The central library concentrating on more general materials and the industry and research laboratories on their special problems all avoid unnecessary duplication, with relatively complete overall coverage for each one. However, the old administrative pattern with its very long history does not correspond even remotely to reality when the majority of the patrons are not represented on the board and a library is governed by a minority on historical grounds. The resulting situation becomes as great an anachronism as 19th century labor policy applied today. This, however, is the real situation of libraries in many fields and many countries; as a result, it is difficult for libraries to obtain the support and backing they need and deserve.

The Finland Institute of Technology, together with other institutes, has just been alloted an excellent new site near Helsinki. A plan for this area in which most of Finland's technical research and education will be concentrated, will be selected from plans to be submitted by experts in open competition.

The most important industrial special library is the Library at Keskuslaboratorio, which is a central research institute for research in the chemistry of wood and allied problems and is owned by the Finnish wood working industries.

The State Institute for Technical Research is comparable to the British Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and corresponding institutions in the Dominions. It has an Information and Publications Department similar to the Information Division of the Canadian National Research Council. All inquiries concerning applied sciences should be addressed to these institutions; those in agriculture to Valtion Maatalous-Koelaitos; in the pure sciences, medicine and the humanities, to the University of Helsinki Library; and those in the social sciences and in law to the Library of the Diet.

Technical Periodicals

In addition to the better-known publications of learned societies there should be mentioned the many technical periodicals: Teknillinen Aikakauslehti (Technical Journal), Tekniska Föreningens i Finland Förhandlingar (Proceedings of the Technical Society of

Finland), Rakennusinsinööri (The Building Engineer), Voimaja Valo (Power and Light), Arkkitehti (The Architect), Suomen Paperi ja Puutavaralehti (The Finnish Paper and Lumber journal) and the publications of the State Institute for Technical Research. All include English abstracts or articles in English and several are published both in Finnish and Swedish.

The Finnish Association for Documentation corresponds to the Special Libraries Association. Its membership consists not only of special librarians but also of research engineers and research administrators interested in problems of documentation in the fields of technology, management, industrial and political economy and commerce. Its purpose is to maintain close contact between research and documentalists, which is the life blood of real special librarianship and documentation work. A documentalist is an essential part of the research team and can never be a mere keeper of books.

A state committee is making a survey of the library problems of scientific, university and institute libraries (a total of 260 libraries) and is developing plans for a complete and reasonable division and use of labor, money and materials among these libraries for the best possible library organization for Finland. The chairman is Professor L. O. Th. Tudeer, Director of the University of Helsinki Library. The system will probably have the Helsinki University Library as its center and several central libraries for special fields of academic, scientific and educational activities as satellites. The libraries will remain independent so as to give the best possible service to their patrons.

This organization should go far in coping with the enormous ever-growing masses of literature. In the technical field, as has been shown, cooperation of state and industrial libraries is mandatory and should be organized around the aforementioned Central Technical

Library as a central agency and storehouse.

International Cooperation Imperative

Finland feels strongly that the problems of mastering the masses of knowledge are too big for a single nation to solve. International cooperation is the only real solution. Every country has an important duty, not only in producing literature, but also in disseminating it. The acquisition of books and other documentation material is a difficult problem and a planned and well organized acquisition policy is necessary to avoid a waste of money by unnecessary duplication, acquisition of "dead" literature, or of literature of secondary importance and literature of compilatory nature, etc. To establish and carry out such a policy is exacting, but also most challenging to the librarian and documentalist. When the librarian achieves such a function with reasonable success, he is no longer a mere keeper of books, he actually has introduced a rational process of book management. His success or failure in this function will decide the fate of librarianship. To accomplish this he must live and think with his patrons, so as not to lose the intimate contact with the research and other professions he is serving.

Only by close cooperation with the state, industry and commerce can libraries be assured of the necessary financial support. But much can be done by librarians themselves to make the budget go much further. Cataloging is still done fundamentally as it was fifty years ago. The problem of classification can be solved only by international cooperation. The Universal Decimal Classification is a sound basis in spite of all its shortcomings. It is the only system with an international organization for its maintenance and development and is the most generally used of all systems in Europe. The International Federation of Documentation, UNESCO, and the documentation associations in different countries are working for its improvement for the benefit of all.

The publication and dissemination of the results of research are at least as important as the collecting and storing of them. The methods used for publishing affect the pace of evaluation. A librarian in a small country probably feels most keenly the enormous responsibility involved and how far removed his position is from that of his predecessors. The three problems of collecting, storing and communicating, which includes publishing, are the great library, or documentation, problems of our atomic age. They are all unsolved, although acute, as can be seen from the results of the Royal Society of London Scientific Information Conference (London, June 21-July 2, 1948). A study of the organization of research will furnish the basis for solving many of these problems. With respect to communication there are many aspects which need study and solutions. It is well known that the process of getting the results of research to the users is far too slow. That the process of publication reviewing and abstracting is not only slow but very inadequate is felt very keenly in Finland.

Modern Librarianship

In most instances, the method of assembling materials for the user is still quite antiquated. Special librarians and information centers have been compelled, however, to begin thinking of books and their users in more functional terms. Fundamentally, the attitude of librarians towards books is the same as in the Middle Ages when a book was an extremely expensive and rare thing, and not regarded as something to be used for "rational" purposes. Even today the book is still worshipped in many libraries as it was in the churches and cloisters during that period.

A modern information centre and library is a pumping station of knowledge, irrespective of its location, consisting of books, pamphlets, films, records, cards, samples, specimens and even of knowledge in the heads of men. The documentalist, together with the journalist, is practically the only universalist left in our specialized world. Even in a special library he is expected to know and to understand what others do not. The object of the documentalist is to lay the pipes where they are needed, to keep the pumps going to prepare the solution and to find the materials for it and not to wait for the people to come to the well with their buckets as in former days.

To what extent a library is meeting these problems depends on its director and the board of control. The director should know to what extent his personnel, the research staff, and other departments should be informed, how to organize the staff effectively, especially in respect to its main function of supplying information to the users.

Conclusion

The problems mentioned are only a few of the many confronting us today and they are clearly connected with the fundamental problems of science and society and with the trends of culture. They are far from having been solved, and in a small country like Finland they are very keenly felt. The great leader and pioneer in modern librarianship, the United States, with its ideals and material resources, and its many professional associations, is looked upon with great expectation for leadership in the solution of these problems on an international basis.



The Technical Literature Service in Norway

Miss Hannisdal is Librarian, The Deichmanske Library, Oslo, Norway.

THE SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL libraries of Norway are in a state of expansion and coordination. For years they have worked separately, not realizing that cooperation between libraries is the best means of promoting the interests of the public as well as the interests of the different libraries.

The deciding step towards realization of this coordination was taken by the Norway Scientific Technical Research Council (founded in 1946). In a preliminary scheme considering the development of scientific technical research institutes, each with a research library in its special field, the existing technical libraries are going to find their place.

The scheme builds upon technical library centers in Trondheim, Oslo and Bergen: The Norwegian Institute of Technology, Trondheim; Oslo Technical Library, consisting of the Technical Department of the Deichmanske Library and Blindern Mathematical Scientific Library; The University of Oslo; and the Bergen Technical Library.

These are lending libraries and make available technical literature to libraries and institutions, firms and factories in the whole country. They are in close cooperation with the research libraries and other special libraries.

The Norwegian Institute of Technology, Trondheim, is the most important technical library in Norway. The library was founded 1912-1913, two years after the foundation of the Norwegian Institute of Technology, and has had a

rapid growth. The D.C. system was adopted from the start. With about 800 current periodicals, very good bibliographical tools and a book collection amounting to about 125,000 volumes, the library occupies first place in the technical literature service in Norway. About thirty institute libraries ranging in size from about 10,000 to some 100,000 volumes, are subordinated to the main library, where all books are purchased, catalogued and classified. The premises of the main library have been rebuilt, enlarged and modernized. The reading room and the periodical room together contain 180 seats, and the photographic equipment is entirely new and up to date, with photostat, microfilm apparatus, enlarger for microfilm and microfilm reader.

Oslo Technical Library: The Technical Department of the Deichmanske Library has for years had a lively circulation of technical books. The Deichmanske Library is the city library of Oslo, the capital of Norway. It serves a population of about 420,000 people with a book stock of about 420,000 volumes.

Founded in 1785 and named after the donator, Carl Deichman, it has successively won a strong position in the cultural life of the city. About 1900, the library was reorganized after American methods. The Dewey system was adopted, and since this time the library has had a rapid development. From the very start the library has purchased much technical literature owing to an urgent need. In 1917-1918 a technical department was planned, and when in

1933 the library moved into a new and modern building, the technical department became a reality. Originally on a popular level, it has successively grown to greater importance. Through the cooperation with engineering, industrial and architectural societies, a rather large staff of experts has been appointed who voluntarily give their assistance in questions concerning book selection.

The collections (about 40,000 books and 450 current periodicals) are chiefly practical. Mathematics and science have only been purchased on an elementary scale due to the fact that the University Library has excellent collections in those fields. In addition, rich collections have grown up in the institutes of the Mathematical Scientific Faculty of The University of Oslo. These institute libraries form the scientific base for the Oslo Technical Library.

Bergen Technical Library is still in the embryo stage. Officially opened in 1948, it works in close cooperation with the newly-erected University of Bergen, institutions and private firms. It subscribes to 130 periodicals and stresses periodical indexes and abstract publications. The D.C. system is used. In addition, Bergen has for a few years had a special textile library of about 1000 volumes and about 20 current periodicals.

Many technical research institutes already have been founded in special fields. They are located in different parts of the country. The paper industry, the canning industry and the fisheries have for years had libraries connected with their research institutes. All of these libraries use their own classification system. As yet, they have no laboratories for document reproduction nor readers for microfilm.

The central libraries take special care of the fields which are not covered by research institutes and duplicate literature of broader interest and of more frequent use. They also have a record of the location of the research institutes

and other special libraries which duplicate material.

The technical literature service in the Oslo area is at present divided between several libraries. An important technical library, founded 1877, belongs to the Patent Office. The 300 current periodicals together with rich collections of Norwegian and foreign patents (more than 6 million numbers) provide excellent source material. The library serves as a central library for all questions connected with patents and inventions. Due to the interests of the staff of the Patent Office it cannot lend its books on a large scale, but serves as a reference library. The library also gives photostat service.

Trade and economy is best covered by the library of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This library was founded in 1905 and later combined with the Information Office of the Trades and the library of the Ministry of Agriculture. With a collection amounting to about 100,000 (booklets included) and about 750 current periodicals, this library covers law, politics, economics, industry, technics, agriculture, forestry, fishery, history, geography, etc.

Firms and factories are interested in providing professional libraries for their employees and laborers, but this development has been delayed. It is inevitable that such a development will result in many unnecessary duplications, which could be avoided by a closer contact with the public libraries.

The chief technical libraries stress the importance of good bibliographical tools and photo reproduction. But the only up-to-date photographic laboratory is installed in the Norwegian Institute of Technology, Trondheim. The other libraries are dependent on simpler equipment or private firms. There is a growing interest in microfilm but to date only a few readers are in use.

The effort to coordinate the libraries and promote cooperation between them has resulted in an exchange of catalog

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Business Libraries in the Netherlands

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IN ITS PRESENT STATE of development, the business library in the Netherlands is, comparatively speaking, of recent date, due mainly to the conditions of the Dutch business world itself as well as to the organization of Dutch libraries.

Until quite recently Dutch trade and industry failed to recognize the great value of literature research. This lack of recognition was much more evident in the economic and commercial than in the technical field. Businessmen relied in this respect mainly on their own knowledge, experience and intuition and therefore had no conception of the valuable data hidden in books and periodicals. Accordingly, company libraries were, generally speaking, poorly equipped with economic literature, while attempts to add business and economics departments to public libraries, such as in the Amsterdam Public Library, met with little financial support on the part of trade and industry.

Dutch libraries primarily served scientific, cultural and recreational purposes and with regard to these aims, they have indeed played a very important role in Dutch public life. But as a whole, the businessmen's need for upto-date information was little understood by them. Therefore, the reorganization of the Economic Information Service of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, involving as it did the supply of factual information to the business

world, had important consequences. Keeping in close contact with trade and industry enabled the Service to gather information and documentation to meet the manifold demands. In addition, its official character made it possible to collect information from abroad through the Netherlands Foreign Service.

There are, of course, a few separate libraries for some special branches of trade, such as those of the Netherlands Transportation Association, the Association for the Building Industry, the Indonesian Institute, etc., and it is always possible to secure local commercial information through the various Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Most of these libraries as well as many of the company and technical libraries are affiliated with the Special Library Section of the Netherlands Association of Librarians. This Section displays great activity, holding regular meetings and organizing programs for the training of special librarians.

Business and the Public Library

As said before, the public business library, as it is widely known in the United States and England, does not exist in the Netherlands, with the one exception of the Commercial Library at Amsterdam, which was founded in 1919 after the English model. Although comparable with the English system this library is unlike the English libraries, which are mostly fitted for quick reference, in that it devotes most of its space to studies on business problems and to books on commercial education.

The financing of the Association for a Commercial Library depends almost

entirely on its membership and to a small degree on a subsidy given by the Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The City of Amsterdam also puts at its disposal a specified amount of money for purchases of books for the Economic Faculty of the University of Amsterdam, which are housed in the Commercial Library.

As the Dutch business world, until recently, was not very "documentationminded," it has been very difficult to obtain sufficient financial support for the extension and even maintenance of the library. According to its 1948 report, the library has 465 subscribers; the sustaining membership (i.e. institutions contributing from Flos. 25 (£10.-) upwards annually) numbers 35. The total income amounts to Fls. 8.000.--(£3200) a year, which is far from sufficient to build up a library. These financial difficulties have prevented the library from attaining full maturity. This lack of interest, however, concerns only the financing of the library as the number of visitors in 1948 was about 13,000, and nearly 6800 books and periodicals were loaned for home reading.

Since 1946, there have been several attempts on the part of some public libraries to interest local business in a commercial library. And at Deventer and Zwolle, these attempts have to a certain extent been successful. Funds are being collected among trade and industry in order to set up a small reference library and a collection of periodicals within the public library for the benefit of the business community. In 1949, a committee was organized to act as a contact between the public libraries and the business world with the object of propagandising the establishment and use of commercial libraries.

Business and the Government¹

The supply of business literature in this country, however, is mainly in the hands of the government business li-

brary, namely, the Economic Information Service. With the reorganization of this Service in 1936, its library was made entirely subservient to the requirements of business. It originated from the Economic Library which, though equipped with a public reading-room, was chiefly designed to meet the requirements of the Ministry's officials. After the reorganization of the Economic Information Service, which had come into being partly at the instance of the business world, the library thoroughly changed its character. The aim was to create an all-around business library on the same principles that underlay the public commercial libraries. It was obviously impossible to achieve this all at once; the library has grown gradually into its present shape. Much preliminary work in the field of organization and administration was done during the war, so that when the liberation came, the library could devote itself fully to its task. In its present form the library is organized broadly as follows:

Contents of the Library

The library now owns over 800 Dutch and foreign trade directories, including general business directories from almost every country in the world as well as those concerned with special branches of industry. In addition, the reference library contains a fairly complete collection of economic yearbooks of all countries, encyclopaedias, dictionaries, codes, atlases, economic handbooks, etc., totaling approximately 2000. The number of current periodicals in May 1940, amounting to 900, has now been increased to over 1800. The periodicals deal mainly with economic subiects, but a rigid line of demarcation between economic and technical journals often cannot be drawn. The Librarv strictu sensu consists of 45,000 books, reports, etc., on social-economic subjects. All these publications have an international character; they can be kept up to date thanks to the Netherlands Foreign Service.

Finally, there are at the disposal of

¹ This section was partially published in SPECIAL LIBRARIES in the July-August 1949 issue.

the library the most important Dutch and foreign trade statistics and a record of government economic measures taken both in the Netherlands and abroad. These collections, however, form a separate department, the Legislation and Statistics Section.

Subject-Indexing

The aim of the library is to classify as soon as possible the economic information contained in this material. Careful compilation, indexing and filing are therefore necessary to make sure that documentation is always up to date and easily accessible to the public.

The success of the library lies in its being adequate to assist readers to obtain accurate, satisfactory answers to their questions; to serve the needs of those reporting on the present and of those speculating about the future. Consequently, the classification of periodicals is of the utmost importance.

Of the 1800 current periodicals the library regularly receives, 80 per cent come from foreign countries. The problem was how to index the numerous subjects in such a way that visitors could find at any moment the latest information in their field of activity conveniently arranged.

Mention of merely the titles of the important subjects was not enough. Short abstracts had to be prepared and different subjects and aspects treated in the various articles had to be indexed. With the help of the Universal Decimal Classification and photographic reproduction, the difficulty has been solved.

Every week some five hundred articles are classified, which means an addition of about 1500 new titles to the catalog. Patrons, who wish to be regularly informed about the new articles and books published on a special economic subject, can subscribe to the various groups or subjects entered in the catalog. They receive copies of the catalog cards. The price of one "card" is 12½ Dutch cents (5 American cents). For subscribers who pay more than 25

guilders (£10) a month, the price is reduced to 9 Dutch cents ($3\frac{1}{2}$ American cents). Subscribers to the complete classification pay 6 Dutch cents ($2\frac{1}{4}$ American cents) per card. The original literature can be borrowed free of charge or a photocopy can be obtained at cost price.

A bibliography of the most important articles is published weekly in the daily *Economische Voorlichting*. A list of acquisitions is published separately every month. This list contains the new books, directories, reports and reference books but no abstracts of articles are given.

Information Section

The Information Section supplies, free of charge, any information in the field of economic literature. Its efficiency is measured by quick and correct answers to inquiries, whatever they may be. For this reason extensive reference material which is as up to date as possible is essential. A thorough acquaintance with this material is a first requisite for those who regularly answer inquiries. To meet this requirement, a certain specialization among employes was initiated last year.

In 1948, 14,320 inquiries were answered by telephone and 12,224 readers were given direct information. More than half the visitors and inquiries come from outside the Hague.

Bibliographical Research

Those seeking information on a particular subject, may apply in writing or by telephone for a bibliography so as to make a choice from the sources listed. The number of such inquiries last year amounted to 2,115. Naturally, not each of them referred to a different subject, and therefore the same bibliographies, supplemented if necessary, could often be used again. In anticipation of a demand for literature on subjects of current interest, it is contemplated to bring out a non-periodical publication next year following the pattern of the American Business Literature.

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Special Libraries in Australia

Written under the direction of P. Mander Jones, Librarian, The Mitchell Library, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

DEFORE 1939, special libraries as BEFORE 1939, special in Such existed in Australia but they were not selfconscious. They thought of themselves as particles thrown off from general libraries or often as rather neglected subdepartments of firms and institutions. In most cases their staffs had no specialised training; they had no distinctive organisation, no esprit de corps, save through the all-embracing Australian Institute of Librarians, a body which certainly could not see its way to accept as full members all the assorted personnel of the small libraries. This condition was due not only to the inevitable lag in a young country incompletely industrialised but also to the strong and active leadership of the state public libraries. In New South Wales, for example, the only library school is attached to the public library and it is strongly imbued with the ideal of a liberal professional education. The special libraries attached to state government departments and institutions are all staffed from the public library. Similarly in the academic world, departmental libraries at the University are staffed from the Fisher Library which is not special but general. In both fields interchangeability of staff seems to have been and to be an accepted principle.

When a world war made higher demands on Australian research and industry than ever before, whilst cutting us off from many of our former overseas sources of supply, information was suddenly at a premium. One of the results was the setting up of many small specialised libraries in institutions and

firms. Demand for trained staff far outran the supply and many inexperienced people, some from professional and some from clerical staffs, some young untried graduates, were pressed into librarians' jobs. It was new blood with a vengeance. Some acquired a standard training subsequently while some simply exercised their native intelligence to good effect.

Most of these libraries were, and still are, of the one man, or more often, one woman, type. They are scattered geographically and are a most heterogeneous collection in which standards and remuneration differ widely. But they are the product of a genuine need, a need driven home by emergency. Because of their diversity and frequent lack of standard training, special librarians are today very aware of their special status and of their peculiar problems. They are educated by difficulties for which general library practice would not have prepared them, the difficulties of adapting their techniques to the specialised needs of a group of research workers, of creating machinery and services, of handling reports in all their waywardness, often with the complication of security grading, of pursuing obscure but critical references through a world entangled in war. These problems emphasised the specialness of the special librarian and demanded a very high degree of adaptability seasoned with judgment.

Something has been achieved towards solving the problems of the training and status of special librarians. The Australian Institute of Librarians has acknowledged special libraries as a class within the whole by including in its qualifying examination an optional special libra-

ries paper. The New South Wales Branch has canalised the spontaneous impulse to mutual help among special librarians by nominating a Special Libraries Committee whose most important work is interlibrary liaison.

The special library movement in Australia is strong and irregular and since not only many of the individual libraries but the whole system is in the making, it is the least stereotyped branch of library work and offers many opportunities for creative work.

Regional Special Libraries in Australia

The special library or collection within a library of the regional historical type is rather highly developed in Australia. From the early days there have been private collectors interested in Australiana and some of their collections have formed the basis of the most important libraries. The following are the chief libraries which can be considered as area collections which are available and free to all students.

Mitchell Library, Sydney

The Mitchell Library is named after its founder, David Scott Mitchell, who devoted his life to the building up of a library of Australiana. His collection with a large endowment was left to the New South Wales Government for the use and benefit of the people. The building in which it is housed, known as the Mitchell Wing of the Public Library of New South Wales, was built by the government and opened in 1910. It is administered by the Trustees of the Public Library who appoint a Mitchell Committee to deal with all matters relating to the acquisition of material and service to readers. It is free for the use of students under regulations similar to those of the British Museum.

This library has one of the greatest regional collections in the Southern Hemisphere. Its sphere of interest is from the Antarctic to the Equator and from the Hawaiian Islands to the Indian Ocean. It is particularly rich in manuscripts which include the papers of governors, statesmen, pioneers, ex-

plorers and scientists, as well as many thousands of smaller volumes, packets and single items. The departments of the Government of New South Wales have deposited large quantities of non-current records, forming an archival collection of the greatest value to historical and social students. The collection of maps, engravings and other pictures supplement the printed books and manuscripts, and there are also galleries where paintings and exhibitions of other material are displayed.

Much of the time of the staff is devoted to research work to answer the historical and bibliographical questions which are received from all parts of the world, as well as from readers on the spot. An endeavour is made to train officers to become experts in one subject such as pictures, maps, periodicals, in addition to their general knowledge of the library. This is necessary as the collection is so large and varied that it can be regarded as a number of special collections forming a large library limited to a geographical area.

Commonwealth National Library, Canberra

From its inception in 1902, the Library of the Commonwealth Parliament was conceived as a national library, to be modelled after the Library of Congress, and from the first, special attention was paid to the collection of material relating to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. A foundation had already been laid when, in 1909, the library of E. A. Petherick was acquired. He was a pioneer of Australian bibliography who, as a bookseller in London for over thirty years, had enjoyed special facilities for collecting in his chosen field. This collection, now shelved as a separate unit within the library, is rich in early voyages, maps and prints relating to the Pacific and in lesser and ephemeral works of early Australian history and literature, mostly in their original bindings. The gaps in this collection have been steadily filled as opportunity offered. Since 1912, the library has been

entitled under the Copyright Act to receive a copy of every book and pamphlet published in Australia, and this provision, though at first somewhat laxly enforced, has resulted in the preservation of an ever-widening range of current material. In 1923, following the purchase of important Cook manuscripts, the title, Commonwealth National Library, was officially adopted for this section. In 1935, the Pacific Discovery Section was rounded off by the acquisition of the large collection of books and charts made by Alexander Dalrymple, and in 1940, Gregory Mathews presented his unique ornithological library, comprising almost every published work recording observations of Australian birds.

In manuscripts, apart from the Cook documents, the library is less strong. There is a collection of manuscripts of Sir Joseph Banks and other documents relating to early exploration, and several important groups of papers dealing with federation and the political history of the Commonwealth, a field which is of paramount interest to the library.

While the historical collections are open to all research workers and are increasingly used, the library has accepted a special responsibility for bibliographical publication. Its most ambitious project, The Historical Records of Australia, had reached thirty-four volumes when publication was suspended temporarily in 1926. The Annual Catalog of Australian Publications, based on the copyright deposits, has since 1936 listed all books and pamphlets published in Australia each year, together with books about Australia published abroad. Since 1937, it has listed official publications of the Commonwealth and of all states, while the Australian Public Affairs Information Service indexes monthly articles of current Australian interest in a wide range of periodicals.

South Australian Archives, Adelaide Apart from the Mitchell Library,

South Australia was the first state to make special provision for regional historical research. The South Australian Archives, established in 1921 as a department of the Public Library, has been built up as a working centre for historical research in that state, and its collections which embrace every kind of historical material are widely and increasingly used. Legislation has been passed forbidding the destruction of government documents without reference to the Libraries Board and by 1940, the archivist could claim that as a result of this organisation, "historical research in South Australia can now go forward on sound lines, with a minimum of wasted effort and a reasonable amount of comfort,"

Victorian Historical Collection, Melbourne

The Public Library of Victoria contains the Victorian Historical Collection. It has been built up over a period of eighty years, and deals mainly with the history of the state. It contains manuscripts, maps and pictures, as well as printed material from the first press onwards.

Since 1929, the collection has been housed in a special gallery in which a selection of material is always on exhibition.

The Oxley Memorial Library of Queensland, Brisbane

The main historical library of Queensland is the Oxley Memorial Library which was opened in 1934 and is housed in the Public Library of Queensland. It is named after John Oxley, the explorer, who discovered the Brisbane River in 1823 and suggested the site of Brisbane as suitable for settlement.

The library collects material of all types dealing with Queensland history and literature and is gradually becoming very useful for students of these subjects.

Historical Societies

In each state of Australia there exist one or more historical societies. The main societies publish journals containing papers written by their members or

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Australian Institute of Librarians

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HE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF LI-BRARIANS, the leading association of professional librarians in Australia, was formed at Canberra, the federal capital, on August 20-21, 1937, with more than 150 foundation members. The need for an association of professional librarians had been felt for some years prior to 1937, but their numerical weakness and the great distances separating the capital cities of the states in which the majority of the professional librarians were working, had prevented its establishment earlier. Whilst it was the first association of professional librarians in Australia, it was not the first Australian library association. Federal and state associations with a wide range of membership, including not only librarians, but persons interested in the library movement, had existed as far back as 1896, but none had had a long history. Their failure was largely due to the fact that their memberships included too few professional librarians and too many representatives from the subscription libraries.

It is not surprising, therefore, to find the objective of the Institute to be "to unite persons engaged in library work and to improve standards of librarianship and the status of the library profession in Australia." The first president, W. H. Ifould, O.B.E., in his inaugural address on the future of the Institute, delivered to the first conference, stated "that one of the causes of the backwardness of the library profession in Australia is the lack of trained librarians" and that he could conceive

of no more important work for the Institute than that "it should formulate a system of training for librarians in all classes of libraries which would be recognised by employing authorities in Australia." In January 1941, the Institute appointed a Board of Examination and Certification to conduct examinations and to recommend to the Council of the Institute the issue of certificates to successful candidates, and thus took, as it states in its fourth annual report, "one of the necessary first steps towards raising the standards of librarianship in Australia and achieving one of the principal objects of the Institute." The first examinations were conducted in 1944. Today, the possession of a certificate from the Institute is a condition of the employment of librarians by most authorities in the federal, state and local fields, as well as by many private employers and employing bodies.

The Constitution of the Institute makes provision for three kinds of members: members, student associates and honorary members, and for a governing council elected by members. The members in each state and territory constitute a Branch of the Institute and each Branch has the power to make its own constitution and by-laws, subject to the approval of the Federal Council, and to elect its own officers. Members of each Branch elect one or more councilors to the Federal Council, according to the numerical strength of their membership.

The area of Australia is only slightly less than that of the United States, but its population is less than that of New York, and the old difficulty of bringing together at one time a large body of librarians was not easily overcome. It

was wisely decided at the inception of the Institute to hold annual conferences in conjunction with the annual meetings and whenever possible to hold them in a different capital city each year. With the exception of the war years, it has been possible to hold annual conferences in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Hobart, and also to publish the *Proceedings* of the past five conferences.

Much of the real work of the Institute is done through committees of the Federal Council and of the Branch Councils. A Committee of Reference and Research, later reconstituted as a Special Libraries Committee, was one of the original committees of the Federal Council and functioned until 1945, when it was found that its functions could be carried out more successfully by the Branches.

The Victorian Branch early in 1948 appointed a Technical Committee, with a special librarian as convenor, to arrange monthly meetings and discussion groups to aid people in special and municipal libraries, and this committee is still functioning. There are 65 special librarians in this Branch and many have attended the evening classes held to prepare candidates for the preliminary examination of the Institute. Special librarians are well represented on the Victorian Branch Council and the Federal president for 1949-1950, Miss M. E. Archer, M.Sc., Librarian of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. is a member of the Victorian Branch.

Whilst New South Wales cannot yet boast of a Federal president drawn from its special librarians, its Branch president for 1949-1950 is Mrs. McKay, B.A., Librarian of the Commonwealth Industrial Gases Ltd., and for some years convenor of its Special Libraries Committee. This committee has been very active since its establishment in 1944. It has held several meetings each year for general discussion of special library problems and has arranged visits to special libraries in the Sydney area.

From January-March 1947, it gave an evening course in library methods to 42 special librarians. Of these, one candidate passed in section one of the qualifying examination of the Australian Institute of Librarians and 14 out of 19 were successful in the preliminary examination, all passing with merit. It has issued since January 1944 a Special Libraries leaflet to keep special librarians in touch with each other, to share information on special library matters and to provide a clearing house for the exchange of duplicate periodicals and serials. It is being sent to the 87 special libraries with which the committee is in touch.

Special librarians in the remaining states are few in number, and projects of their Branches designed specifically to assist them, have been unnecessary. The South Australian Branch recently appointed a committee to consider what might be done for special and school librarians, but so far the committee has dealt only with the latter group.

In addition to the Special Libraries Committee, the Federal Council has appointed, from time to time, committees to investigate such matters as salary and status of librarians; the coverage in Australian libraries of periodicals, particularly in the scientific and technical fields; Australian bibliography; assistance to damaged libraries overseas; and cataloging and classification. The general shortage of staff during and since the war has prevented these committees from meeting and functioning fully.

Branch Activities

In the Branches, however, more active work has been possible. The New South Wales Branch has formed in recent years a School Libraries Committee and a Municipal and Shire Libraries Committee. The School Libraries Committee issues regular bulletins on school library work to school librarians and teachers and has endeavored by holding general meetings throughout

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Banco de la Republica, Bogota

Miss Baugh, now Librarian of the Maude Longhorne Nelson Library, Hopewell, Virginia, was recently connected with the Instituto Cultural Peruano-Norteamericano as Librarian and Library Consultant for the Cultural Center Libraries in Colombia, Ecuador and Bolivia¹.

Possibly the most unique bank in the Americas is the Banco de la República in Bogotá, Colombia, South America.

On August 6, 1538, Lieutenant General Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada and his 166 followers built a small church and twelve thatched huts under the shadow of the towering Andean peaks Monserrate and Guadalupe. Each hut was dedicated to one of the twelve Apostles. He named the settlement Santa Fé de Bacatá, City of the Holy Faith, later to be called Bogotá, and the surrounding territory Nueva Granada, New Spain, in honor of his native land.

Here, three hundred and eighty-five years later, in the "Athens of America", as Bogotá has been called because of its intellectual atmosphere, the Banco de la República was established as Colombia's national bank. Vigorous and vital, it has made notable contributions to the intellectual atmosphere and cultural development of the city. On July 20, 1923, the Banco opened for business with a capital of 10,000,000 pesos, fifty per cent of the stock being owned by the government and fifty per cent by private interests. There are now branches

in the capitals of all fourteen provinces and in nine important towns. It has the exclusive privilege of issuing bank notes, and it controls the government's mint. The newest and smallest denomination note, fifty centavos, was first printed in December 1948. One, two, and five centavos coins are in copper and the ten, twenty, and fifty centavos pieces are of silver.

In addition to the conduct of its normal banking business, the Banco has developed at its own expense, and houses within its own walls, a library valued at one million pesos (nearly a half-million dollars); an emerald museum; a gold museum; and a printing and binding establishment. The National Museum also at one time occupied quarters on the fourth floor of the handsome Banco building at the corner of Avenida Jíménez de Quesada and Carrera 8.

By government decree, the Banco de la República also controls and operates Colombia's fabulous Muzo emerald mines from which comes approximately ninety per cent of the world's supply of emeralds. Exquisite specimens of these precious stones are on display in what may well be the only emerald museum in existence, that of the Banco de la República in Bogotá.

In the gold museum, as spacious as it is, only a comparatively small part of the Banco's brilliant and invaluable collection of Colombian ancient gold articles can be displayed at once. Señor Luis Barriga, Director of the museum, studied the art of exhibition and display abroad and has made an outstandingly attractive arrangement of the museum pieces.

The National Museum, founded in

¹ Miss Baugh's report on her work of reorganizing the Cultural Center Libraries was considered so significant that copies were distributed to key officials in the Information and Educational Exchange Program, U. S. Department of State.

1823 by Vice-President General Francisco de Paula Santander, was removed from the Banco building early in 1948 to its present location in the Antiguo Panóptico. This is a large brownish stone building whose three floors and many corridors are well suited to its present use. Formerly it was a prison, a kind of Alcatraz, located near what is now the Parque de Independencia and not far from the heart of the city.

The best has been saved for lastthe Banco's 50,000-volume library. In 1931, the Banco de la República received from the Junta de Conversión (Board of Monetary Exchange) its collection of 300 books, more or less, consisting primarily of material on banking and economics, and government publications. To this small group were added about 10,000 new books of more general character until in 1944 the valuable 25,000-volume private library of Dr. Laureano García Ortiz was bought. It is said to have cost the Banco 160,000 pesos. The collection includes among its priceless items complete sets of Colombia's first newspaper, the Papel Periódico de Santa Fé, 1780-..... published by Manuel del Socorro Rodríguez, first librarian of the National Library; and its second, La Bagatela, 1811-, published by Antonio Nariño, whose likeness now appears on the new fifty-centavos paper note.

A unique feature of Dr. García Ortiz's collection was its concentration on books in Spanish, French and English on the discovery and founding of North and South America and travels in these continents. Unique, though not surprising, since his biographers tell us that Dr. García Ortiz, 1867-1946, was a scholar, agriculturist, historian, diplomat, banker, journalist and secretary of state. The library's holdings were not cataloged but only itemized in longhand on large sheets of paper.

Within the past four years, the Banco has added another 15,000 volumes to bring its holdings to the impressive figure of some 50,000 books whose value

is five hundred thousand dollars.

The library does not have a set budget. It purchases "everything useful", primarily in the field of economics and banking of course, but also art, history, science, philosophy and some fiction; therefore it may be called, in a sense, a special-general library.

In 1944 Señorita Blanca Barberi was employed to combine the several collections and organize the library. She, with her two assistants, Señorita Leonar Serrano and Señorita Ina García, have now completed approximately one-third of the cataloging using the Dewey Decimal classification and a simplified Cutter system. Señorita García is a daughter of the late Dr. García Ortiz.

Until June 1948 the library occupied quarters on the street floor; it was then moved to a large basement room where it now is with its shelves of beautifully bound books reaching almost to the ceiling. Bound with leather spines, mostly in reds, and marbled paper-covered cardboard sides they are at once pleasing to the eye and practicable. This work is done in the Banco's printing and binding offices, which not only take care of all needs in connection with the bank's monetary matters, but also those of the library and of its two museums.

Also in 1948, a 30- by 60-foot reading room was planned for the second floor, with books to be sent by elevator between the book stacks in the basement and the reading room. On January 3, 1949, this room was opened to the public for reading on the premises. It is elegantly furnished in red carpet, red leather-covered chairs and sufficient table space for sixty readers, each provided with his own fluorescent light for dark days. Its public card catalog consists of three 30-drawer sections. Although almost anyone may be admitted to the reading room, books are loaned only to the bank's officials and its four hundred employes in Bogotá. Thought is being given however to the setting aside of certain books for public circulation in the foreseeable future.

Training for Democracy in the United States Information Centers

Miss Schmidt is Librarian, Republican National Committee, Washington, D. C.

THE LETTER FROM THE War Department dated 7 April 1947 lay open in front of me. "The War Department desires to employ a librarian to serve in Austria for a period of approximately sixty (60) days about 21 April 1947 . . . The purpose of this mission is to conduct a two months' course in library techniques to a selected group of twenty Austrians who will be placed in charge of the United States Information Centers throughout Austria . . . The success of this vital program is dependent upon assistance from selected individuals such as yourself, and it is sincerely hoped that you will reply stating your interest in this important project at vour earliest convenience . . ."

A feeling of pride and honor swept over me, but it was quickly followed by a feeling of responsibility and humility. In the first place, a course such as outlined above normally takes nine months here at home where no language difficulties have to be considered. In addition, if the United States Information Center Libraries were to fulfill their real purpose of acquainting the Austrian public with a true picture of American life and customs, they should do more than offer a collection of books and magazines correctly arranged and properly indexed. They should present a living example of democracy at work. This would mean that the Austrians who were to staff these libraries must learn to act as Americans while on duty, so that the libraries would actually present a true picture of democracy in action.

Three weeks later I was in Vienna. I located the Amerikanisches Auskunftsbüro (American Information Office) by a large sign over the entrance of the corner building directly behind the Opera at Kärntnerstrasse, Vienna's Fifth Avenue. Several people were looking at the attractive window displays. I entered and was taken upstairs to meet Captain J. B. Wilson, who was the able director of the United States Information Centers in Austria at that time. Because of Austria's status as a liberated country, these Centers were being directed by the Army rather than by the State Department.

Captain Wilson's title was Publications and Graphic Display Officer. In addition to directing the Center Libraries in Vienna, Salzburg and Linz, he had charge of displays in them, of small exhibits which travelled throughout Austria, of lectures about America, and of the translation program. The latter was a cooperative effort with Austrian publishers to secure publication in German of certain worthwhile American books and articles. The main headquarters for all this work was at the Vienna Center.

Captain Wilson introduced me to the librarian, Theresa Druml, a former Wisconsin school teacher, who took me through the library, explaining the existing set-up.

Library of the U. S. Information Center On the ground floor was a large information and reading room. Scattered on the tables were German language publications of the U.S. authorities, such as the weekly Heute (issued by U. S. Military Government in Germany) and the daily newspaper, Wiener Kurier (issued by U. S. Forces in Austria). Around the walls were photographic and poster displays. This was the room where the casual inquirer came to consult the telephone books for the addresses of friends or relatives in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and other cities, to inquire about emigrating to the United States, or to borrow a recent issue of Life, Time, or the Saturday Evening Post to read in the room.

Directly behind this room, but with a separate entrance from the street, was the lending library. This collection was largely American fiction although a small group of popular non-fiction was kept behind the charge desk. While I was there an interesting group of German language books printed in Switzerland and Sweden were placed in circulation. These were the first books to arrive in Vienna by authors forbidden during the Nazi regime, and they made quite a stir. At this time the collection totaled about 2500 volumes; it now has 40,000 volumes of which a large portion is American fiction in translation. The books in the lending library were so popular that many of them remained in constant circulation. Often, in fact, people would wait in the crowded room to snatch up immediately the books being returned by the latest arrivals.

Upstairs, with a separate entry from the street, was the reference room. Bookcases, made partially from old storage boxes, lined the walls. Here the reference books were arranged roughly by subject. They did not circulate but were available for use in the room. At this time there were about 1000 volumes in the room, and an equal number waiting to be cataloged. In addition, the basic reference collection of 3000

volumes, purchased by the Army for all the Information Centers under its control in occupied territories, was expected to arrive momentarily. Today there are about 6500 volumes in this collection.

The room was filled with long reading tables closely placed together. Usually these were crowded with readers, young and old, with interests varying from fashion magazines to technical engineering and medical journals. The file set of magazines was kept in the rear of the reference room, with duplicate copies of the more popular ones being available in the downstairs reading room.

Off the reference room were the various work offices including the librarian's, and a small office which I used for the duration of my stay.

Organization of the Training Class

Shortly after my arrival we started organizing the class. Miss Druml and Captain Wilson selected eight members of the Vienna staff who, in their estimation, would benefit most from the course. Two Salzburg staff members attended, but none from Linz, although both the Salzburg and Linz Centers had been asked to participate. The remainder of the class was selected from interested applicants, most of whom came from the local universities. Minimum pay was offered those attending, and upon the successful completion of the course they were to be employed at the Information Center Libraries. As finally composed, the class had nineteen students. Although their education and age varied greatly, almost all of them proved to be exceptionally able.

The class was formally opened on May twelfth. The lectures themselves lasted five weeks, although an additional week was required to give final examinations and complete individual instruction. I lectured in English at the suggestion of the Army personnel. They felt that anyone working at the Center Libraries should be able to understand spoken English. This was a decision in

which I heartily concurred, not only because of the principle involved, but also because, in English, I knew I was saying what I intended to say. In German, I might unintentionally have expressed myself incorrectly.

In the morning the class was conducted in the reference room; in the afternoon a lecture hall was rented from the Austro-American Institute of Education, which was located just a block away. The Army supplied a blackboard for use in this hall.

The class work was so organized that cataloging and classification was taught in the mornings. I lectured for the first hour on the proper method of cataloging and classifying, demonstrating with large sample cards, after which each student was given four books to be cataloged according to the instructions received. These books came from a collection recently acquired from the Army camp libraries, and, as the work progressed, the books thus cataloged and classified came to form the nucleus of the reorganized reference library. I revised each student's work individually. By having the students bring their completed books to my office it was possible to have our discussions outside the reference room. Thus as the morning wore on and more people came in to use the library, more space was available and fewer disturbances occurred.

The afternoon sessions opened with a lecture in German discussing a broad aspect of American librarianship. These lectures were given by the students with each assigned a specific subject. I had brought over a collection of seventy-five books which contained almost all the necessary material for these studies. Topics covered included the following: Library of Congress, State and County Libraries, University and College Libraries, School Libraries, Government Departmental Libraries, Special Libraries, Training for Librarianship in the United States, Professional Activities, History of American Public Libraries, Public Library Administration, Branches of Public Libraries, Children's Work, Adult Education, Book Selection, and Publicity. Whenever there was a topic not adequately handled in my collection of books, I lectured on it, as for example, Legislative Reference Service.

The remainder of the afternoon I lectured in English on subjects essential to the proper conducting of the U. S. Information Center Libraries. The first week was devoted to the procedures followed from the time a book was received at a library until it was made available to the reader and included accessioning, labeling, shelving, etc. The next two weeks were concerned with circulation work, including records made for the books and statistics kept, while the final two weeks were devoted to reference work.

One examination was given when the study of circulation work was completed and another when we finished reference work. For the final examination in cataloging each student received six books which he had to catalog and classify, typing the shelf list and the main catalog card with tracings for each additional entry.

It was impossible to get regular textbooks to Austria in time for the course. I had brought with me copies of Dewey's Classification Scheme, and the subject heading lists of the Library of Congress and of Minnie Sears. The catalog rules were based on Susan Akers' Simple Library Cataloging modified by some of the Library of Congress rules. The Army arranged to mimeograph these cataloging rules and also Mrs. Winifred L. Davis' Pictorial Library Primer with photostatic reproductions of most of the illustrations. Copies of these publications were made available to each student.

As previously mentioned, I was greatly interested in having my students gain an understanding of democratic principles as well as a desire to incorporate them into their official duties at the Information Centers. Before leaving

for Vienna I discussed this problem with my father, Alfred F. W. Schmidt, Professor Emeritus of Library Science at George Washington University, and we decided it was essential that I conduct the class along democratic lines so that the students would participate jointly in the work and would come to feel a mutual interest in the success of the project. This was done by a combination of the university seminar technique and the simplest methods used in primary schools to secure class participation by all.

The very first day I started out by introducing myself and giving a bit of my background and experience. Then I had each student introduce himself and hand in a written biography covering such details as travel, education, language background, experience with books, and reason for joining the class. While this is quite customary here, it is very unusual over there. In fact, I found out later that it is not customary, even when introducing a speaker, to explain anything about his background. Apparently the mere fact that someone was speaking was evidence, per se, that he was an authority on his subject.

The next morning we went on a tour of the Vienna Information Center. Those of the class working at the Center explained their work as we went through. Each student was urged to ask questions, and by asking a few questions myself at strategic moments, I was able to see that the class really participated in the discussions, and that they understood the work and function of the Center. This was followed by a description of the Salzburg Center by the two members of its staff. Thus we established an informal tone in the class before formal instruction was begun.

In the first week we organized our own small library. This consisted of the collection of seventy-five books on various phases of library science which I had brought over with me. We arranged to keep these books at the Austro-American Institute of Education. In appointing a class librarian, I selected one of the more bashful students who had had a particularly trying time during the war and post-war years. It was a real pleasure to see her develop and gain confidence in the next few weeks. In conjunction with our class work we prepared book cards for each of these volumes, and everyone, including the teacher, was required to sign for any book he borrowed over night. All books were to be available in the classroom each afternoon.

These books were used, as previously mentioned, by the students in preparing their lectures, or term papers. This experience of addressing the class was entirely new to them. The Austrians follow the Germanic lecture system, in which the professor knows and tells all, and the student does not "question why". In order to make the experience less difficult. I suggested they speak in German. Since the books were in English I still had an excellent opportunity to see if each had a working knowledge of the English language. After each talk we had a discussion period. For example, after the talk on publicity, we discussed the various methods of publicity the Centers were using in Austria, such articles in the newspapers, brief radio talks and displays. We particularly noted the excellence of the display windows at the Vienna Center where passersby were always crowded in front of the windows. One of the boys from the lending library commented that just as soon as certain books were shown in the windows by the entrance to their library every copy of the books displayed was immediately circulated.

In lecturing, I always emphasized how individual Americans handled given problems and demonstrated what each of the students could do in handling similar situations. I encouraged them to ask questions and to discuss any of their problems. By having people from two different Centers present it was often interesting to hear the different methods used in each place. One

problem that never failed to bring on discussion was the question of "open shelves". It was extremely difficult to persuade the students that a policy permitting loss of books was a correct one. The libraries of Austria, in common with those of most of Europe, shelve books, chronologically, by size. This system is a great space saver, but it also prevents readers from having any interest in going to the shelves. In Europe the librarian is literally the "keeper of the books" and in some libraries he actually keeps them under lock and key. Quite naturally, books do not disappear. At a time when books in English were very rare and replacements took at least a year to arrive, it was not strange that the Austrians were opposed to a system which seemed to encourage petty thievery. To enliven the argument we found that Vienna was experimenting with open shelves while Salzburg had all books behind the charge desk. I really think the Salzburg students would have persuaded the others of the superiority of their system if I had not constantly intervened. I never was sure that I had really convinced them that the advantages of free consultation with the books was worth the loss of an occasional volume.

I also emphasized over and over again the idea of personal service: that an attendant must not only make every effort to comply with a patron's request but must also attempt to clarify what was in the reader's mind, if his request was vague; and that the librarian should try to anticipate what was likely to be wanted so as to have it available by the time it was requested. Personal service is an aspect of library work practically unknown in Austria and Germany. Formal training there emphasizes administration and research rather than a personal relationship between the librarian or library attendant and the reader. The only exception to this that I noted is that a public librarian in Austria does take an interest in

the informal reading habits of his regular customers. This extends to a feeling of personal responsibility to broaden and develop the reading of each individual by selecting the proper books for him to read. Such an approach is considered much better than letting him make his own choice from the open shelves. As a whole, Austrian libraries give more the impression of museums than of centers of informational activity available to everyone.

The individual instruction following the cataloging demonstrations was also exceptionally fortunate. I had an opportunity to know each student personally, to know what his particular difficulties were, and to assist in clarifying them. The student, on the other hand, had an opportunity to learn that in America the teacher is not one set apart, but is interested in helping each individual in whatever way he can. Thus a spirit of "camaraderie" developed. Before I left, several told me they had stood in great awe and fear when they first heard that an American expert was coming to give instruction, but that, in addition to learning a great deal, they had also come to feel at ease and to enjoy the class periods.

Results of Training Class

In conducting the course my real aim was to explain broad American principles as well as American technical processes. More than two years later, I was interested in knowing to what extent these principles and processes had become an integral part of the U.S. Information Centers in Austria. As it was impossible for me to make an inspection tour at this time, I wrote some of my former students outlining what I had considered to be the high points of the course and asking their opinion on how much of the program was actually in operation at the present time. The following outline incorporates the tenor of their comments:

 Courteous, prompt service to all readers, not only answering all demands, but also anticipating them insofar as possible. Yes—this is emphasized.

- 2. Open shelf system. Yes, it is in use.
- Circulating books to all free of charge.
 There is no charge for circulation, though a deposit of ten shillings per reader is required and entitles him to take two books out at a time.
- Organization of vertical files for ephemeral material.

There are no vertical files as yet.

- 5. Establishment of periodical reading room.

 There is a special periodical room where the magazines are arranged by subject on the shelves. This room is not large enough for tables and chairs, therefore readers are served in the reference room. There is a separate shelf list for the periodicals, and the main catalog has cards for the periodicals as well as subject reference cards reading "For further material on this subject see also the periodical collection."
- 6. American methods of operation.
 - a. Full dictionary catalog for public use. Yes, there is a complete catalog in the reference room with a separate one in the lending library.
 - Shelf list catalog and subject heading authority file for staff use.
 Yes.
 - c. Circulation: registration and charging systems.
 - 1. Registration cards, filed alphabetically.
 - 2. Book cards, to be filed by date due when book is in circulation.
 - Borrower's card, giving a complete record of all books borrowed by the reader and to be retained by him.
 Yes to all of "c".
 - d. Statistical records. The reference room, periodical reading room, and lending library should keep the fol-

lowing statistics:

- 1. Number of users per month.
- Numbers of items read per month, divided in the lending library as to type of material read.
- 3. Number and names of new titles added per month.
- The lending library should also report number of new registrations per month.

Yes to all of "d".

Thus it can be seen that the vast majority of what we studied together has been put into practice; the exceptions, in most instances, are due to lack of equipment or space.

The preceding information applies specifically to the Vienna library. I no longer have contacts with either the Salzburg or Linz staffs, my two students from Salzburg having since resigned. To what extent the other libraries are uniformly established with the main Center in Vienna, I do not know. However, since it is the directing Center and since there has been some interchange of personnel, I feel confident that all the Centers in Austria have benefited from the course given in Vienna in May and June of 1947. This in turn means that the Austrian public has a better understanding of American democracy, not only because of the books, magazines, and displays at the Centers showing life in America, but also because of personal participation in a democratic procedure—the American library.

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OUR NEW PRESIDENT

Elizabeth W. Owens

To Special Libraries Association this year comes a president from the wide-open spaces of the Middle West and Southwest. To those who know Elizabeth Owens, she is the embodiment of one who has spent many years in a country where friendliness, sincerity and straightforward simplicity are the by-word. She brings to SLA a native ability to work harmoniously with her associates and to gain their highest respect and admiration.

Her professional career has many facets which have broadened her outlook and will enable her to approach her administration with wisdom and discernment, plus a practical knowledge of library problems. Her library training was obtained in the St. Louis Library School in 1919, following which she held the position of children's librarian in the St. Louis Public Library. She left active library work to marry an oil man who took her on a "tour of duty" through the Southwest, from Texas to California. Everywhere she went she kept up her library interests, becoming a travelling librarian. She was consulted on library organizational problems, on book buying, and did considerable book reviewing. As a hobby she set up a private petroleum library which was kept in her husband's office for his personal use and that of his associates. During these years she received her B.A. in history from the University of Wisconsin. In 1947 she obtained her M.A. in history from the same school. At one time she taught history and was librarian in the Rolla (Missouri) High School. Later she became children's librarian and branch librarian of the Long Beach (California) Public Library.

In 1942 she entered the special library field as librarian of the Mercantile-Commerce Bank and Trust Company of St. Louis, Mo. She immediately became associated with the Greater St. Louis Chapter of SLA and served as membership chairman, 1943-44; program chairman, 1944-45; vice-president, 1945-46; president, 1946-47; and member of the Executive Committee, 1947-48. On the Association level, she has served as chairman of the Financial Group, 1945-46; subject chairman, National Book Center for Devastated Libraries, 1945-47; membership chairman, 1947-48; Chapter Liaison Officer and chairman of the Chapter Relations Committee, 1948-49. In 1949 she was elected first vice-president and president-elect.

In her capacity as membership chairman and Chapter Liaison Officer, Mrs. Owens visited and helped with her counsel and encouragement the Kansas City, Louisiana, and Texas Chapters in their organizational stages. Her professional interests include memberships in the American Library Association, Missouri Library Association, and the St. Louis Library Club.

Two daughters, one a senior in college and the other a senior in high school, constitute her main hobby. The duties of homemaking provide keen enjoyment, particularly such tasks as whipping together formal gowns for her offspring and making preserves and jellies for their hungry appetites. For their amusement, she has built up a collection of dolls from all countries. Gamma Phi Beta claims her as a member and she has been most active in local and national affairs. In 1948 when its national convention was held in St. Louis,

she was its co-chairman. Besides these pursuits, Mrs. Owens has maintained a vivid interest in history, especially anything pertaining to St. Louis, and has written as her master's thesis a history of the Mercantile-Commerce Bank and Trust Company. With an already full program, she also is in demand as a book reviewer.

In the bank her talents have been recognized and to her charge has been assigned all social and extra-curricular bank affairs, such as planning dinner parties and coaching melodramas. She edits the house organ, *Mercantile-Commerce News*. Simultaneously with the presidency of SLA, she has been appointed director of the Women's Finance Forum, a brand-new undertaking of the bank, providing a course in financial planning for women.

C.A.P. - M.E.W.

Have You Heard ...

Attention, Please

The Transactions of the 1950 Convention held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, June 12-16, will be published sometime early in the fall, and will contain both papers and annual reports presented at the Convention. This publication will be self-sustaining and will, therefore, not be sent gratis to Institutional members. The cost will be not more than \$5. For your convenience, an order blank was included in the May-June issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES on page 197. Orders should reach SLA Headquarters not later than September 1, 1950.

SLA Officers 1950-1951

The result of the general election of officers was announced at the Annual Business Meeting in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on June 15, 1950, as follows: President, Mrs. Elizabeth W. Owens, St. Louis, Missouri; First Vice-President and President-Elect, Grieg Aspnes, St. Paul, Minnesota; Second Vice-President, Mrs. Ruth Parks, Chicago, Illinois; Treasurer, Donald Wasson, New York, N. Y.; Director to serve for three years, Robert Grayson, New York, N. Y. Margaret Hatch and Estelle Brodman remain on the Executive Board as Directors, as does Mrs. Ruth Hooker, Immediate Past-President.

SLA Nominating Committee

The members of the 1951 Nominating Committee appointed by President Owens are as follows:

Phyllis J. Anderson, San Francisco Bay Region Chapter

Hazel K. Levins, New Jersey Chapter Mrs. Martha H. O'Leary, New York Chapter

Marion E. Wells, Illinois Chapter
Dr. Jolan M. Fertig, Chairman
Westinghouse Electric Corp.
Westinghouse Research Laboratories
East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

All SLA members, and especially Chapter presidents, are urgently requested to send to the chairman or any member of the Nominating Committee their suggestions for the elective positions. Prospective names for these offices should be mailed to the Committee as soon as possible since, in accordance with By-Law IX of the SLA Constitution, the Committee must present the 1951-1952 slate to the SLA Executive Board at its Fall Meeting.

SLA Board and Council Meetings

The regular Fall Executive Board and Advisory Council meetings will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, October 19-21, 1950, at the Hotel Statler. The membership is urged to make plans to attend these important conferences.

SLA Membership Gavel Award for 1950

The Membership Gavel Award for 1950 for the largest percentage of increase in paid-up members was presented to the President of the Connecticut Valley Chapter, Muriel Williams, at the Annual Business Meeting held in June at Atlantic City, New Jersey. The Chapter showed an increase of 26.7 per cent. The next largest increase was shown by the Montreal Chapter with 11 percent, and the Washington, D. C. Chapter stood in third place with 8.9 per cent.

Anne Nicholson Recipient of SLA 1950 Award for Work on PB Index

Anne Nicholson, librarian of Whitmarsh Research Laboratories, Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company, Philadelphia, was awarded the 1950 SLA Award of \$100 for a notable and outstanding contribution in the field of special librarianship. The award was presented to Miss Nicholson by SLA President Owens at the Annual Business Meeting held in June at Atlantic City.

In the words of the Awards Committee report, which Mrs. Owens read for Mrs. Irene M. Strieby, Chairman of the Committee, who was unable to be present: "It is the feeling of the Committee that the person chosen fulfills the stipulations agreed upon and 'has played a decisive part in a noteworthy professional contribution' by displaying imagination, stimulation and leadership necessary to prepare for publication the Numerical Index to the Bibliography of Scientific and Industrial Reports, Volumes 1-10, 1946-1948, a reference tool of enduring value. The Committee names as the winner of the SLA Award for 1950, Anne Nicholson, the individual responsible for seeing this project through to completion."

Some Important Decisions Made at the 1950 SLA Convention

A number of important changes in the Constitution and By-Laws were voted at the Annual Business Meeting held in Atlantic City on June 15, 1950. In order that all SLA members may be informed of these changes, the entire Constitution and By-Laws as amended will appear in the September issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES and reprints will be available on request. Several of the more important changes are listed briefly herewith.

It was voted to change the designation, Group, to Division. Life, Institutional, Active and Associate members may now affiliate with only one Division without further payment. Additional affiliations are permitted at 50 cents each for the calendar year. Student members will be allowed a Chapter affiliation only.

A double postcard has been sent to all members with more than one Division affiliation requesting that the card be marked to show their preference and returned to Headquarters not later than August 15. New Division lists will then be prepared for all Division chairmen and the allotment, based on 15 cents per member plus extra affiliation fees, will be sent to the Divisions automatically. It is hoped that the first payment can be made by September 15, 1950.

The fiscal year was changed back to the calendar year.

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee was charged with studying the sections of the Constitution pertaining to membership qualifications and to present their report at the 1951 Convention scheduled for June 18-25 in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The membership voted to terminate the University and College Group since this Group has been inactive for the past two years.

It was also voted to disaffiliate SLA from A.L.A. and to cooperate in the movement towards a federation of library associations.

Donald Wasson Completes Assignment for Japanese Library

Donald Wasson, editorial consultant to the Library Journal on United Nations Documents and assistant librarian of the Council on Foreign Relations, New York, has recently completed a selected list of 3000 titles in the social sciences for purchase through a Rockefeller Fund Grant for the National Diet Library in Tokyo. Mr. Wasson is the newly-elected treasurer of SLA.

SLA Represented at Session of American Chemical Society

In the account of the program of the General Session of the Division of Chemical Literature of the American Chemical Society held in Detroit in April 1950, which was printed in the May-June issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES, our information was incomplete at the time the magazine went to press. Beside Miss Lewton and Miss Power who contributed papers, Ernest F. Spitzer, librarian of Chas. Pfizer & Company, was also represented on the program. Mr. Spitzer presented a paper on "Searching the German Chemical Literature."

Correction

On page 146 of the April 1950 issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES, an item appeared concerning the publication of the CHECK LIST OF U.S.A. AND CANADIAN HOLDINGS OF GERMAN MEDICAL AND DENTAL PERIODICALS, 1938-1948. It was erroneously stated that this publication was issued by the American Medical Association whereas the Medical Library Association is the publisher.

Australian Institute of Librarians

(Continued from page 221)

the year to establish a liaison between the Institute, the teachers and librarians and others interested in children's library work. A recent bulletin on Book Repairing was so popular that 500 extra copies were duplicated for distribution to schools and libraries throughout New South Wales. The Municipal and Shire Libraries Committee was not appointed until March 1948, but the rapidly expanding public library services in New South Wales make it an important committee. It is following the pattern of other committees and is holding meetings of municipal and shire libra-

rians, issuing a municipal libraries leaflet giving news items and general information. This committee was able to go a step further than the School Libraries Committee and in September 1948, held a five-day class on book repairing.

Starting in 1937 with a membership of 150 and a conviction that it must be established on a foundation of professional training, the Australian Institute of Librarians has succeeded to the degree that it has proved the need for its existence and justified its continuance either in its present or in some other form. Much still remains to be done. Training facilities as distinct from standards are still inadequate and there is little provision in any state for training at a higher standard than the preliminary level or for specialized fields of library work. The success of the news-sheets and leaflets issued by the Branches indicates the urgent need for a professional journal to keep members, employing authorities and the general public informed of what librarians are thinking and doing about library development in Australia. Despite improvements in transport, the distances which separate the capital cities and the country towns from the capital cities prevent the flow of ideas through personal contacts with other librarians, and regional conferences to supplement the annual conferences seem to many members to be desirable.

These and many other matters concerning the future of library development in Australia have been the subject of considerable thought and discussion by the Federal and Branch Councils and members generally over the past two years, and it has now been accepted that the Institute is sufficiently strong professionally to widen its membership to include corporate bodies and persons interested in library development and that the time is opportune to do so. The revised constitution will be put to the members this year. Whether

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members accept or reject the revision, there are no signs that the Institute will follow the earlier associations into oblivion. The indications are rather that it will continue to grow and shape itself to meet the special needs of librarianship and libraries in Australia.

Special Libraries in Australia

(Continued from page 219)

others and some of the societies have libraries which are important for students of local history.

The Royal Australian Historical Society, Sydney, founded in 1901, publishes a quarterly journal and has as one of its main objects the collection and preservation of material dealing with Australian history.

The Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, South Australian Branch, was founded in 1885 and publishes proceedings which include articles of historical interest. It has a valuable library made up of three collections:

- 1. The York Gate Library, a famous London collection, specialising in geography, travels and colonisation.
- 2. The Gill Library, specialising in the history of South Australia.
- 3. The Benham Library, a general collection on travel and history.

Other societies which publish journals and have libraries are the Historical Society of Victoria, the Historical Society of Queensland, the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, Queensland Branch, and the Western Australian Historical Society.

Business Libraries in the Netherlands

(Continued from page 216)

Some Other Statistical Data

In 1948, 4,128 volumes were added to the collection of books, among which were a considerable number of new foreign business directories. After the war the policy of acquisition was changed. Before 1945, some emphasis was placed

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on theoretical economics. It was, however, expected that after the war readers would be more interested in the economic situations of foreign countries, the market situation, the consumer markets and technical-economic literature. Therefore, a change was made in this direction.

The outcome has shown that the new policy is a good one. As a matter of fact, the library of the Economic Information Service now has the best documentation on foreign countries in the Netherlands. Much literature on topical subjects, such as nationalization, planning, reconstruction, international commerce and finance, has also been added.

The number of items loaned in 1948 was 77,174, of which 23,631 were books and 53,543 periodicals; 18,564 abstracts of periodicals were made, which will mean an addition of about 60,000 new cards to the catalogue. About 9800 letters and 29,000 packages of books and pamphlets were forwarded on request. This work was done by a staff of 38.

The above is a brief sketch of the development of commercial libraries in this country, a development which is expected to advance considerably in the years to come; as Dutch trade and industry are becoming increasingly aware of the significance of literature research in the field of commerce and economics as an aid in studying the possibilities on the world's markets.

The Technical Literature Service in Norway

(Continued from page 213)

cards, but a more complete union catalog is needed.

An effort is also being made to build better collections of popular technical literature in the regional libraries.

These efforts and the numbers given may seem small, but they must be regarded against a background of a wide-spread country with a population of about 3 million people, a fact that necessitates the utmost cooperation and economic coordination.



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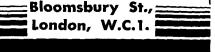
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