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# **SPECIAL IBRARIES**

DECEMBER 1957, Vol. 48, No. 10

Reorganizing a Newspaper Library Special Librarianship in the Philippines A V.A. and a Community Hospital Library Government Polar Research Libraries Problems of Out of Print Books

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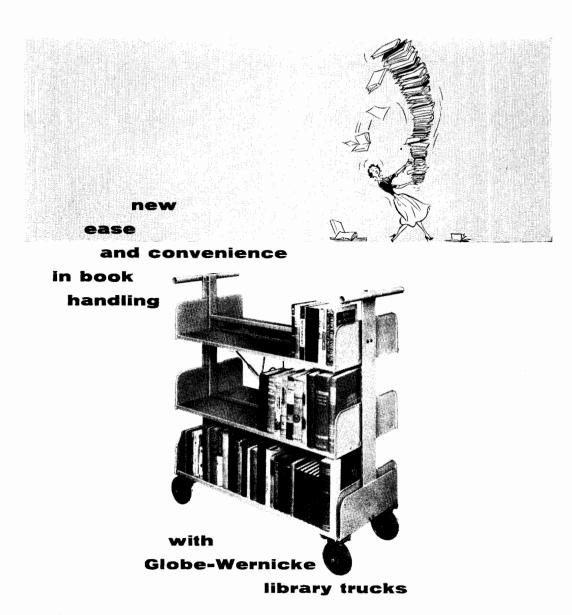
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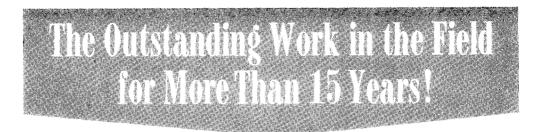
#### CONTENTS

DECEMBER 1957

Problems of Reorganizing		
A Newspaper Library	Milton Prensky	447
The Special Librarian		
In The Philippines	Juanito G. Maquiso	451
The Hospital Librarian		
In The Large Organization	Eleanor L. Ricker	455
The Integrated Library		
In a Community Hospital	Mrs. Muriel DePopolo	457
Polar Research In		
Government Libraries	Marie Tremaine	460
Facing Problems Of The O. P. Book	AARON L. FESSLER	463
Scientific Literature Use: A Survey	HARRY BACH	466
This Works For Us ELLIS MOU	NT AND GORDON W. WILSON	467
The 23rd Meeting of the IFLA Council	Karl A. Baer	470
SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION		
Fall Meeting Of The Metals Division		468
From The Executive Secretary's Desk		473
NEWS		
Have You Heard		471
Off The Press		474

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SPECIAL LIBRARIES

# Problems of Reorganizing A Newspaper Library

MILTON PRENSKY, Director, Editorial Research *The Evening Star*, Washington, D.C.

W HAT ARE THE PROBLEMS one faces in reorganizing a newspaper library? I am going to try to recount the problems I faced when asked to reorganize a 20 year old clipping library and a 38 year old photo library. These two libraries were operated as separate units, even on separate floors of the building. The clip library had a staff of six persons, including the librarian, and the photo library had a staff of two, who were supervised by the picture editor.

In preliminary meetings with management it was indicated that the library problem had developed over the years and in no sense was there any one factor that could be blamed for its shortcomings. They pointed out that they are now fully aware of the need for a modern, streamlined library operation and that they would like me to undertake reorganization, preparatory to their moving into a newly constructed building which would be ready for occupancy in September of 1958.

#### Reorganizing The Clipping Library

My examination of the problem began with the clip library. After a few months of observation and surveys, I found that the biggest problem was insurmountable—the space problem. For instance, the clipping library (including books, atlases, microfilm, bound files, etc.) occupied a total of 1,045 square feet. This included the combined areas of three rooms—660 square Paper presented before the Newspaper Division, May 27, 1957, at the SLA Convention in Boston, Massachusetts.



feet for the library proper, 55 square feet for the microfilm room and 330 square feet for the bound files room.

In an area of 660 square feet there were eight desks, 25 five-drawer filing cabinets, the small book collection and a microfilm reader. In addition, a portion of this room was used to service the public. In an area as small as this, it had become necessary to use the height of the room for expansion. Thus, the major portion of the book collection was housed on shelves built over the file cabinets and extending to the ceiling. Books were only accessible by climbing a ladder to the tops of the file cabinets, then lifting the ladder up to reach the highest shelves.

In an estimated count of the contents of the clipping files, it was discovered that 312,000 personal clips were contained in approximately 60,000 envelopes, about 5 clips to an envelope. On the other hand, 585,000 subject clippings were housed in only 9,600 envelopes, giving an average of more than 60 clips to an envelope! Each envelope contained so much that clippings became frayed and tattered and too much time was consumed in locating needed clips. The major subject headings would have to have extensive subheads if the files were to service staff members with the efficiency and speed demanded by deadline requirements.

Since personnel was limited, it was difficult to review all of the clippings in the envelopes and give them new subject heads. The most expedient method was adopted to improve the situation. In the case of 28 subject en-

DECEMBER 1957

velopes headed EDUCATION - VIRGINIA, for example, we cut off the flow to these heads and started a new procedure by introducing new heads or subheads, such as EDUCATION - VA. -ALEXANDRIA, EDUCATION - VA. - ARLING-TON, EDUCATION - VA. - BUILDINGS, and so forth. In addition, we separated the school integration problem from the general education clips, since in the area covered by the Star, this is a local topic and is very extensively reported. To cover this subject, we supplied the following heads: EDUCATION - NEGRO -EDUCATION - NEGRO -VA. (General), VA. - ALEXANDRIA, and so on. The results were gratifying and the editorial staff complimented the library on the new speed with which sought-after clips were produced.

Another result of the examination of the subject files was the disclosure of numerous duplications of headings. Further, there were major heads such as SOCIETIES. ORGANIZATIONS & CLUBS and then subheads with the names of the organizations. In itself that was not a bad arrangement, but the files also held headings such as WOMEN & WOM-EN'S ORGANIZATIONS, JEWISH ORGANI-ZATIONS. RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS, ARCHITECTS AND ARCHITECTURAL OR-GANIZATIONS. EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIA-TIONS, and HEALTH ASSOCIATIONS. Consequently, it was usually necessary to look in several places before locating a desired clipping.

To eliminate the duplicate headings and the groupings of organizations with their overlapping headings, I recommended the establishment of a master subject index to the subject files. This was no easy task, for remember that according to an earlier estimate there were some 9,600 subject envelopes in the files. On July 27, 1956, I began copying the subject heads from the jackets beginning with the first envelope headed ABATTOIRS. The task was completed December 7, 1956, when the last entry, ZOOS—D.C., was made. When I had completed the task, I had filled nine stenographic notebooks, using one or two lines for each entry.

These books were turned over to a stenographic service where each of the 11,000 entries was typed on a 3 x 5 Remington Rand card. The cost of the typing was \$165. At present we are still working over the cards in an effort to weed out duplicate headings, eliminate organizational headings and set up an effective tool that the classifiers can use to best advantage. The completion of this project may take several more months. Meanwhile new heads are examined and fashioned to conform with the projected file headings.

As a part of a continuing effort to release staff labor for greater concentration on local and national clippings, as well as to lessen the load on the subject files, the purchase of a new service called Deadline Data on Foreign Affairs was recommended.

In case readers are not familiar with this service, it provides a subscriber with 1500 (5 x 8) cards which give a comprehensive, concise picture of current developments in all foreign countries and includes all important international conferences, organizations and pacts. It is revised weekly and new cards cumulatively list later events and revise earlier material. The cards are housed in a four-drawer file that can be kept on a desk. The cabinet, incidentally, is included in the subscription price of about \$250 a year. Once this service has proved itself to us, we will discontinue marking and filing all stories on foreign affairs, except, of course, stories by the Star's own correspondent in Europe, extended features by foreign affairs experts or features that are original staff productions.

By use of this service we hope to accomplish two objectives without diminishing service to staff writers and cditors: 1) alleviating the growing space problem by eliminating the clipping of foreign affairs articles which appear in the *Star* and 2) permitting the indexer more time to concentrate on local community items and provide more extensive indexing of those subjects. The time saved by the marker in bypassing foreign affairs stories will permit him to mark and cross file more extensively items of local community interest. Elliott Andrews of *The Providence Journal Bulletin* has used this system for about seven months and finds it excellent. His library has discontinued the marking of foreign affairs clips and uses this service exclusively. Chester Lewis of *The New York Times* has four subscriptions to the service in his library.

#### Reorganizing The Photo Library

In January 1957 I decided to take a closer look at the photo files. During the prior year I had visited and talked with the two staff members in the photo library and found that here, again, there was a severe problem of space. The photo library occupies an area about four times the size of an average living room but is broken up into two rooms and a hallway. An examination of the contents of the files revealed an estimated 300,000 photos and 72 drawers filled with cuts.

The chopped up arrangement of the photo library resulted in the files pursuing this alphabetical arrangement. The files housing personal pictures proceeded from A to S in one room, to T located in the hallway and to the remainder of the alphabet in another smaller room. To further complicate matters, the personal files contained many subject pictures. The subject picture files were in separate groupings: SPORTS, WORLD WAR II, KOREAN WAR, SCENES and general subjects A to Z. I later learned that the heading SCENES-WASHINGTON, D.C. was a large catchall for pictures in Washington that staff members could not otherwise classify. Incidentally, the famous Floyd Collins mine explosion case was filed under SCENES-KENTUCKY and took about two hours to locate.

Here again, duplicate headings were plentiful, and as an added complication cuts were also filed in with pictures.

In discussions with the two staff members, I learned that neither had any interest in library work as such. Their ambition was to become photographers on the staff. While they did the best job they could with all the handicaps present in this situation, it seemed desirable that, when they actually did become photographers (and later they did), they be replaced by personnel with an interest in and a temperament for library work.

In addition, I made the following recommendations for the further improvement of the photo library: 1) that one member be added to the staff; 2) that a minimum of ten five-drawer superfilers be purchased; 3) that all file folder equipment be standardized; 4) that a charge-out system be started; 5) that the personal picture files be surveyed and all subject headings therein removed; 6) that, for the time being, all backlog pictures be cut off in an effort to handle efficiently the current pictures; and 7) that a master subject index on 3 x 5 cards be instituted to aid the new marker.

All of these recommendations were accepted and the whole program put into immediate effect by a personnel of three who, though totally inexperienced, were very interested and enthusiastic about their new positions. I might add that two of the three staff members decided after a month's work that they would like to take courses in library science and enrolled in the Department of Agriculture school in Washington where courses are given at a rather nominal cost.

We started from scratch with new subject heads and as we went along we continued to absorb older headings that fitted the new ones. The new subject files now occupy six of the ten files that were purchased. There is still much to be done. In instituting the new system

DECEMBER 1957

with an inexperienced staff, it was necessary for me to take over the marking of pictures for the first month or so. In addition I had to instruct and closely supervise each of the new employees. It was urgent that I stress the need for absolute attention to details. A new system can rise or fall on the foundation of detail. Gradually, the staff picked up the program and followed through. From all reports the photo library is now performing with ever-increasing efficiency.

#### Revising Charge-Out and Storage Policies

The task of reorganizing is a continuing process. The major and most obvious problems were the first to be dealt with, but experience in the field had taught me to pick off the other problems one by one, as the situations arose, rather than conduct extensive searches for them. An example comes readily to mind because it took place recently. The charge-out system for clippings, like Topsy, just growed up. Reporters and editors had free access to the files. They could select their clips, enter their names in a notebook and identify the borrowed material. The charge-out system needed to be reviewed and the only question was when to institute a change.

To correct this, I drafted a program for the approval of management. This program was still under consideration when two envelopes of clippings sought by an editorial writer were missed. A reporter who had signed out for them could not be located, nor could the clippings. When the clips were finally located and tempers had cooled, we were able to put into effect a completely new charge-out program with enforcement powers furnished over the signature of the managing editor.

To publicize the new program, we sent photostats of the managing editor's letter to all departmental editors. Forms for the new charge-out system had been prepared a few months earlier and a rubber stamp stating PLEASE RETURN ENVELOPE & CLIPPINGS WITHIN FOR-TY-EIGHT HOURS TO STAR LIBRARY was placed across the face of all outgoing charge-out envelopes. The program has been launched and early returns indicate that it is working.

Another problem that presented itself was the storage of bound files and the extension of the microfilm program.

Warehouse space was being taxed to its limits by the continual inflow of bound files. We were sending bound files at the rate of six per month. In live storage adjacent to the library 20 years of the home edition and three to four years of three other editions were retained. The *Star* publishes a total of five editions, only one of which was not placed in bound files. A complete microfilmed home edition from 1852 to date was also maintained.

To alleviate the warehouse and live storage space problem, a microfilming extension program was put into operation. It entails the microfilming of all page changes from edition to edition. The system includes all editions of the paper and provides, together with the microfilmed home edition, total coverage of the chronological run of the newspaper. Binding was discontinued on all but the home edition which is being bound more for sentimental reasons than for reasons of efficiency or economy, since the publishers have maintained a complete bound file of this edition since it was first published.

#### Importance Of Reorganization

These are the elementary steps on the path to reorganization. There are many other problems which must be bypassed for lack of time. However, since I have dealt at such length with the "how" of reorganization, I feel I ought to mention briefly a more important phase—the "why" of reorganization. Why is a man consulted about reorganizing a library? A major reason may be that the staff of reporters has lost confidence in its newspaper library.

Here is the way an assistant managing editor of a large metropolitan paper describes the process:

"The fact that the library has repeatedly failed to provide the necessary background and biography has resulted in an attitude of 'Oh Hell, I won't be able to find anything in that library ...'

"This is a dangerous thing, for it results in the staff not getting the most out of existing facilities. Newsroom gossip on the library's shortcomings, some of which is apochryphal, or at least exaggerated, has undermined its usefulness as it now stands.

"It is human nature to remember instances where the system broke down and to forget the times the library has supplied the needed information.

"A vicious cycle has been set up in this way."

All right, the library has had failures and the librarian or his managing editor decided to reorganize. The reorganization took time, but it has finally been accomplished. How does one win back the confidence of the newspaper staff? The problem looms large and the solution is not simple. But it can be done. Just as lack of confidence is fed and nourished with repeated failures. so can the presence of confidence be restored with repeated successes. Give the best service possible with available space, tools and equipment. Slowly but surely the word will get around in the newsroom and other departments that the library delivers when it is called upon. In time the repeated successes will set up a much-to-be desired cycle of goodwill. Once you have that, the library has its most prized possession. It will succeed.

# The Special Librarian In The Philippines

JUANITO G. MAQUISO, Librarian\* Institute of Hygiene, University of the Philippines, Manila

**T**HIS PAPER attempts to present some findings of a survey made recently about members of the Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines. The survey was one of several studies on various aspects of Philippine librarianship which were conducted by officials and members of the Philippine Library Association and the Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines. The original purpose of these studies was to gather facts for presentation to Jack Dalton, Director of the International Relations Office of the American

Library Association, who was expected to come to Manila in April 1957, on an observation trip to Southeast Asian countries. The results of the surveys, however, were never presented because Mr. Dalton arrived in March while the surveys were still in progress.

Two questionnaires were sent out: one to members of the Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines and the other to chief librarians or heads of special libraries. The purpose of the questionnaire was to gather first hand information on the education, experience and professional activities of special librarians as well as to form an

<sup>\*</sup> Mr. Maquiso graduated from the Drexel Institute of Library Science in 1952.

idea of prevailing attitudes of librarians toward their work and the library profession as a whole. The second questionnaire aimed to obtain accurate information on present personnel practices actually existing in special libraries.

The response to the questionnaires was quite encouraging. A total of 53 out of 74, or 71 percent of the members of the Association returned the first questionnaire. Twenty-seven out of 42, or 64 percent of chief special librarians responded to the second set. Because of limited time, the survey was not intended to be exhaustive.

#### Characteristics of Library Personnel

As may be expected, special libraries in the Philippines have very small collections, appropriately called one-man libraries. Forty percent of the ASLP libraries have one librarian. The rest have two to nine full-time members of the staff.

It is pertinent to mention here something about the size of collections as they relate to the number or size of personnel. Thirty-seven percent of the libraries have collections of less than one thousand volumes of books, 26 percent have collections between one to nine thousand and 37 percent have more than ten thousand volumes. The largest collection is over 21,000 volumes and the smallest is one hundred volumes. These figures cover only books. The largest libraries, as far as the size of collections is concerned, are the agriculture, scientific, medical, law, military science, business and commerce, engineering and public administration libraries in the Philippines.

The size of library collections does not seem to be the determining factor for the number of personnel. Five libraries with as few as 160 to 700 volumes of books employ two full-time librarians, whereas three libraries with 1,500 to 2,000 volumes have one librarian. Libraries with over 18,000 volumes have four to six staff members and those with much less than 18,000 have six to nine full-time employees.

Special librarianship in the Philippines is predominantly a woman's profession. Seventy-seven percent of the librarians participating in the survey were females and 23 percent were males, roughly giving a ratio of three females to one male. Of the female group, 51 percent are married, 45 percent are unmarried and 4 percent are widows. Of the males, 59 percent are married and 41 percent are unmarried.

Ages of special librarians range from 21 to 65. The group with the highest representation is the 26-30 age group. Three groups tied for the second highest: the 21-25, 36-40 and 46-50 age groups. The lowest are the 61-65 and 56-60 age groups.

#### Education and Professional Experience

Of the 53 ASLP librarians surveyed, 32 held degrees in library science, 18 had degrees in subjects other than library science and three had no degrees at all. Most librarians belonging to the latter groups with degrees other than library science and with no degrees have been engaged in library service for many years. Many have over five years of library experience and some more than 30 years-one has 47 years of library experience. Interest in library service is evident in these groups. While on the job, eight members managed to acquire civil service eligibility in library science and six earned from three to 27 units in library science on a part-time basis from various universities. Some took in-service training in librarianship or participated in workshops for librarians.

Of the professionally trained librarians, including those holding bachelor's degrees with a major or minor in library science, 54 percent are graduates of the University of the Philippines. The rest are from private institutions such as Far Eastern University, University of the East, Philippine Women's University, Centro Escolar University, Arellano University and National Teacher's College. Two librarians participating in the survey obtained their graduate degrees in library science from institutions in the United States.

About one-fifth of the special librarians are ex-teachers with teaching experience of ten to 20 years. They shifted to library work for various reasons.

The survey revealed an evident waste of talents or misplacement of subject specialists in special libraries. While there are graduates in chemistry, pharmacy, dentistry, law, agriculture, business and commerce on the one hand. and special libraries in science, medicine, law, agriculture, business and commerce on the other, the law of supply and demand did not always work to place the right individual in the right library. Hence, there are business graduates employed in noncommercial libraries, pharmacy and chemistry graduates employed in geodetic, lands and agriculture libraries and teachers employed in cement, company, army and agriculture libraries.

Forty-five percent of special librarians have civil service eligibility in library science, 28 percent have civil service eligibility in fields other than library science and 27 percent have no civil service eligibility of any kind. Over 50 percent of the libraries in the survey do not require civil service eligibility in the employment of librarians. However, many librarians with civil service eligibility found that their eligibility was definitely helpful in securing library positions.

For professional growth, special librarians read library books and journals and attend meetings and conferences of the Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines. Twenty-seven percent of the librarians claim to read regularly, 60 percent read irregularly and 6 percent read rarely or not at all. Library journals found most useful are Library Quarterly, Bulletin of the Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines, Wilson Library Bulletin, Library Journal and Special Libraries. Other journals found useful but read more or less irregularly are ALA Bulletin, Philippine Library Journal, College and Research Libraries and Bulletin of the Medical Library Association.

The great majority of special librarians expressed satisfaction in being members of the Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines, stating that it was stimulating and profitable as a professional organization. Some special librarians are members of the Philippine Library Association.

#### Salary and Personnel Practices

Salaries of special librarians range from 1,440. pesos [\$720.] to 6,000. pesos [\$3,000.] per annum. The median is 2,400. pesos [\$1,200.]. This is a great deal lower than salary scales of other professions and is the cause of perennial dissatisfaction among librarians. Twelve percent of the special librarians say that the salaries they are now receiving are very low, 50 percent say that salary is low, 24 percent say that it is just about right, eight percent say that it is very satisfactory.

Library committees or boards are exceptions rather than the rule in special libraries. Eighty-five percent of the libraries surveyed have no library committees. The few that reported having such committees claim that they were created only to be allowed to die. Fewer still report that they have working committees, with well-defined functions, which have actually benefitted the library in any way.

A few libraries maintain library manuals or handbooks of some kind for the use of either the staff or clientele. Twenty-three percent reported having such manuals and 77 percent reported having none at all.

The survey also revealed that the number of service hours rendered is uniform throughout all libraries. Librarians work 40 service hours a week, and all but one reported being required to spread these over a six-day period with five hours of work on Saturdays. Only one librarian had the entire week-end free from library work. (With the passage on June 22, 1957, of Republic Act No. 1880, which sets forth "legal hours of labor minimum requirement" for government employees, librarians in government agency libraries now enjoy the 40-hour, five-day work week.)

The majority of the libraries do not have efficiency ratings of any kind for records of employee performance. Chief librarians reported, however, that when it comes to employee promotions in salary, rank or status, definite factors are considered. Factors mentioned in the order of their importance are: seniority, performance and experience, and educational qualification. Consideration is also given to eligibility, character and personality.

In this connection, it is appropriate to repeat the criticism given by Mc-Diarmid and McDiarmid against seniority as the basis for promotion: "Where seniority is most highly weighted, the library has suffered in morale and in the quality of service rendered. In one library the seniority policy is so rigid that one day's seniority is the absolute determining factor as between all staff members who have met the paper qualifications for the position."\* Effective ways of judging employee qualifications should be sought and reliable techniques for measuring these qualities should be developed.

The qualities sought from members of the staff, as mentioned in the order

of importance in the opinions of librarians, are: 1) intelligence, 2) resourcefulness, 3) tact, 4) courtesy, 5) initiative, 6) specialized knowledge in subject field, 7) neatness, 8) self-confidence, 9) outgiving personality, 10) vision, 11) trustworthiness, 12) interest, 13) reliability, 14) honesty, 15) patience, and 16) cooperativeness.

Specialized knowledge in subject fields would seem appropriate in special libraries. The survey revealed, however, that this quality among librarians was ranked only sixth place by chief librarians. It is also evident that librarians do not put too much emphasis on or have not fully realized the values of cooperation. They rank this trait the sixteenth or last place among qualities that librarians should have. In library service where good human relations are of prime importance, and more so in special libraries where interlibrary cooperation seems to be a necessity. cooperativeness ought to be accorded a hallowed place by librarians.

#### Attitudes Toward Library Work

To the question "To what extent has your library career fulfilled your expectations as a librarian?" the answers were varied. Twenty-two percent of the special librarians answered that it is somewhat disappointing, two percent stated it is very disappointing, 40 percent answered it is just about as expected, 20 percent stated it is somewhat more satisfying than expected and 14 percent stated it is much more satisfying than expected.

Lastly, the survey revealed that if librarians were given a second chance to plan their professional careers over again and were granted fulfillment in their plans, 43 percent would still be librarians while four percent would be anything but librarians. The rest would be teachers, lawyers, physicians, farmers, pharmacists, nurses, musicians, engineers, chemists, business men and diplomats.

<sup>\*\*</sup> MCDIARMID, ERRET W. and JOHN. The Administration of the American Public Library. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1943, p. 183.

# The Hospital Librarian In A Large Organization

ELEANOR L. RICKER, Chief Librarian Veterans Administration Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts.

As wITH ALL large organizations, the Veterans Administration is a complicated one, but I shall try to explain it briefly and outline the librarian's place in its program.

#### Status of V.A. Librarians

The Veterans Administration is an independent agency of the United States Government, but its personnel practices, with the exception of the Department of Medicine & Surgery's doctors and nurses, conform to the Civil Service Commission's regulations. The V.A. hospitals have no connection with the Department of Defense other than the remote one that patients must at one time have served in the Armed Forces. I explain this because this misconception continues to prevail.

Libraries for patients were established and accepted as an important function of V.A. hospitals many years ago. Librarians have been given status in proportion to the size and type of the program of the hospital in which they serve. This status is comparable to that of other professionals in the hospital, such as social workers, dietitians or physical therapists.

Librarians are expected to maintain membership in professional organizations and are given administrative leave to attend meetings. We are encouraged to participate and represent the V.A. wherever possible. We must maintain good community relations because our collections are limited and much of our



service depends on interlibrary loans. These relationships we value and foster to the best of our abilities.

Since 1946 the medical library program has expanded extensively in order to meet the requirements of the deans' committees governing residency and training programs. Medical librarians are graded primarily in proportion to the size of the hospital, the number of residency programs and the number of residents. These figures indicate the amount and complexity of call which may be made on the medical library.

There are 173 V.A. hospitals ranging in size from 150 beds to 6,000-the number and size of the libraries and number of librarians varies accordingly. There may be one professional librarian to cover both medical and patients' libraries in the smallest hospital while in the largest there is a staff of ten or more professionals. The average hospital has a chief librarian who acts as administrative head of both patients' and medical libraries and divides her time according to the demands of the particular situation. Her staff generally consists of a full-time medical librarian, one other professional and many volunteers.

In every case the librarians are administratively responsible to the Chief of Special Service who in turn is responsible to the Director of Professional Services, second in command to the Manager of the Hospital. As may be deduced, the chief librarian is therefore in the fourth echelon.

In the Department of Medicine and Surgery in Washington at the V.A. Central Office, under the Assistant Admin-

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istrator for Planning, are our counterparts: the Director of Special Service and the Chief of the Library Division, Mr. Gartland. He and his staff represent us at the national level, interpret our needs, fight for our status and issue periodic publications for our guidance to keep us informed and to answer problems presented to his office in our quarterly reports. However, each hospital manager is quite autonomous and runs his hospital with a minimum of Central Office control in many instances. For example, he hires his own librarians, consulting Central Office only if he wishes assistance in locating personnel.

#### Acquisition Procedures

This large organizational chain differs from individual hospitals in other ways besides status. In purchasing, V.A. librarians submit their own budgets, subject to the review of their higher echelons, and have the final choice of books and periodicals purchased for their own libraries. The actual purchase of books and periodicals, both general and medical, is centralized in the supply depot at Somerville, New Jersey, which makes contracts each fiscal year with jobbers or publishers for the purchase of material in print. Out of print material may be obtained through local channels.

In addition to the service of purchasing, the supply depot sends cards, pockets and catalog cards for all titles purchased. We can thus expect to be relieved of locally cataloging and classifying all books, for we may also submit requests for cataloging of all gifts. Theoretically the cards should be in our possession by the time books arrive. Practically it does not always happen, but the average is good.

#### Advantages And Disadvantages

What are the advantages to the librarians in a large organization of many branches such as the Veterans Administration? We benefit, no doubt, from the weight of our numbers, 354 in all. We are protected by the benefits and regulations of civil service and are relieved of the time consuming details of cataloging our material.

Nevertheless we also have disadvantages. Instead of being responsible to a few people, we are responsible to many. For instance, a medical library advisory committee is established in each hospital, members of which are representatives of most of the hospital's professional services. The committees meet to select medical books and journals conjointly with the chief librarian and advise her concerning policies and regulations for the medical library. The chief librarian is thus responsible to the Chief of Special Service and to the medical library advisory committee. She must interpret and carry out their recommendations. Instead of being able to explain and justify her budget and other recommendations to the person controlling the assignment of the moneys, she must explain and justify it thoroughly to those in between to make sure there is complete understanding and to enable them to present the subject to its best advantage.

Frequently we hear the comment that many of the V.A. hospitals are expected to be identical—so it is with V.A. libraries. In a certain respect it is true. We all use the same classification and cataloging systems but there similarity ends. Each library reflects the personality of its librarian in its decor, its arrangement and its management. It is what the librarian puts of herself into the library that makes the library. It is the individual contact with the patient, staff or employee that makes or breaks the library service.

Although a segment of a large organization, library service to the individual is our main function as in any other hospital library. We are dealing with sick people, taken out of their normal environment. Our purpose is to help them adjust as well as they can to hospitalization and to keep them constructively occupied and as happy as possible, in order to aid in their rehabilitation. Granted a large majority of our patients are men, but we do have many ex-service women and we must provide for them also. Perhaps the greatest difference in our patients and those in other hospitals is that ours never have to worry about the bill. I sometimes wonder if a little worry in this direction wouldn't be a good counterirritant to some of the complaints they make.

Here, as in other hospital libraries, librarians must be able to anticipate the demands of the clientele, staff, personnel or patients, must keep their services flexible and geared to changing needs and must be alert to the opportunities to make new friends for the library. We also must receive personal satisfaction from the job or we are not going to be able to sell it to others—those who control the purse strings, those who see that we have the equipment, the volunteers and the supplies needed to run a good library program.

Optimistically, I expect that we V.A. librarians will also have a remote effect on other hospital libraries in the future. I hope that we are all doing such a good job of giving good medical library service to our residents and showing graphically what good library service to personnel and patients can do, that when they go out into other communities in all parts of the United States or become established members of local hospitals-even administrators, perhapstheir library experience as residents in the V.A. hospitals will give them the ability to recognize the need for a library, if it is not there, and to support actively the expansion of existing libraries.

# The Integrated Library In a Community Hospital

MRS. MURIEL DEPOPOLO, Librarian Newton-Wellesley Hospital, Newton Lower Falls, Massachusetts

WHILE CONSIDERING aspects of the trials and personal satisfactions of being librarians in all types of libraries and in various combinations of library services within different kinds of hospitals, I would like to describe the real fun of being in charge of a library which combines all these services in one department—a true hospital library and to explain methods I have tried in publicizing these services, both within the hospital and throughout the communities which it serves.

The Newton-Wellesley Hospital is a 250 bed general hospital for the communities of Newton and Wellesley, Massachusetts. The library was established as a department of the hospital in 1945, so there are 12 years of experience behind us. Before that year, the libraries—medical, nursing and patients —were scattered throughout the hospital, with no professional librarian in charge of any of the sections. Now these branches are integrated into a central library and a trained librarian is in charge.

#### Integrated Library Services

The library gives a three-way library service, to doctors, to nurses and to administration—the entire hospital personnel. The patient and personnel recreational reading, supplied by the Newton

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Public Library System, is also housed in the library. It is this variety of patrons that makes the operation of an integrated hospital library such a pleasure.

In a small community medical library, doctors' requests are mostly of the quick reference rather than the long research type. For this reason, I index in a card file, by subject, all the articles in the 100 medical journals which are regularly received. These cards, colorcoded by six month periods, are withdrawn when the issue of the Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus that covers that period is published. There are several advantages to this card file index: for one, there is in the library all the material to which the cards refer, and the doctors can easily use it whether the librarian is on duty or not; for another, the indexing itself keeps the librarian up to date on medical topics.

One dramatic example of the use of this service was a call from the operating room one Saturday morning. The surgeons needed quick information on an unusual case. The afternoon before the librarian had indexed an article from the Archives of Surgery which described the exact condition at hand. This journal was sent speedily to the operating room. The article stated that the condition described was the only reported case in the previous ten years.

As a member of the nursing faculty, the librarian has the satisfaction of working closely with the teaching unit in setting up courses of study for the student nurses. The nursing library profession is also a delightful field for a librarian who enjoys working with and assisting young people, not only in their class assignments but in their general education and personal development. It is not unusual to have students come to the library for advice or to blow off steam, or to call with such questions as: "Quick, we're making a party costume. What does a bull's tail look like?"

But it is the service of the hospital library to the administration, department heads and all personnel of the hospital that I wish to stress here. Everyone feels welcome to come to the library and bring all types of questions with them. We all know the satisfaction of assisting top management, but right down the line, it's good to deal with the personnel of all departments.

We have a sizable collection of hospital materials, including subscriptions to six hospital journals. We notify department heads of articles of interest in their specialities in these current journals by sending them the references on cards for their own files.

During the past year the hospital has offered human relations courses open to all personnel for which the library has set up a reserve shelf for reference reading. Ofter there are in the library at one time, besides the nurses and doctors, a lab technician, a member of the housekeeping department, a maintenance repairman or a floor secretary on relief doing a crossword puzzle.

Because we are an integrated hospital library, we are also in a position to be, secondarily, a community center of medical information. Not only staff doctors but other doctors and medical students who reside in the two communities are extended reading privileges. Furthermore, scientists and researchers in the various industrial plants and laboratories in the area have access to our source materials. Outside of the profession itself students from nearby universities, colleges and prep schools as well as from the local public schools, turn to the library for assistance in their research and theme projects. Babson students were so grateful for the help they received that one fraternity turned the initiation "hell" week into "help" week and cleaned out the library storeroom.

Citizens of the communities, either through requests to the public libraries that are referred to us or by direct call, can take advantage of our professional sources of knowledge. To the person A reading-study corner in one of three bright, sunny rooms which comprise the library suite in the Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Mrs. DePopolo, the librarian, stands in the doorway.



who has not worked in a community hospital library, it may seem surprising that so many individual citizens and city groups and organizations are constantly seeking our aid.

Publicity And Public Relations

We as librarians have one vice in common—we are constantly eager for more people to use our libraries. Furthermore we share one common problem, particularly in a hospital setting where the kind of background service a library gives is indirect and intangible, and that is, how can we keep from feeling isolated in a world that is, of necessity, concerned primarily with direct patient care. My answer is—publicize the library throughout the hospital and community in whatever ways possible.

Here are some of our publicity techniques: through the old stand-by, the attractive poster and billboard; through library news and notices in the hospital newspaper and in the doctors' newsletter published in our hospital by the administration; and through the publication, now under way, of a library handbook. The printed word is always effective.

At the general personnel meetings, which are held in the hospital monthly, the various departments, the library among them, have the opportunity to take turns explaining their operations. To publicize the library and to raise money for a special library fund, a tea and a food sale were held at the hospital with encouraging social and monetary results. But almost above all, I would urge a librarian to circulate as much as her books do. Individual contact with the doctors, nurses and department heads, either at meetings or informally in the hospital halls and coffee shop, can do a great deal to promote continuing interest in the library.

As a community medical center, we try to make the community aware of our services. We have entertained public librarians at a tea in the hospital library, thereby strengthening the cooperation between the general and specialized library. The administration has cooperated admirably in directing visiting groups from community organizations to the library on their hospital tours. Displays of books and services supplement the library tour during National Hospital Week, (one very successful display was of articles written by our staff) and we once participated in a half-hour local radio broadcast during this week.

Again, let the librarian circulate and attend appropriate community gatherings such as Community Chest dinners. Word of mouth is the best advertising in a community, and an active and reliable group of library volunteers is not only a help with library routine but also helps to spread word of the activities and services that the library offers the community.

All these activities demand a great deal of time and energy and background work, and the librarian must choose the means that will bring about the greatest service first to the hospital and then to the community without exhausting her energies for the professional aspects of library work. Those professional details only the librarian fully understands, as only she knows the intense satisfaction that can come from doing her job well.

## Polar Research In Government Libraries

MARIE TREMAINE, Director, Bibliography Project Arctic Institute of North America, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**M**OST NORTHERN countries have a polar or arctic institute, in which private and government interests combine to further research and development in the cold regions. The Russian<sup>1</sup> and British<sup>2</sup> institutes are more than 25 years old; the Norwegian<sup>3</sup> even older. The French<sup>4</sup> and Danes<sup>5</sup> have established institutes since the Second World War. The Arctic Institute of North America was founded in 1945, with headquarters in Montreal and offices in New York and Washington; it has some 2500 members, sponsors scores of field research parties each year and publishes a quarterly journal, Arctic.

All these institutes have libraries; the Russian is the most extensive with some 88,000 volumes.<sup>6</sup> These libraries are well organized with book, serial, map and reprint collections which are cataloged and classified. In fact the Scott Research Institute in Cambridge, England, has developed and published its own polar classification scheme, based on the Universal Decimal Classification. The Scott Polar<sup>7</sup> and the Arctic Institute of North America issue current accessions lists which include analytics of their serials.

These specialized libraries are useful and immensely stimulating for the arctic student, and they are convenient for the investigator too. But they are relatively young libraries, their collections must grow backward and forward for some time<sup>8</sup> before they can sustain advanced research. Furthermore the Arctic now involves most of the major sciences and several technical fields. At some point, its literature research must move into subject-specialized collections, and these, excepting the geographic libraries, are practically inaccessible from the area approach except by means of bibliographies.

#### Bibliographies of Polar Literature

The bibliographic projects that aim at control and review of polar literature are all located in Washington, where there is, I expect, the best aggregate of libraries anywhere. One, completed and retrospective from 1950, deals with the south polar region. The *Antarctic Bibliography* contains 5500 titles assembled by Dr. John Roscoe and was published for the Navy by the Government Printing Office.

Two others, both current, concern themselves with both polar areas, but in limited ways. One, on what might be called a format basis, deals with the so-called report literature, mostly technical, American and recent. It is the Polar Bibliography. Two volumes, comprising two thousand items with abstracts, have been issued by the Library of Congress and a third is in preparation. The other limited-scope work, dealing with snow, ice and frozen ground is the SIPRE Bibliography. It is tailored to the requirements of the Snow Ice & Permafrost Research Establishment Laboratory of the Corps of Engineers, and within those limits it is exhaustive of the world literature.9 Printed cards with abstracts are sent weekly to the Laboratory and to a few subscribers; they are also cumulated and

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issued in volumes, twice a year, by the Library of Congress. This literature is estimated at about 20,000 publications, with about 800 new items a year; it will be covered, up to date, by 1959.

The fourth of these projects is the *Arctic Bibliography.* It is produced by the Arctic Institute of North America for the Department of Defense and is the most comprehensive of the four. It overlaps each of the others a little and is intended for a wider range of use and for readers of various interests. About half of the edition is distributed free among American and Canadian defense agencies, government deposit libraries in the United States and research institutions and libraries abroad; the other half of the edition goes on general sale at the Government Printing Office.

This project, like the other three, is based in Washington, but it has also part-time personnel at the Arctic Institute's library in Montreal, at the Scott Polar Research Institute in England, at Harvard University and also sometimes in New York, Ottawa and at the French and Norwegian polar institutes in Paris and Oslo. These outpost activities increase access to foreign material which is scarce or late in reaching Washington. They extend the institute's contacts and further possibilities of locating obscure publications. They also keep us conscious of the varied uses of our publications. We stress equally the subject and geographic aspects of arctic and low temperature research materials, and we draw attention to the ancillary as well as to the main values of the publications.

The first three volumes of Arctic Bibliography are retrospective from 1949; they deal primarily with results of field work in the North, such as exploration, earth sciences and natural history. Subsequent volumes include also laboratory and other studies relevant to arctic conditions, especially in the medical and engineering fields. The later volumes place more emphasis on current research, defense operations and resource development; they include some unpublished report material, theses, translations and also popular, pictorial and news-type articles, especially Russian. These later volumes have been coming out once a year, and volume 7, issued in June 1957, makes a total of 43,464 publications listed to the end of 1955.

About half of the items are in English, a quarter to a third in Russian and the rest in Scandinavian languages, German, French and others. Altogether 20 languages are represented. Foreign language titles are given in the vernacular and in English as well. All are listed by author, with a summary of content, and a subject-geographic index is appended.

The annual volumes of Arctic Bibliography list somewhat more than five thousand publications each. Broken down chronologically, about 50 percent are of the last calendar year;<sup>10</sup> 25 percent, the previous 1950's; 20 percent, earlier twentieth century; 5 percent, nineteenth century and beyond. Annual output of arctic publications is estimated at 3,500 items, and a rise may be anticipated through the International Geophysical Year era.

#### Bibliographies Needed

For full command of polar literature, two more bibliographies are needed. The Antarctic literature should be brought under control now. It might amount to about a tenth of that on the Arctic. It should be abstracted, with a subject-geographic index, from 1950; the major items from Dr. Roscoe's check list should be treated in the same manner and incorporated into the same record. At present Dr. Roscoe, the polar institutes mentioned earlier and the Antarctic Division of the Australian Department of External Affairs are the best sources of information.

Polar cartography should be "bibliographed." It was specifically excluded when the Arctic Bibliography project was set up. Dr. Roscoe includes a few references to antarctic maps, mostly in books, and the Arctic Institute takes some notice of book maps and of mapping activities in the Arctic, but the special problems of older maps and charts and the massive results of postwar mapping call for independent treatment.

Valuable Bibliographic Services And Aids

So far I've explained that polar research in libraries requires bibliography, what bibliographies there are and what bibliographies are needed. Now I'd like to mention a few positive factors in libraries which affect the quality of bibliographic work. Primarily they are due to the circumstance that the group of special libraries used are government libraries. As such, they have unusual facilities for acquiring foreign literature, for example Russian material which is so important in arctic investigation and enterprise. In domestic materials, the copyright deposit can usually be counted on to provide an older obscure work, or a duplicate copy of a recent sought-after one. Report literature, so important for American research in recent years, is serviced well in government libraries, and now moves into their open collections and/or catalogs in greater quantity, and/or sooner than it does elsewhere.

Our project regularly searches some 750 current serials, we abstract occasional items from about twice as many others and we draw materials from 80 libraries. This kind of work is greatly expedited, in fact it is made possible, by such bibliographic facilities at the Library of Congress as the National Union Catalog, Slavic Union Catalog, the Serials Division records, the Current List of Russian Accessions, SIPRE Project cards and proof sheets of printed cards: by the Current List of Medical Literature from the National Library of Medicine, by aids in the Geological Survey, the Hydrographic Office, the Department of Agriculture and other organizations. The Board on Geographic Names identifies every geographic feature we index. These extraordinary facilities and services derive from government as distinct from special libraries.

#### CITATIONS

1. Arkticheskiĭ nauchno-issledovatel'skiĭ institut, Leningrad.

2. Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, England.

3. Norsk Polarinstitutt, Oslo.

4. Expéditions Polaires Françaises, Paris.

5. Arktisk Institut, Kobenhavn.

6. Polar Record, vol. 8, no. 55, Jan. 1957, p. 312.

7. Recent polar literature, published in *Polar Record*. Represents essentially publications received at SPRI.

8. Even the largest, the Russian, is said to borrow extensively. op. cit.

9. Letter to the Editor by John Sherrod, American Geophysical Union, Transactions, Oct. 1953. 10. Volume 8 with 1956 materials, in press.

## Newspaper Microfilming Activities

#### Newspaper Files On Microfilm

The files of the Panama Star and Herald (Panama City), oldest English language newspaper on the West Coast, will soon be available on microfilm. Libraries will be able to obtain positive prints of material dating from 1850 to 1870 by January 1958. For further information contact the firm of N. A. Kovach, 4801-09 Second Avenue, Los Angeles 43, California. **Canadian Newspaper Microfilm Catalog** The Newspaper Microfilming Project of Canadian Library Association has recently published Catalogue No. 6 which contains a complete list of films available from the Association as well as a list of titles most recently filmed. Copies are available from Mrs. F. D. Sowby, Secretary, Microfilm Committee, Canadian Library Association, Room 40, 46 Elgin Street, Ottawa.

# Facing Problems Of The O. P. Book

#### AARON L. FESSLER, Reprint Expeditor Cooper Union Library, New York City

**T**N THESE DAYS of rapid proliferation of all manner of devices calculated to reproduce copy in a variety of forms and sizes on film, cards or paper—reduced or enlarged according to taste it may seem archaic to consider the reproduction of books by the older, conventional processes such as letterpress or offset printing. Yet this is precisely what the Reprint Expediting Service is primarily interested in doing and is trying to encourage.

Despite the ingenuity and undoubted utility of the devices and processes alluded to above, it must be remembered that for most readers the book in its familiar, conventional form is still most desirable, and it is highly probable that it will continue to be so until microcard and film readers become standard equipment in homes and offices along with television sets and typewriters. Until such time, librarians will continue to be concerned with providing readers with books they can read with the naked eye.

Unfortunately, many valuable and basic books have disappeared from library shelves and have otherwise become irreplaceable. They are, therefore, for the most part, no longer available for purchase or if they are available at all, they may possibly be obtained on cards or film from a large library, assuming one is willing to make the effort and undergo the expense of time and money necessary to obtain them. This situation is true of books in all fields--literary classics as well as works in the sciences and technology. It was to help alleviate this condition and to make such books once more available to libraries in all areas of service and in all parts of the United States that the Reprint Expediting Service was created.

Growth Of The Reprint Expediting Service

At this writing the Service is slightly less than two-and-one-half years old. and has already been influential in bringing approximately 65 out of print books back onto library shelves and into bookstores. Among them are such titles as Julian's Dictionary of Hymnology (Dover, 1956), John Dewey's Outlines of a Critical Theory of Ethics (Humanities Press, 1957), Frank Norris' The Pit (Grove Press, 1956) and Arthur Schlesinger's Colonial Merchants and the American Revolution (Frederick Ungar, 1957). It is expected that the Pageant Book Company of New York City will reprint the entire 147 volume set of the Library of Congress Catalog of Printed Cards during the spring of 1958 as a result of Reprint Expediting Service activity.

The project was established in May 1955, with an original membership of 34 libraries and 13 publishers, by the American Library Association acting through its Board on Acquisition of Library Materials. This has since been renamed the Acquisitions Section of the Resources and Technical Services Division of ALA.

For many years prior to the establishment of the **RES**, several sporadic attempts were made by libraries to determine which out of print books were most widely needed. Many methods were tried to have some of them reprinted. Committees were formed to investigate needs among children's books and books in various other specialized fields. The ALA Out-of-Print Books Committee, established in 1938, obtained a grant from the Carnegie Corporation which it used to pay for the reprinting of four books. It ceased operation after 13 years. The vacuum created by its dissolution was filled by a rash of approximately 15 committees created by several different units of the ALA, each interested in a different subject field, thus representing relatively small segments of the library world and anything but a united front to publishers.

What was required was a single agency that could speak for the entire body of organized librarians, be responsible for gathering and disseminating information about out of print books, function as a clearing house for information in this area, and present the united interests of librarians to publishers. In addition, this agency would be helpful (1) to publishers in ascertaining the demand for books that they might be willing to reprint, prior to such reprinting, thus reducing the financial risk involved for them, and (2) to librarians by informing them about books scheduled for reprinting or recently reprinted.

After many months of preliminary negotiations with both librarians and publishers during 1954 and 1955, the Board on Acquisition of Library Materials was successful in launching the Committee on Reprinting. The personnel of this committee consisted originally of Jerome K. Wilcox, chairman, John M. Cory and Alton H. Keller. It set about successfully to:

1. Create a central library agency such as that described above;

2. Persuade existing committees to cease operations in favor of this agency;

3. Obtain financial assistance from both libraries and publishers which amounted to approximately \$1500;

4. Attempt to enlist the interest and support of the publishing industry as a whole as well as individual publishers.

Accordingly, the RES was formed and the present author appointed to perform the functions of Reprint Expeditor. It was also decided to create a channel for the periodic dissemination of pertinent information to all interested parties, and thus the Reprint Expediting Service Bulletin was born.

Soon after the RES was established. the original committee retired in favor of the present Executive Committee on Reprinting, consisting of J. N. Whitten, chairman, John Fall and Dr. Joseph Brewer. (Mr. Wilcox later rejoined and Mrs. Francis L. Spain was appointed to represent the committee's interest in juvenile literature.) This reconstituted committee has therefore been responsible for administering the RES program since its inception, with the very considerable assistance of its former members, as well as that of Edwin E. Williams, chairman of the Board on Acquisition of Library Materials, and Robert Vosper, former chairman.

Activities Of The Service

The new committee began immediately to plan ways to implement its purposes. It devised a five point program, as follows:

1. To invite libraries to submit titles of out of print books deemed desirable for reprinting;

2. To invite special library groups, e.g., Medical Library Association, Special Libraries Association, American Association of Law Libraries, Theological Library Association, etc., to appoint representatives to serve as consultants in these fields (John Herling, on the staff of the Engineering Societies Library, is currently serving as SLA representative, having succeeded Ralph Phelps, Director of the Engineering Socities Library);

3. To establish a panel of 200 or more representative libraries to aid in periodic surveys for ascertaining library demand for selected books; 4. To plan for the regular publication of the information thus gathered;

5. To obtain increased membership and financial support.

In response to this program, many libraries submitted titles, 244 of which have been included in the seven surveys conducted thus far. The panel of libraries has been expanded to 450 libraries, consisting of 300 college and university and 150 public.

Publishers have generally approved of the work of the **RES** and have in many cases acted on the basis of the information gathered about titles on their lists. Among the most active participants have been the following:

Frederick Ungar Publishing Co. Dover Publications W. W. Norton Humanities Press & Hillary House Grove Press Meridian Books Noonday Press Barnes & Noble, Inc. Charles Scribner's Sons Harper & Brothers

In the course of time, the **RES** hopes to amass sales information from publishers who have reprinted books that have been surveyed, in order to arrive at a formula which can serve to predict the volume of sales of reprints from the size of library response as indicated in the surveys.

The Committee has also been successful in forming a panel of consultants representing various special library groups. These consultants regularly inform the Committee of out of print needs in their fields, conduct special studies, and function as liaison people between the Committee and their respective groups.

To date, studies have been conducted to determine library demand for out of print children's books, selected reserve books in college and university libraries, use of paperbacks by college English teachers, out of print law books and books in the field of theology. Many such areas still remain to be explored.

All the information gathered as a result of these studies, reports of each quarterly survey and lists of forthcoming and recent reprints of books from all publishers which have hitherto been unavailable in any edition appear regularly in the *Bulletin* which is published quarterly.

Membership in RES has continued to increase steadily, and at present consists of approximately 300 libraries of all types and sizes-public, college and university, school and special. There are 40 publisher members, including both original and reprint firms. For the first two years, members were asked to subscribe \$25 to help defray costs involved in making surveys, publishing the Bulletin and for the services of a small, part-time staff. Recently the Committee voted to reduce subscription fees to libraries to \$5 per annum in order to encourage wider library participation. Rates for publishers remain at \$25.

Approximately \$4000 has been spent to operate the RES for the two year trial period. With the prospect of greater membership in the future, the Committee has proposed to expand its personnel, increase the number of working hours and establish its own office, thus removing it from its temporary quarters in The Cooper Union Library in New York City.

The indications are that the RES will continue to operate on an expanded basis, serving a greater number of libraries and publishers. Future plans call for an increase in the number and frequency of surveys. In any effort to fill the gaps in the world of knowledge, the RES will collaborate closely with its consultants as well as with publishers to stimulate greater activity in different special subject areas.

## Scientific Literature Use: A Survey

HARRY BACH, Head, Acquisitions Department, San Jose State College, California

WITHIN RECENT YEARS several attempts have been made to analyze and define information gathering methods as they exist among scientific personnel. Studies by Bernal,<sup>1</sup> Herner<sup>2</sup> and Urquhart<sup>3</sup> are particularly noteworthy and deserving of attention.

A comparative study of the three reports reveals certain general practices and attitudes among scientists which the science librarian should keep in mind when formulating policies:

1. Herner at Johns Hopkins found that pure and applied scientists differ considerably in their bibliographic methods. Pure scientists prefer to do their own bibliographic searches and in many instances they have developed highly effective techniques for doing them. The typical applied scientist generally prefers to have his bibliographic searches done for him and likes references evaluated, extracted and summarized.

2. The pure scientist makes relatively great use of advanced textbooks and monographs, research periodicals and review publications and little use of security-classified research reports. The applied scientist uses security-classified research reports heavily and refers to textbooks and monographs and research periodicals slightly less than the pure scientist.

3. In the use made of periodicals, pure scientists estimate that 70 percent of their information comes from domestic sources and 30 per cent from foreign sources. The applied scientist obtains 90 per cent from domestic sources and 10 per cent from foreign sources.

4. Three quarters of the papers required by research workers are contained in 100 journals.

5. A good 70 per cent of scientific personnel consult journals less than five years old. 6. All three surveys reveal a fairly consistent pattern of search and reading and emphasize the importance placed on auxiliary methods. References cited in the literature were the most important indirect sources of information. Half the references which are obtained from abstracts, according to Urquhart, are obtained during the first 12 months of the original literature's existence.

7. The library card catalog, book reviews and publishers' announcements have little apparent usefulness. Evidently, scientific personnel use the card catalog mainly as a finding list to locate works whose authors and titles they already know.

8. Libraries are by far the most important sources of published materials to the working scientist. In Herner's study 42 per cent obtained their published materials through libraries (Bernal's figure is 56 per cent), nine per cent depended on personal collections and 49 per cent leaned equally on libraries and personal collections.

9. Of the group surveyed by Herner, 11 per cent preferred to do their reading in libraries, 51 per cent preferred their offices and 38 per cent their homes.

10. The scientist leans on the library for accessions and current reading lists, bibliographies and translations.

#### CITATIONS

1. BERNAL, J. D. Preliminary Analysis of Pilot Questionnaire on the Use of Scientific Literature. *Royal Society of London*, 1948, p. 589-637.

2. HERNER, SAUL. Information Gathering Habits of Workers in Pure and Applied Science. Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, January 1954, p. 228-36.

3. URQUHART, D. J. The Distribution and Use of Scientific and Technical Information. Royal Society of London, Scientific Information Conference, June 21-July 2, 1948, London: The Royal Society, 1948, p. 408-19.

# This Works For Us...

#### **Increasing Usefulness of Card Catalogs**

Two procedures we have instituted lately are both aimed at making the card catalog more useful. The first consists of fastening a clipping of the table of contents, as listed in certain publishers' catalogs, to the bottom half of the main entry card. The purpose is to make more detailed information concerning the contents available.

We have found that a large number of our books are from publishers whose annual catalogs contain a listing of chapters in print size small enough to fit on the blank lower portion of most LC cards. Only seldom is it necessary to continue a portion on the reverse of the card. We use "permanent" type tape for the process. Many times we are saved from examining a book to determine if we do or do not need it for the question at hand, simply by examining the listing of chapters affixed to the main entry card.

We do not allow the availability of contents listings to influence our subject cataloging but rather consider these clippings as a sort of "extra added attraction" which bolsters our subject headings and analytics. A list is kept of new books whose contents are not yet printed so that the clippings may be added later when new catalogs arrive.

The second device is that of putting transparent yellow plastic jackets over all entries for books in the reference collection. These striking colors boldly state that we have a copy of a book for ready reference, a fact which often is overlooked by users not familiar with the collection.

The plastic covers are easily slipped over the cards and can be taken off as easily, should any book be removed permanently from the reference collection; no erasures or other remedial steps are needed. Most library supply houses can furnish these in a variety of colors should other color coding schemes suggest themselves. A sign on the catalog explains the meaning of the colored plastic covers to patrons.

ELLIS MOUNT, Librarian Federal Telecommunication Laboratories Nutley, New Jersey

#### **Circulation Methods**

A year ago we inaugurated a tables of contents method of routing magazines. We had in mind the speeding up of circulation at the time since the Department of Labour is spread over several buildings in Ottawa.

This service was developed for our research branch where about 100 readers are served. There has been a ready response and it has proved a speedier method than our old individual routing one. The number of readers has increased, more articles are being seen by more readers and delays in the return of publications are greatly reduced. Readers receive only the magazines they ask for when they return their copies of the *Tables of Contents* to the library with their initials entered beside the titles they wish to see.

The title page, in blue paper, lists only those journal titles whose tables of contents appear in that issue. An explanation of how the system works and the current list of periodicals for which tables of contents are reproduced also appear in each issue. Only quarterlies and certain monthlies are included.

The Queen's Printer does our copy work, using Xerox machines at a cost of  $40\phi$  a title. We make 100 copies of each table and distribution is done on a first come first served basis. The returned issues of the tables of contents are filed in folders, by title, in order of date of return. A list is issued approximately every ten days to two weeks.

> GORDON W. WILSON, Librarian Department of Labour Ottawa, Ontario

## Fall Meeting of the Metals Division

Programs on Nonferrous Metallurgy, Ferrous Metallurgy and International Aspects of Literature Research Featured.

**THE EIGHTH** annual fall meeting of SLA's Metals Division was held in Chicago this year, November 6-8, in conjunction with the 39th National Metal Exposition and Congress and the Second World Metallurgical Congress. More than 50 SLA members actively participated in the three-day program, and the open meetings were well attended by other Congress visitors.

Armour Research Foundation was host to the Division for the Wednesday program, "Progress in Nonferrous Metallurgy." After a welcome by O. T. Barnett, assistant manager, Metals Research Department, Dr. D. W. Levinson, supervisor of the Metals Research Department at Armour, covered "Recent Developments in Nonferrous Metallurgy;" Mary P. Murray, report and document librarian, talked on "The Report and Document Library at Armour Research Foundation;" and Ann P. Wennerberg, assistant supervisor of the Literature Research Section, discussed "Literature Research at Armour Research Foundation." Following luncheon at the Commons, members toured the Metals Research and Ceramics and Minerals Departments of Armour and were permitted to view the Armour nuclear research reactor whose operations were explained with charts and pictures.

The second all-day session, which was entitled "Progress in Ferrous Metallurgy," was held at the International Harvester Company Central School. Dr. R. H. Aborn, director of the Edgar C. Bain Laboratory for Fundamental Research, United States Steel Corporation, spoke on "Recent Advances in Ferrous Research." He surveyed significant new concepts and techniques in ferrous research, particularly those made since the First World Metallurgical Congress of 1951, which have led to commercial processes or products. In the second paper, "Metallurgy and Physics," Dr. D. S. Lieberman, Department of Mining and Metallurgical Engineering, University of Illinois, described some of the recent cryogenic techniques which low temperature physicists have applied to the study of metals and then analyzed the working relationships between the services rendered by librarians, physicists and metallurgists. Mr. M. C. Metzger, metallurgist and sales engineer, Cyclops Division, Universal Cyclops Steel Corporation, discussed the metallurgical aspects of alloys for high temperature design and application in "Alloys for High Temperature Applications."

After luncheon as guests of the company, Division members inspected the metallurgical laboratories of Manufacturing Research, International Harvester Company, and had an opportunity to view various testing processes. A. S. Jameson, supervisor of the laboratories, presided at a question and answer session following the tour, at which department heads were queried on specific operations.

Thursday evening the Metals Division participated in a joint dinner meeting with the Illinois Chapter of SLA and the American Documentation Institute. Guest speakers were SLA President Alberta L. Brown and Herman Henkle, Incoming President of ADI, who discussed SLA-ADI relationships.

Mrs. Marjorie R. Hyslop, managing editor of *Metal Progress*, presided at the outstanding and well-attended session held Friday morning and devoted to "International Aspects of Literature



The attractive Special Libraries Association booth, designed by Kenneth D. Carroll, attracted thousands of visitors and inquirers at the National Metal Exposition in Chicago.

Research." Anthony Post, joint assistant secretary of The Iron and Steel Institute, London, discussed "The Technical Library and Information Services For The British Metallurgical Industries." He covered the places in Great Britain where research is carried on and the journals in which the results are published as well as the translation and statistical services available to the mining and metallurgical industries. Due to illness Dr. Marc Allard, the scheduled speaker, was unable to come to the United States and Charles Crussard, director of laboratories, Institut de Recherches de la Sidurgie, read the paper prepared by Max Du Pont, manager, Centre de Documentation Siderurgique. "The Centre de Documentation Siderurgique at Paris" outlined the organization of the Iron and Steel Documentation Center, problems encountered in building up its services and solutions worked out.

"Documentation and Bibliographic Service of the Aluminium-Industrie-Aktien-Gesellschaft (AIAG) Research Laboratories, Neuhausen am Rheinfall, Switzerland," a paper written by Ernst Kocherhans, head librarian of the Laboratories, was presented by Mr. H. Zoller, a research metallurgist for AIAG. This described the literature handling, card indexes, filing, classification, abstracting and circulation methods used in the library and patent department. The final paper, "The Importance of Documentation to Metallurgy," was given by Frank T. Sisco, director, Engineering Foundation. He discussed the difficulties of properly digesting the tremendous output of technical literature and described some of the projects undertaken by the American Society for Metals to resolve the problem.

While speeches and tours were taking place elsewhere, Metals Division and Illinois Chapter members were also very much in evidence at the International Amphitheatre where the Metals Exposition, of which a Special Libraries Association exhibit was a part, was in progress. All week long visitors stopped at the booth to examine the books and periodicals displayed, look at the library photographs, ask technical questions of the librarians on duty and pick up copies of the bibliographies and papers prepared by the Metals Division. It was particularly gratifying to note that interest in the SLA activities, particularly the Consultation Service, was much greater than in previous years. Many persons (especially metallurgists from abroad) wanted to learn about setting up a library for their companies while others from firms with libraries wanted to know about how their librarians could join and be active in SLA.

## The 23rd Meeting of the IFLA Council Paris, September 22-27, 1957

THE IMPRESSIONS gathered at the Paris meetings of the IFLA Council are of a somewhat conflicting nature. IFLA has grown considerably during the last years, and, according to the report given by the President, Dr. Bourgeois of Berne, there are now 61 nations represented. Many, like the United States, are represented by more than one association. (The United States holds three memberships through the American Library Association, Special Libraries Association and Medical Library Association.) As the Secretary, Dr. Sevensma of Utrecht, pointed out several other countries have expressed interest in membership and will undoubtedly join within the coming year. This membership increase has brought on growing pains and has caused Dr. Bourgeois to appoint a committee to work out a plan for reorganization.

This year's meeting seemed to suffer from a certain lack of organization. For instance, no provision was made for the distribution of the texts of speeches as had been done in Munich the year before. More important, the Committee on Copyright and Reproduction of Printed Documents did not hold its scheduled meeting because Mr. Braband, the chairman of the committee, left Paris suddenly and no vice-chairman was available.

Other committees functioned much more efficiently. Particularly fruitful was the meeting of the International Association of Agricultural Librarians and Documentalists, under the chairmanship of Foster Mohrhardt of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The Committee on Parliamentary and Administrative Libraries made a strong plea for professional standards to be applied to staff positions in governmental and municipal libraries. Problems of standards were also discussed from the angle of professional education by the Committee on Professional Education, chaired by Monsieur Piquard, Bibliothèque Nationale.

Cataloging was again one of the main topics of discussion, and the vital importance of the largest possible measure of agreement on certain basic principles for future international documentation was stressed and re-examined. To attain this objective, a world-wide cataloging conference will be planned to take place under the auspices of IFLA. A preliminary meeting to prepare the agenda and suggest suitable participants will probably be held in London or Paris during the coming year. The multiplicity of problems involved in the preparation of union catalogs will require a full six-hour session at the next IFLA Conference.

The opening session was a memorable one, and it is to be hoped that the various fine addresses presented will be published in *IFLA Communications* (Actes du Conseil de la FIAB). The great interest aroused by the Convention in Paris was evidenced by the fact that the Minister of Education, the Mayor and the Prefect of the Department were personally present.

After welcome addresses by the President of the French Library Association and the President of the Sorbonne, Dr. Luther Evans spoke on behalf of UNESCO. He stressed the importance UNESCO attributes to the support of nongovernmental agencies in the fields of library work and bibliography. He also touched on copyright problems and pointed out that UNESCO is mainly interested in representing the rights of the author. Once a satisfactory solution has been found for that aspect of the problem, he feels satisfactory rules for library use can probably be established without much difficulty.

The French Library Association and the Chamber of Commerce were exceedingly hospitable to visiting Council members. KARL A. BAER, SLA Representative to IFLA

Have You Heard .

#### New Grants From The Council On Library Resources, Inc.

The Council on Library Resources, Inc. has recently awarded seven new grants to organizations concerned with solving pressing library problems. The American Historical Association, Washington, D.C., received \$57,100 to compile a Guide to the Photographed Historical Materials Available for Research in Libraries and Archives in the United States and Canada during the next two years. Dr. Richard W. Hale of Boston will direct the work with the assistance of an advisory committee comprised of historians, librarians and archivists and under the supervision of the Association's Committee on Documentary Reproduction. Microcard Corporation, West Salem, Wisconsin, was given a \$11,700 contract to develop a hand-reader that will be less expensive and less complicated than present models and can be conveniently used for viewing all types of micro-opaques. \$4,000 was awarded to the Southwest Missouri Library Service, Inc., a cooperative composed of ten small public libraries, for purchasing equipment necessary to set up a central processing unit. This will be the first venture in central processing by small independent units. To partially support a National Conference on the Undergraduate and Lifetime Reading Habit, to be held at Ann Arbor, February 21-2, 1958, the University of Michigan has received \$5,000. The Association of Research Libraries was granted \$21,000 to conduct an evaluation and review of the Farmington Plan. Robert Vosper, director of libraries, University of Kansas, will first direct a fact-finding inquiry which will include much detailed checking of foreign publications received in the United States against national bibliographies and other lists of publications. A conference of the 60 libraries

participating in the Plan will then be held to decide on future policies. \$12,125 has been awarded to the American Library Association to partially support a series of fact-finding studies among public, college and university, children's, school and other libraries in an effort to determine areas of deficiency in library service in the United States. Nasser Sharify, deputy director of the Parliamentary Library in Teheran, who is on leave while working for his doctorate at the School of Library Service, Columbia University, received \$5,500 to cover personal expenses while developing a cataloging code for Persian library materials.

#### **Medical Essay Contest**

The Medical Library Association has announced that the Murray Gottlieb Prize of \$50 will again be awarded for the best article by a medical librarian on some phase of the history of American medicine. Manuscripts from 5,000 to 6,500 words should be sent to Mrs. Mildred C. Langner, editor of the MLA Bulletin, Jackson Memorial Library, 1000 N.W. 17th Street, Miami 36, Florida, before April 15, 1958. Further instructions appear on the front cover of the bulletin.





Mr. Earl E. Burd

Before you get your coat off, he wants you to stop and find something for him.

> Courtesy of Dr. Margaret Holtman, Stan Hasse and Machine Design

#### Library of Congress Catalog Reprints

Charles W. David, director of the Longwood Library, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, announces that Longwood Library is collecting subscriptions for volume 39, First Supplement, Library of Congress Catalog (U.S. Congress. House. —U.S. Steel). If a sufficient number of subscribers respond, the volume can be reprinted by J. W. Edwards, publisher, at approximately \$20 per copy. Subscriptions should be sent to Dr. David at the Longwood Library.

#### **Documentation Seminar In Canada**

The Canadian Library Association and McGill University Library School will sponsor a seminar on documentation at McGill on January 20 and 21, 1958 to be directed by Dr. Ralph R. Shaw, professor at the Rutgers University Graduate School of Library Service. For further information contact Yvonne Northwood, Canadian Library Association, 46 Elwin Street, Ottawa.

#### MLA Scholarships

The Medical Library Association will award eight \$150 scholarships to students taking approved courses in medical librarianship during the summer of 1958. The scholarships will be given at the library schools of Columbia University, Emory University and the Universities of Illinois and Southern California. Further information on the awards may be obtained from the Medical Library Association.

#### New Computation Service

A computation consulting and service bureau has been established by the Ramo-Wooldridge Corporation. The bureau, a part of the company's digital computing center, will offer consulting services in computer applications and digital computing, including numerical analysis, programming and equipment rental. Address all inquiries to The Ramo-Wooldridge Corporation, 5000 El Segundo Boulevard, Los Angeles 45, California.

#### Members In The News

DR. BURTON W. ADKINSON, director of the Reference Department of the Library of Congress since 1949, has recently been appointed head of the Office of Scientific Information of the National Science Foundation. He will replace Alberto F. Thompson who died suddenly in June 1957.

LELIA CLARK retired in August from the Smithsonian Institution, where she served as chief librarian for the past 15 years. She was succeeded by RUTH BLANCHARD.

MRS. STELLA DILL, research librarian at Parke, Davis and Company, Detroit, for 25 years, has retired. Her successor is GERTRUDE LOSIE, formerly head librarian for Wallerstein Company, Inc., of New York City.

VERNA GRIMM has retired as librarian of the American Legion's National Headquarters in Indianapolis, a position which she had held since 1923. She was the first president of the Indiana Chapter of SLA.

#### In Memoriam

ANNA EGAN, librarian at the executive offices of the New Jersey Zinc Company in New York City, died July 13. She was a charter member of the Metals Division.

#### Religious Literature To Be Indexed

The Index to Religious Periodical Literature is to be published again by the American Theological Library Association. An annual volume is planned, beginning with 1957, and approximately 50 periodicals will be indexed. Further information can be obtained from the editor, Dr. Lucy W. Markley, at Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, Illinois.

#### Interlibrary Teletype Machine

The science information department library of Smith, Kline and French Laboratories has acquired a teletypewriter machine, to be used in an experimental interlibrary teletype network centered at the Philadelphia Union Library Catalog. The teletype number is PH834, and other libraries with similar equipment are invited to send in interloan queries and other short communications.

#### New ASTIA Office In San Francisco

The Armed Services Technical Information Agency recently opened a regional office at Building No. 1, Wing 2, Oakland Army Terminal, Oakland 14, California. This new local office will furnish technical report services and assistance to Department of Defense supported research and engineering activities in the San Francisco Bay area, including northern California and bordering states. James L. Ferguson has been assigned head of the new office.

#### Die Librariewerkeworde

In the September 9, 1957 issue of *Chemical and Engineering News*, there appeared the essentials of an up-to-date English-German vocabulary necessary to keep up with the rapid advances in technology and administrative organization. Not to be outdone, a Pittsburgh Chapter member (who understandably prefers to remain anonymous) has submitted the following inter-lingual terms for library professional enlightenment:

- LIBRARIAN: Ein nashty Shrew mit glareneiz
- PATRONS: Das picken und poken Bunche
- ORDERING BOOKS: Das gebuyen und gepayen Werke
- PROCESSING BOOKS: Das gepasten und gesprayen Werke
- CATALOGING BOOKS: Das findenein Heidenhol fur der Buchwerke
- SHELVING BOOKS: Das geputten backen placen Werke
- OVERDUE NOTICES: Das katchen der tiefen Notische
- REFERENCE: Das Checken und Doublechecken
- BIBLIOGRAPHY: Das Listen fur maken Gesearchen ein Briez

Courtesy of Pittsburgh Chapter Bulletin



From The Executive Secretary's Desk

The Headquarters' library consists of several small collections built over the years by gifts, exchanges, review books and a few subscriptions.

The book collection, about 200 volumes in all, includes both old and new contributions to the literature of librarianship. Library journals published in the United States, Canada and abroad make up the periodical files. Thirty publications are received regularly. Our most important reference source is a complete set of *Library Literature*, a comprehensive index published since 1921.

Our collection of library staff manuals needs to be augmented because many are not applicable to special libraries. Members also ask for annual reports of special libraries, but we have only a few from public and semi-public organizations. If any librarian prepares a report that can be loaned, a copy for the Headquarters' file will be appreciated.

We are beginning to accumulate booklets published by libraries to describe their services to library users. They serve as examples for other librarians planning similar publications and help explain the functions of a special library and its place in an organization. Here again, we are pleased to receive either elaborate booklets or simple leaflets for our collection.

We also collect library bulletins of all kinds and photographs of libraries, particularly those showing the staff in action. The pictures are in demand for recruitment programs and to illustrate career articles. Material in house organs about libraries are always welcome.

It is our aim to have a specialized collection which, though small, will be useful to SLA members. Contributions of material of the types described above are earnestly requested.

MARIAN E. LUCIUS

# Off The Press . . .

#### **Book Reviews**

TRAINING OF LITERATURE CHEMISTS (Advances in Chemistry Series No. 17). Washington, D.C.: American Chemical Society, 1956, 44 p., pap., \$2.50.

This 44 page booklet consists of the following six papers which comprised the symposium presided over by M. G. Mellon and presented before the Divisions of Chemical Education and Chemical Literature at the American Chemical Society's 127th Meeting, Cincinnati, Ohio, March, 1955:

1. The Problem of Literature Chemists in Industry by Irene M. Strieby summarizes replies to queries sent to 28 employers of literature chemists highlighting the problem of finding literature chemists with adequate qualifications.

2. Literature Searchers as Needed by the Chemical Consultant by Cornelia T. Snell describes the scope of literature searches prepared by the laboratory and literature staff of a chemical consultant and the source material used, with several examples of inquiries submitted by clients.

3. The Training of Chemists for Abstracting and Indexing by E. J. Crane describes the characteristics of good indexes and abstracts, the requirements of scientific and linguistic knowledge and of reading and writing skills for indexing and abstracting work, and the method used at Chemical Abstracts for instructing chemists in indexing operations.

4. Role of the Library School in the Training of Literature Chemists by Frances B. Jenkins describes various courses in library schools for special librarians.

5. College and University Training of Literature Chemists by O. C. Dermer describes courses in chemical literature offered to undergraduates, in particular the one at Oklahoma A. & M.

6. On-the-Job Training of Literature Chemists in Industry by B. H. Weil, O. E. Kurt and P. L. Brown, summarizes the results of a questionnaire on in-service training sent to some 45 companies and describes the employee training program of Ethyl Corporation Research Laboratories.

There is a place in industry for many kinds of chemists with a combination of talents for nonlaboratory work, such as sales, personnel, safety, administration, information and others. An analysis of these areas in terms of training and educational needs, aptitudes, personality characteristics and opportunities would render a great service to chemistry professors, guidance counselors and potential candidates. Training of Literature Chemists is a step in this direction for a few segments of the information area. The book is far from being complete, and it may be expected that subsequent programs of the two ACS divisions will include additional papers on this important problem.

HERMAN SKOLNIK, Manager Technical Information Division

Research Center, Hercules Powder Company Wilmington, Del.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRANS-LATING AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE LAN-GUAGE PROBLEM. Paris: UNESCO, 282 pages. 1957. \$4. Available from UNESCO Publications Center, 801 Third Ave., New York 22, N. Y.

It is stated in the preface to this report that the procedure adapted to secure the collaboration [in preparing the document] may be regarded as a successful experiment. It is to be emphasized that the publication is as successful as the method employed in its preparation.

At the seventh and eighth sessions of the General Conference of Unesco in 1952 and 1954, the Director-General was authorized "to advise and encourage international organizations concerned with the development and improvement of scientific documentation, with the standardization of terminology, with the compilation of multilingual dictionaries, and with the improvement of scientific translations." This report contributes to the final part of this resolution by providing a current and comprehensive international status report on the many aspects of scientific and technical translating as well as the language problem.

Four chapters totaling 143 pages are entitled Quantitative Appraisal of the Problem; Qualitative Aspects of Translating; Methods and Organizations for Translating; and Methods and Organizations for Making Translations Available. The remaining three chapters cover Language Learning for Scientists, The Possible Use of Language Internationally Understood and Terminology and Lexicography. The information and opinions presented were gathered by the Secretariat from 219 experts from 21 countries whose contributions comprise a major portion of the contents of the publication. Passages in the text which may be accepted as expressing the prevalentthough not necessarily unanimous-consensus of those who have collaborated are printed in large type. Detailed amplifications, incidental quotations, individual opinions, indications of dissent, particular examples and data of local interest appear in smaller type.

The report, as a statement of progress, provides the essential background information needed before action can be taken on the proposals discussed in the study.

The variety of expression resulting from the many conributions, the concise editing and the well organized presentation of both have resulted in a lively, interesting and informative document.

JOHN P. BINNINGTON, Research Library Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, N.Y.

#### **New Serials**

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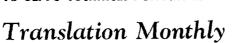
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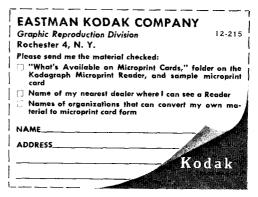
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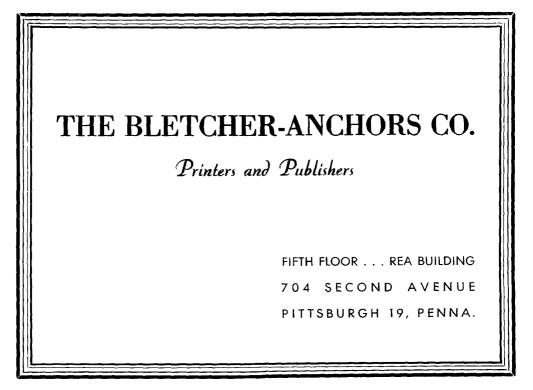
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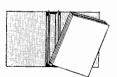
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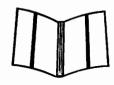
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