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Biographical Sketches of R. C. Hutchinson, Zora Neale Hurston,
and Lillian Hellman

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WILSON BULLETIN

FOR LIBRARIANS

MAY 1939

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Editor: *Stanley J. Kunitz*. . . . Business Manager: *Charles R. Brockmann*

The WILSON BULLETIN FOR LIBRARIANS is published monthly except July and August by THE H. W. WILSON COMPANY, 950-972 University Ave., New York, N. Y. Entered as second-class matter March 8, 1935, at the postoffice at New York, N. Y. under the Act of March 3, 1879. Subscription price one dollar a year, payable in advance. Single copies, 20 cents each (please send remittance with order to avoid billing charges). Address all correspondence pertaining to subscriptions direct to publisher. No subscriptions accepted thru agents.

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Cable Address—WILSONDEX

950-972 University Avenue, New York

BRITISH AGENTS: W. & R. HOLMES,

3-11 Dunlop Street, Glasgow C.1

GERMAN AGENTS: G. HEDELER,

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Compton Comment



TEN days ago I boarded the Sausalito ferry at San Francisco. It had been raining all day, but as we climbed the stairs to the upper deck, the sun broke through the clouds. Before us lay Treasure Island—its pinnacles and towers shimmering brightly under a gorgeous rainbow which arched from the Tower of the Sun to Goat Island—lying darkly in the mists at our right. The Fair is a thing of rare beauty—and both entertainment and program announcements indicate that the 1939 A.L.A. Conference will long be remembered.

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Emily Miller Danton,
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Annual selection, prepared by the *Booklist* staff, of about 275 books of the year reported by librarians to be most used and most enjoyed by readers. Includes list of technical and business books compiled by Charles E. Mohrhardt. In 1937 the Georgia Library Commission's Newsletter said: "*Booklist Books* is our contribution to each library's file of book selection aids . . . Use it as a buying guide, as a suggestive reading list for your borrowers, as a borrowing list. . ."

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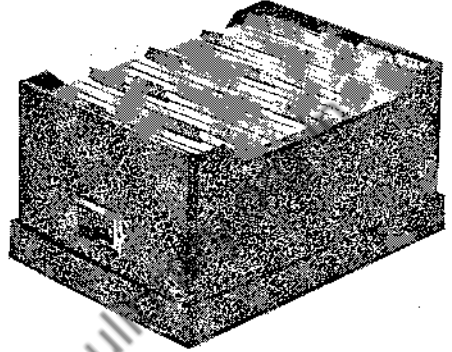
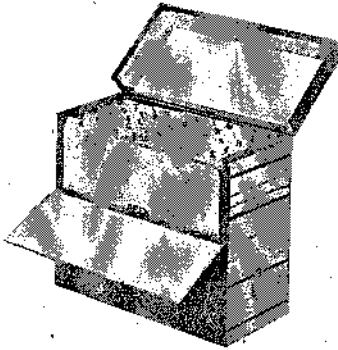
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Current Library Favorites

(According to the reports from the public libraries of twenty-seven cities*)

FICTION

NON-FICTION

AUTHOR	TITLE	POINTS	AUTHOR	TITLE	POINTS
1. Daphne Du Maurier, <i>Rebecca</i>		257	1. Adolf Hitler, <i>Mein Kampf</i>		174
2. Rachel Field, <i>All This and Heaven Too</i> ..		256	2. Margaret Halsey, <i>With Malice Towards Some</i>		168
3. Lloyd C. Douglas, <i>Disputed Passage</i>		158	3. Arthur Hertzler, <i>Horse and Buggy Doctor</i> ..		134
4. Howard Spring, <i>My Son, My Sont</i>		103	4. Anne Lindberg, <i>Listen! The Wind</i>		121
5. Margaret Mitchell, <i>Gone With the Wind</i> ..		98	5. Richard E. Byrd, <i>Alone</i>		102
6. Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, <i>The Yearling</i> ..		88	6. Pierre van Paassen, <i>Days of Our Years</i> ..		102
7. A. J. Cronin, <i>The Citadel</i>		56	7. Edna Ferber, <i>A Peculiar Treasure</i>		88
8. Bess Streeter Aldrich, <i>Song of Years</i> ...		50	8. Nora Waln, <i>Reaching for the Stars</i>		82
9. Pearl Buck, <i>The Patriot</i>		48	9. Martha Dodd, <i>Through Embassy Eyes</i> ...		60
10. Phyllis Bottome, <i>Mortal Storm</i>		39	10. Lin Yu-fang, <i>Importance of Living</i>		42

COMMENT: This month's fiction favorites occupy approximately the same places as last month's, *The Patriot*, being the only new title. More drastic changes have occurred on the non-fiction side. Patrons' requests for the 1937 edition of *My Battle* are changing to requests for the recently published unexpurgated *Mein Kampf* and the votes for both titles have been added together bringing the book into first place. Three new non-fiction titles are *Reaching for the Stars*, *Through Embassy Eyes*, and *Days of Our Years*.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS: The five leaders for the children are: *Sue Barton, Visiting Nurse*, by Helen D. Boylston, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, by Richard Atwater, *The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins*, by Theodor Seuss Geisel, *Sue Barton, Student Nurse*, by Helen D. Boylston, and *Hello, the Boat*, by Phyllis Crawford.

* Atlanta, Baltimore, Birmingham, Boston, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Des Moines, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City (Mo.), Los Angeles, Louisville, Memphis, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Newark, New York City, Pittsburgh, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Springfield (Mass.), Seattle and Toronto.

(Continued from page 580)

political to private life he has been pursuing so many interests (the presidency of the American Guild for German Cultural Freedom among them) that he has found no time for his two literary projects—an extensive and up-to-date supplement to *The Development of the English Novel* and a book of memoirs.

April 11. Egmont Colerus, Austrian novelist and playwright, died in Vienna of a heart ailment. He was fifty-one.

April 11. Willard Huntington Wright, who had written nine serious books before he created Philo Vance and over the signature S. S. Van Dine made best-sellers of detective adventures, died in his New York home on Central Park West. His death at the age of fifty-one came after several months' illness.

Wright was born in Charlottesville, Va., was liberally educated both here and abroad, and in 1910 became a reporter for the *Los Angeles Times*. He became editor of *Smart Set* and then accepted a succession of posts as literary and dramatic critic for *Town Topics*, the *Forum* and *International Studio*, the *San Francisco Evening Mail*. In order to get his mind off himself during a nervous breakdown which came in 1923 he read a mass of detective fiction and became suddenly convinced that in it was a "variety of literary entertainment quite distinct from all other forms." In 1926 he began with *The Benson Murder Case*; and the popularity of his books has continued ever since.

April 13. Speaking at the annual spring luncheon of the Town Hall, New York City,

at which S. K. Ratcliffe, British author and lecturer was the guest of honor, Hendrik Willem Van Loon declared that democracy was becoming a by-word for "a complete lack of that leadership which has the courage of its own decisions and for a betrayal of every given promise, if that act of treason could in some way contribute to one's feeling of comfort and safety." He called for an adherence rather to "liberty"—"the integrity of the individual, the freedom of the mind and . . . the humanity of the heart." Frika Mann, Rupert Hughes, and Mlle. Eve Curie were among the other speakers.

JUNE BOOK CLUB CHOICES

Book of the Month Club

For United States subscribers:

America in Mid-Passage, by Charles and Mary

Beard, Macmillan

For Canadian subscribers:

Wickford Point, by John P. Marquand, Little

Literary Guild

A Peculiar Treasure, by Edna Ferber, Double-

day

Junior Literary Guild

Older boys: *River Rising!* by Hubert Skid-

more, Doubleday

Older girls: *The Girl Who Was Marge*, by

Edith Tallant, Lippincott

Intermediate group: *Joan and the Three Deer*,

by Marjorie Medary, Random House

Primary group: *Chester*, by Charles Bracker,

Messner

Catholic Book Club

The Bishop Jots It Down, by Rev. Francis

Clement Kelly, Harper

May choice: *Orestes A. Brownson*, by Arthur

Schlesinger, Little

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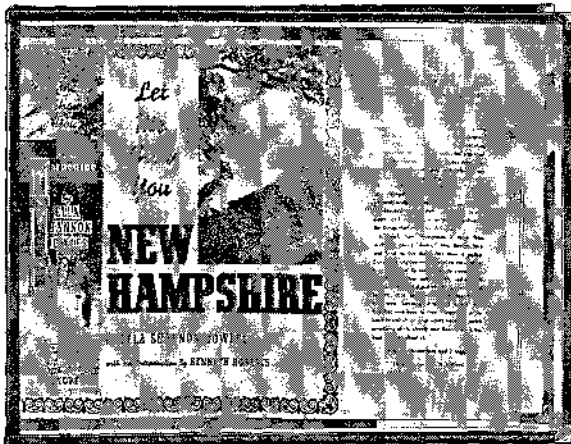
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R. C. Hutchinson

[The following autobiographical letter was written for the *Wilson Bulletin* by Ray Coryton Hutchinson, 32-year-old English novelist, living at Birdlip, Gloucestershire.]

I WAS brought up in an exceedingly comfortable home in a London suburb. Went to boarding-school at thirteen and hated the first three years—homesickness chiefly. Then Oxford, where I wasted my time. I joined the cavalry section of the O. T. C. hoping to learn to ride, but found that my temperament was incompatible with that of the horse . . . the brutes wouldn't start. When they did start they wouldn't stop. They scraped me off on boughs of trees, they threw me over their heads, they jerked me over their backsides . . . I gave it up and went into the Air Squadron, where I did learn how to take up an aeroplane and bring it down without smashing it.

A great deal of my last year was spent in nervously shadowing what you would call a co-ed (our term is "undergraduette"). This was the one sensible thing I did at Oxford, and we became betrothed almost immediately after I had sat for my final "Schools" (English for examinations!). [He married Margaret Jones in 1929.]

I went into the firm of J. & J. Colman Ltd., Norwich, manufacturers of mustard and a lot of other things. At first into the Foreign Dissection Dept., then to the Advertising Dept., where I was chief assistant to the manager for six years or so . . . but I never found the business of selling things such an outside thrill as some people do, and three years ago last autumn (our word for Fall) I tried the experience of giving my whole time to what I call work—viz. writing. I am still trying it, and shall go on as long as my banker (and/or Herr Hitler) lets me.

I wrote stories as far back as I can remember . . . I wrote my first "novel" at school—a "thriller" of 20,000 words. At Oxford I wrote hardly anything except one short story which eventually found its way into Edward O'Brien's annual collection (1928). When I went into business I spent my spare time writing short stories—as well as doing a little acting at the Norwich Mad-market Theatre—but only one or two magazines, such as the *English Review*, would take them. So I tried my hand at a novel, *Thou Hast a Devil*, which was eventually published (not in America). I have read many first novels, but not, on my oath, anything quite so excruciatingly naïve as this one. I then wrote what I thought was a pot-boiler. So far from boiling the pot it was (rightly) refused by nearly every publisher in London. My third book, *The Answering Glory*, was better I think. Friends of mine still read and like it. But it fell stone cold over here. In America, if I remember rightly, it had a very kind press. My next, *The Unforgotten Prisoner*, was a Book Society choice here.



R. C. HUTCHINSON

The one after that, *One Light Burning*, was—I still think—much better written, but it didn't sell on either side.

All these were written in the evenings, after a full day's work. *Shining Scabbard*, the next one, was a choice of the American Book-of-the-Month-Club. *Testament*, the most recent was a choice of the Book Society here, won the *Sunday Times* gold medal for fiction, and is being translated into five languages—but has been, a failure, I gather, in the States. . . .

We have four (rather pleasant, I think) children (girl-boy-girl-boy, 8-6-4-1)—"a very neat job," J. B. Priestley once said.

Nothing I could say about the political situation would have any value. . . . I think the immediate fact of importance which is sometimes not wholly appreciated in America is that London is some 3000 miles nearer to Cologne than New York is. (I should add to this that I thank God there is a great democratic country sufficiently far from Europe to get on with the business of democracy.) This proximity, at any rate, affects the people in my trade rather unhappily. To write a first-class novel, whatever its length, takes, I should say, not less than two years. And none of us know that we are going to get one year, or for that matter six months. (I don't mean that that's the only thing wrong with the English contemporary novel.) Call this "jitters" if you like.

This is, I think, a day for journalists. The novelists can't keep up with the stream; the breadth and depth and fullness and lovely proportions of the art—as the masters have revealed it—cannot show themselves in this uproar.

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Zora Neale Hurston

OF her background Zora Neale Hurston writes: "When I pitched headforemost into the world I landed in the crib of Negroism. From the earliest rocking of my cradle I had known about the capers Brer Rabbit is apt to cut. . . . But it was only when I was away from my native surroundings, that I could see myself like somebody else. . . ." A good schooling, literary connections, and two successive Guggenheim Fellowships have enabled her to see not only herself but the folk tradition of her race without an over-abundance of sensationalism. And that what she says *about* the Negro comes *from* the Negro has an obvious significance.

Zora Neale Hurston was born January 7, 1901, in Eatonville, Fla., the first incorporated Negro town in America—"the city of five lakes, three croquet courts, three hundred brown skins, three hundred good swimmers, plenty guavas, two schools, and no jail-house." She was sent to school for a while, but after the death of her mother, Lucy Hurston, she was removed, at the age of thirteen and obliged to mind her eldest brother's children. Three years later she ran away, got a job with a white woman as a lady's maid; at seventeen was enrolled at Morgan Academy in Baltimore, went to high school; and then on to Howard University in Washington. For *Stylus*, a campus literary magazine, she wrote her first story. At the end of her sophomore year she left school and began to submit stories to the editor of *Opportunity*, a journal of Negro life; he encouraged her considerably and suggested that she go to New York. Here she met Fannie Hurst, Carl Van Vechten, Blanche Colton Williams, and John Erskine; and won second prize in a literary competition.

In 1925 she was awarded a scholarship to Barnard, was admitted as a Junior, and studied anthropology under the eminent Dr. Franz Boas. For several months' research she returned to the Deep South to delve into Negro folklore. Thru the Rosenwald Fund she was provided two years' continuation at Columbia; she did not complete Ph.D. requirements, but in 1936 received a Guggenheim Fellowship for the study of intimate and primitive life in Haiti and Jamaica.

Meanwhile she had become Fannie Hurst's amanuensis. And Fannie Hurst (who would scour the town for a "bargain in soda biscuits to eat with cheese and then pay an enormous sum for a beautiful plate to eat it from") wrote the introduction to her first novel, *Jamah's Gourd Vine*, which, for rhythm, dialect, and candid naturalness, was an able piece of Negro portraiture. A year later came *Mules and Men*, the findings of a long folk-lore hunt in the South. In the more cloistered communities—where the Negro often regards outsiders



ZORA NEALE HURSTON

with a shy and polite resistance—lay her best source. And she succeeded in finding and recording a wealth of tales. The book was supplemented with folk- and work- songs, voodoo formulae, the "paraphernalia of conjure," and root doctors' prescriptions.

Their Eyes Were Watching God, an unaffected story of life among Florida Negroes, was published in 1937; and last year came the yield of her two Guggenheim Fellowships spent in Jamaica and Haiti. *Tell My Horse* concerned itself chiefly with voodooism, Zombies ("bodies without souls"), and milder folklore, its title stemming from "Parley cheval ou," the words with which a "spirit rider" begins to dictate thru the lips of his "mount," or person whose mind he appears to possess. By the celebrated "houngan," Dieu Donnez St. Leger, she was conducted thru some of the rites of initiation for the voodoo priesthood. Moreover she was permitted to touch an "authentic" Zombie, to listen to the broken noises in its throat, and then to photograph it.

Altho she was somewhat disheartened at the public's indifference to a concert of genuine spirituals and work songs which she herself supervised at the John Golden Theatre in New York (1932), she hopes that it will some day be possible to bring an African faculty to America to teach Negro music and dancing. She believes that only by retention and improvement of his own native abilities can the Negro add anything to Western arts.

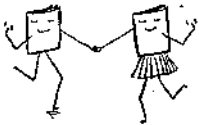
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WILSON BULLETIN

FOR LIBRARIANS

May 1939

Previous to Previews

By Frances Cary Richardson*

EVEN during lull periods there is a certain amount of interesting activity going on on a motion picture lot, but at times when it is running to full capacity, it is a really fascinating place.

Recently, at our studio, so many historical pictures and pictures laid in other lands have been made that at times the place seems filled with characters all ready and made up for a huge masquerade ball. The other morning, on coming to work, I was thrilled to see a crowd of swashbuckling young gallants out of the 17th century, come pell-mell from their dressing rooms. They had wonderful make-up: goatees, mustaches, and long curls of the period, and they wore stunning, be-plumed large hats, high boots, and swords buckled to their sides. In the coffee shop I sat next to Louis XIII—eating a high stack of wheats!

To start to describe the work of a Motion Picture Research Library to someone who is not familiar with the many different departments of which a movie lot consists, is a trifle difficult, since the Research Department is essentially an auxiliary one to all the others. Therefore, an idea of the many units that contribute to the functioning of a studio may be of interest.

Naturally, the most important thing of all from which everything that goes toward production of a picture must receive its momentum, is the *idea*. The

idea may come from a number of different sources—namely, a play, a short story or novel, a newspaper story, or current event, an original story—by that is meant a story written especially for a movie and unpublished—a magazine article or an historical incident. These various sources may be brought to the attention of the head of the studio thru any one of a number of channels, one of the principal channels being the Scenario Department, under which are the readers who consider and recommend or reject material constantly. Owing to the fact that plagiarism suits have become such a racket, no manuscripts are read unless submitted by agents or persons known to be reliable. The head of the studio must approve of the idea before the ball starts rolling. If it is a story or play, etc. that must be purchased, arrangements are made for that thru the Scenario and Legal Departments. When it has finally become studio property and been duly registered with the Hays Office, a producer is generally assigned to handle it. His first step is to put a writer to work on it for the purpose of making a treatment of the idea or story. In other words, an outline of the most desirable way in which it can be handled for picture purposes.

When the treatment has been accepted, the writers go to work on the script. The completion of this may take anywhere from two or three weeks to a couple of years, but when it is completed and marked "revised final," or "shooting

* Head of Research Department, 20th Century-Fox Studios.

final," a director is assigned and the work of preparing for production starts. That, of course, involves many departments: Casting, Art, Costume, Property, Camera, Make-up, Music, Cutting, etc. Each department has an intricate story of its own, and each plays a vital part behind the screen and is indispensable to the finished production.

The work of the Research Department begins in earnest as soon as a treatment of the story is completed. At that time a member of the research staff is assigned to the picture and works on it throught. Data are then gathered in the form of pictures and books, magazine articles, etc. Notes are made from the books and articles that may be valuable for ideas or for ready reference and sent to the writers. Perhaps brief references to some of the notes that were collected for "Alexander Graham Bell" may give an idea of the sort of work that is done. This is a production in which we in "Research" take great pride, because the script has followed the actual facts of Bell's life and the invention of the telephone very accurately.

Research on Bell's Life

First of all, there is a three-page bibliography of books and magazines used for research on the picture. Then follows a chronology of the life of Alexander Graham Bell for quick reference; articles concerning Alexander Graham Bell and the telephone; descriptions as to appearance and characteristics of Mr. Hubbard and Mr. Sanders, Bell's backers; an account of boarding house life of the period of the 1870's; detailed information regarding the different workshops in which Bell carried on his experiments with Watson and all available information regarding the Williams Electrical shop in Boston; technical data relative to Bell's method of teaching the deaf and dumb; lists of events of world-wide importance that occurred at this period; accounts of the demonstration of the telephone to Queen Victoria from Bell's point of view and also from the Queen's, and who was present at that famous meeting and what each person wore; lectures and demonstrations made

by Bell and Watson in Salem and Boston, at which Watson sang such songs as "Hold the Fort," "Pull for the Shore," and "Yankee Doodle" for the benefit of the listening audience; documents and other data regarding the law suits brought by Western Union against Bell, and detailed descriptions of his patents; as many pictures of Boston of that time as possible, showing types of architecture, street scenes, wagons and carriages, sleighs; costumes of the time with special emphasis on bustles; accounts of Boston's social life and customs, the prices of food then; furniture and general interior decorating of the period such as would be used by both the well-to-do and by the less prosperous; telegraph offices and instruments in Railway Stations—and, of course, a tremendous volume of data regarding early electrical apparatus and early telephone instruments.

These notes are gathered together in the form of a book so that they may be used throught the production by the director or anyone working on the picture who wishes to familiarize himself with the background: the art director, property man, and costume department generally want to study them, and later they are used by Publicity. At the same time notes are being collected, pictures of everything that might be of use to the many departments are photographed so they will be ready and available when the script is finished and production preparation starts. Of course, we can never hope entirely to outguess everybody beforehand, and there are many books, such as architectural works, costume books, etc. that contain so much good material that it would not be sensible to try to select from them, and these books are issued to those needing them. However, we consult hundreds of volumes and much of our material is borrowed from the Public Library and other sources and must be returned shortly after we receive it, hence the necessity of copying so many pictures and notes. There are always frantic last minute questions—generally something inserted at the last minute.

Once we had a wild last minute call for a picture of a refuse can in Central



THE RESEARCH LIBRARY AT 20TH CENTURY-FOX STUDIO IN LOS ANGELES
Helen Webb, Frances Richardson, Katharine Lambert and Gertrude Kingston are
looking up facts that will later be shown on the screen.

Park, New York—and again: how to play mumbley peg? Generally when these calls come in, we scramble wildly to find what is wanted, interrupted by the phone ringing every five minutes and the impatient query, "Have you found it yet?—it's holding up production."

To the Rescue

The other day we came to the rescue of production in rather an unusual way for us. Just as a shot was about to be taken for "Thanks for Everything," the director decided a dog in the lap of a lady who was sitting in the back of a limousine, would improve the shot, but a dog at the last minute is sometimes difficult to secure. However, the property man knew that my little Scottie accompanies me to work each day, so he called me and said they were shooting in five minutes, and would I bring "Wendy" down. When we came on the

stage, the director, wondering, asked the propman: "Where did you get it?" He replied: "From the Research Department." Just ask us anything!

The art director, property man, costume designer, make-up man, all come to us for their particular wants. We have approximately 15,000 books, huge files of old magazines, and 23 four-drawer steel cabinets full of clippings in our library—all thoroly indexed and easily available. Our clippings are filed in manila rope envelopes, 11 x 14 inches and arranged alphabetically. We file by country with subdivisions, and by specific subject as often as possible, and we make cross indexes whenever it is necessary. Gradually we are getting them mounted on stiff paper in order to preserve them. But even with all this at hand, some of the questions require extensive investigation. It is easy enough to supply the art director with examples of Gothic architecture or

French chateaux—but when he has to build a barn door just high enough for an average cow to pass thru—or to find a particular type of stile for the Mother Goose pig who wouldn't go over—or when the make-up man wants a picture of a six months' old scar, we have to get in and dig. Prop men can think of amazing things to want: the kind of torch they used to light a bonfire with in 1837; appearance of pins in the 18th century; whether or not lorgnettes were fashionable in Napoleon's day; what farming tools were used in ancient times; an organ grinder's music box of the 1830's; and how lifeboats were carried on ships in 1870.

People say to us: "Oh, you must know a lot." This makes us cringe, because so much we read or look up seems to leave us as soon as we finish a picture.

We may remember such strange miscellaneous facts as:

When a man wants to claim the body of a suicide he must get permission from the coroner;

that mounted police are on duty in Chicago at night;

that the cost of crime in the U.S. is 15 billion dollars a year;

that the word "bar" cannot be used in the name of a place selling liquor in New York, except under certain conditions;

that no number is sewed to the shirt of a prisoner after he has entered the death cell;

that the U.S. Army pays \$280.18 for a machine gun;

that ping pong balls that were used in Harry Richman's plane were placed there by hand.

One of the most disconcerting things that happens in our work is the changing of the locality of stories. This may sound ridiculous, but in one week a story changed its location three times: (1) New York Bowery, (2) South African Diamond Mines, (3) Alaska!—and each time we dug up all the research for the setting!

Sometimes it seems as if motion picture writers think that the world and all that happens therein has for its ultimate aim to be reproduced in pictures and that anything they want to know is to be had for the asking. There is the often repeated story of the man who asked me for the secret code of the British navy and just the other day I was asked again for the rules used in

conducting the U.S. War Games. The writer seemed annoyed when I demurred, saying they would probably be of a secret nature.

The Los Angeles Public Library is our most used source for books and information. Nearly every day finds someone from the Research Department down there gathering data. Of course, the Huntington Library, the museums, and University Libraries also come to our rescue frequently. The libraries in various parts of the country, such as the Chicago Library when we were working on "In Old Chicago"; in connection with "Young Mr. Lincoln" more recently, the Springfield, Ill., Library and the Historical Society assisted us a great deal.

We use the Dewey Decimal System of Classification, and our books are cataloged by the method generally adopted by most Public Libraries. The weekly analysis of our magazines for pictorial content principally, as we have *Readers' Guide*, has built up an absolutely indispensable card catalog of references that saves us hours of searching.

Gradually the value of employing trained librarians in the studios is becoming appreciated. Out of the ten people in the department at 20th Century-Fox, which is one of the largest in the industry, four have had special training and a fifth about 15 years' experience in Research Work. There is little more that library schools could do in specialized training for motion picture library work other than a general course offers, for the knowledge of what will be wanted in this extraordinary business and where to find it is something only experience can give.

Because the staffs of Research Departments are small and there are seldom changes in the personnel, it cannot be considered an easy field to enter. The salaries, as a whole, I should say, are slightly higher than those of the average public library.

Not only is the motion picture world itself glamorous, but a librarian's work in it is in some ways ideal. She is constantly delving into something new and engrossing, and there is great satisfaction in seeing her work come to life on the screen.

Periodicals, Their Use and Preservation

By E. Lenore Casford*

THE periodical today is the intermediate stop between the newspaper and the book, giving in greater detail that which the newspaper has announced and serving as preliminary to the book which will follow later.

The tremendous increase in the number of periodicals has come to present to libraries, both public and institutional, a problem of major magnitude. Because of their contribution to practically every field of information, libraries have been compelled to increase their periodical subscriptions tremendously. Pearl H. Clark's study¹ states that the increase ranges from 18 per cent to 2301 per cent. The annual appropriation for periodicals of the forty libraries questioned by the present writer ranged from \$1290 to \$2400.

The problem which confronts the modern library is first, which of all the enormous number of published periodicals it is justified in including in its budget and making available to its patrons; and second, how to handle them after they are acquired by the library to the end that they shall be as completely available and serviceable as possible to all, both staff and patrons.

The use of magazines and serials in a library depends largely upon their accessibility to the public. In order that they may know what are available most libraries adopt some system of listing their holdings. Some use a visible cardex in the periodical room with an alphabetical list of the periodicals and the location of the recent numbers on the shelves. This is usually a satisfactory arrangement as far as it goes. Some use the card catalog and list all holdings of the library with their location. In the case of serials this is important, for the patron can then tell at once whether or not the particular issue he desires is in the library. Some libraries make a practice of listing only the bound volumes with the notation: "For unbound numbers see the Periodical Check List" or some such direction. There are objections to this. The public do not quite understand what it means and if they do it means taking time and effort for both patrons and library staff to go to the record indicated and make extra search. The time saved by the cataloger in not listing the library's holdings is more than offset by the inconvenience of patrons and staff. There is a feeling on the part of some libraries that

there should be a subject list as well as an alphabetical list of periodicals in the periodical room to satisfy the frequent requests of patrons. If the periodicals are grouped by subjects, as in the case in some libraries, there is not so much need of a subject list.

Open Shelves

Current periodicals are wanted for recreational reading and for serious study. For this reason the periodical reading room is a much frequented and popular place in most libraries. Patrons usually like to browse around on the shelves and choose for themselves from the many available those which suit their particular need. The questionnaire sent by the writer showed that of 40 libraries, 33 have open shelves or a combination, some keeping certain restricted ones on closed shelves. Only 7 have completely closed stacks. 16 have the latest issue only on open shelves while 24 have all numbers of the latest volume open to the public.

There are arguments both for and against the open shelves. The public have a tendency to take from the library the magazine which they particularly desire to use. When this happens to be one of the scholarly journals the problem of replacement is serious. One library said its loss was shocking, 10 said their magazines disappear frequently, 24 said they occasionally lost numbers, 2 stated that since putting certain popular titles on closed shelves their loss had diminished appreciably. The problem of missing numbers is an important one, for if the number is not replaced at once it is soon not available from the publisher and must be obtained from second-hand dealer or by exchange from other libraries. The value of exchange lists is a moot question. Does the library gain enough in proportion to the time, effort, and expense involved in making out the want and duplicate lists? Could, perhaps, some plan of regional exchange be worked out that would be more efficient than the present system?

On the other hand, it is argued that with closed shelves the library property is better safeguarded and the public better served. When magazines are on open shelves they are very often mislaid by the readers, and time and effort are required to search for a particular wanted number; if they are kept on closed shelves, the attendant can locate any wanted number instantly. Having to sign for a magazine is a check against loss or mutilation by patrons.

* Periodicals Librarian, University of Oregon Library, Eugene, Oregon.

¹ *The Problem Presented by Periodicals in College and University Libraries*, University of Chicago, '30. See also J. Harris Gable, *Manual of Serial Work*, A.L.A., '37.

The second great use of periodicals and serials is for reference and research. Practically all types of magazines have a reference value provided they are properly indexed, but scholarly journals are essential to research. The use of magazines for reference is largely dependent upon their being properly indexed and upon the proximity of the indexes to the magazine files. 25 of the libraries questioned keep the guides in the same department with the periodicals, 3 keep them in the reference department only, and 12 keep them in special departments. It is obvious that there is loss of time and effort in not having guides adjacent to the magazines which they index.

There is also the problem of where to shelve the cumulative indexes which certain periodicals issue from time to time. Are they more valuable when shelved with the bound files of the magazines or in the periodical or reference department where they can be easily consulted whenever occasion arises?

During the past few years there has been a constantly growing sense of the importance of periodicals for research work. From among the enormous number available it is a difficult matter for libraries with limited budgets to make a choice. Libraries which are built up to cover certain special fields have less difficulty, because usually these libraries have a more generous budget. The problem is then how to carry on research without a large number of the important scholarly journals in all fields. The only answer for many libraries is by means of inter-library loan. The *Union List of Serials* has become indispensable for this work, and it is gratifying that the service will be continued and extended.

In the matter of making available magazines both bound and unbound there is a wide variety of practice in libraries. Some libraries classify all periodicals and serials both bound and unbound and shelve them all in one department, the unbound in their regular place with the bound. Some classify all magazines except those indexed in *Readers' Guide*. Some do not classify any. Some do not classify any which are indexed. Some classify continuations only. One library classifies only defunct titles and short runs. One library classifies all subscriptions and gifts. In many cases the bound volumes are shelved in one place and the unbound in another. This makes for a certain amount of confusion on the part of the public who are sent back and forth from department to department.

There is just as great a variety in the treatment of incomplete unbound files. One library binds the volume, putting in stubs for missing numbers. Some keep them alphabetically arranged in storage rooms or caged stacks. Some keep them in pamphlet boxes, in manila bundles, in covers, or tied up waiting missing

numbers. A few libraries accession these tied-up bundles as though they were bound. They are stored in the reference department, or periodical department, in the bindery, storage rooms, in fact, wherever there is any available space in the library. Obviously their availability and use are far greater if they are kept and administered in the same department. In such cases there is a fixed responsibility on the part of the head of the department in seeing that the most efficient service is rendered.

Diversified Procedure

At present there is a wide variety in the procedure of handling periodicals. In some libraries there is a regularly organized periodical department and the tendency is growing. Because of the peculiarities and idiosyncrasies of magazines, it is felt advisable to have one department responsible for ordering, receiving, and administering periodicals. In the libraries questioned, current periodicals are administered in 17 by a periodical department, in 6 by the reference department, in 3 by the serial division, in 12 by special departments, and in 6 in the general reading room. The bound volumes are administered in 5 by the periodical department, in 5 by the reference department, in 1 by the catalog department, in 8 by the circulation department, in 1 by special departments, and in the other 20 by a combination of these. Some keep them all on open shelves, 1 library keeps the last five years on open shelves, some have general ones on open and special ones on closed shelves. 19 have closed stacks with stack privilege to graduate students and faculty only, and the rest of the libraries have a combination of these methods. Three keep all bound volumes at the main library and others have files in departments as well as at main library.

In only 3 libraries questioned, Stanford University, University of Iowa and University of California are there regularly organized serials divisions. Here there is a fixed responsibility and here all periodicals and serials are ordered, received, and prepared for use. This seems to approach the ideal arrangement, and one which all libraries should adopt as soon as possible.

Serials and continuations as distinct from periodicals present one of the greatest problems to most libraries. An enormous number is received by the library; many of them have very great reference value, while others are well nigh worthless. The fact that they come from so many different sources and that their periodicity is so irregular makes the problem of keeping complete files most difficult. Then again, it is often a question whether or not all of a series is worth the cost involved in handling. From the questionnaire it is evident

that there are almost as many ways of checking and handling as there are libraries. No generally uniform practice has been followed until very recently. When responsibility is divided, as is the general practice, it naturally follows that no one person or department feels definitely responsible for keeping files complete at the time of publishing or for replacing lost or mutilated copies or for binding.

Since the greater proportion of the serials and continuations is not indexed, it seems a better arrangement, after cataloging, to have them shelved and administered by the circulation department, with some one person definitely responsible for keeping the files complete and for binding.

Preservation of Periodicals

In the use of periodicals by patrons there are several problems with which most libraries are confronted at one time or another. The chief of these is the wear and tear caused by excessive use of the more popular magazines and the guides which index them. Several of the libraries suggest keeping extra files of the more used periodicals for future replacement of worn out bound volumes, or for replacement of worn or damaged and mutilated pages. These duplicate copies can also be drawn upon when there is a special demand for a particular issue to save the wear on the bound volume. Libraries which loan their bound volumes could profit by the duplicate set and loan the unbound numbers instead of the bound volumes.

A very serious problem which college and university libraries have to face is the assignments to bound volumes made by the faculty. Frequently a hundred or more students are required to read the same reference. When there are no duplicates available and when no advance notice has been given, as is usually the case, the particular issue is practically ruined, especially as many students have the habit of underlining certain passages with ink. Several remedies for this evil have been proposed. First is to require the faculty to give advance notice that such an assignment is to be made. Then the library can have opportunity either to provide duplicate copies or to have photographic or photostat copies made and these only to be put on reserve for class use—not the bound volume. This should be a simple solution but undoubtedly will be difficult to put into immediate effect because of the inability to enlist the support of the faculty.

It has also been suggested that instead of loaning bound volumes, either to patrons or for inter-library loan, that microfilm copies be made and loaned instead of the original. This also seems a feasible solution.

The matter of preservation of periodicals presents several problems. In the first place

one library presents the questions which no doubt has been in the minds of all. Is it ever ethical to destroy printed matter? In other words, must a library keep all the grist which comes to its mill or is it justified in winnowing the wheat from the chaff and keeping only the wheat? Many libraries have hundreds of incomplete volumes which they may never be able to complete as well as a huge assortment of odd numbers of titles not in their collection. Many feel that the expense involved in keeping, handling, and storing such material which has very little if any use to the library is too great to be justified. Some of it should be destroyed and some transferred to other libraries which could use them profitably.

The greatest problem of preservation of periodicals is that of binding. For those magazines which are to be used to any great extent binding is a paramount necessity and should be done as soon as possible after the volume is complete and index and title page secured, for it is the general experience that numbers mysteriously disappear all too frequently after volumes are completed and tied up. Libraries with limited budgets find it impossible to bind all the periodicals and serials to which they subscribe and the depression has reduced the binding budget for all libraries. Some libraries are finding a partial solution in using pamphlet binding instead of buckram for a large number of the less important periodicals. The cost averages about one-third of that of buckram binding and since the volumes are served in exactly the same manner the permanency is just as great. Newspaper boards are also used for some of the larger sized periodicals especially those of pulp paper nature. This is an appreciable saving also.

We are all familiar with the stock joke of students that the magazine is "at the bindery," and in spite of everything, there will always be unavoidable times when some periodicals will of necessity be at the bindery. To obviate this inconvenience a number of proposals have been offered. One is to stagger the binding so that all the weeklies and monthlies of similar nature are not in the bindery at the same time. The patrons will then be able to have reasonable amount of service at all times. Another plan suggested is to send each month about the same number of weeklies, monthlies, bi-monthlies and quarterlies, thus giving the bindery staff approximately the same amount of collecting and regular employment throughout the year. In this plan those needed most could be included as soon after completion as possible. By consulting the Faxon subscription check list one could be able to tell whether or not the title-page and index are published and available to permit of the binding of a periodical at a given month. A third suggestion is that replacements of missing or mutilated numbers

be made as soon as possible, for reasons of cost and availability. A fourth suggestion is that a scheme of cooperation within a given region be worked out whereby certain libraries bind certain titles at one time and others wait till later so that all copies of the same title are not tied up simultaneously in binderies.

Regional Cooperation

This brings us to the final problem—that of regional cooperation. The folly of libraries competing with one another for possession of rare and expensive sets has come to be frowned upon, especially with respect to highly specialized magazines. Several proposals for regional cooperation have been advanced but no great progress has as yet been made.

In *School and Society* May 7, 1938, Dr. Louis R. Wilson says:

"A very pressing problem is that of acquiring new materials for research. Even before the depression it had been clear that no university had sufficient money to enable its library to secure single-handed all materials required for the purpose. Consequently, libraries have undertaken to effect a division of responsibility for the acquisition of different types of material and have entered into working agreements of this character. Numerous illustrations can be found. New York Public and Columbia University library concerning the acquisition of newspapers is one of the most notable. The former holds itself responsible for maintaining bound files of newspapers in general, the latter maintains bound files of the major New York dailies only. In Chicago, the University of Chicago acquires materials in which the university carries on instruction and research. The Newberry Library acquires special materials in the fields of the humanities. The John Crerar Library specializes in medicine, science and technology. The Public Library buys those materials which are of most importance in a general reference and circulating library. The libraries of Chicago Art Institute, Field Museum and the Museum of Science and Industry likewise recognize limitations imposed by the fields of their respective specialization. In North Carolina, the libraries of Duke University and the University of North Carolina though located in two entirely distinct communities have agreed upon lines of purchase in certain broad fields and in the acquisition of state, national and international documents. In many other cities and regions agreements of similar character have been effected."

If within a region a centrally located warehouse could be maintained to which cooperating libraries could send little used material and from which they could quickly secure materials by means of telephone, air mail or express, a great benefit would certainly accrue to all interested. Such a centre might be used for exchange of periodicals not wanted for those which are; it might be a means of completing sets, of facilitating inter-library loans, and providing a clearing house where problems peculiar to the region could be solved.

It was gratifying to discover that there are many libraries which are apparently not only willing but eager for such an arrangement.

The only things which seem to stand in the way of some are legal restrictions and faculty cooperation. A number of libraries questioned are frankly unwilling or not interested. Some are willing to cooperate in individual cases, some to the extent to which their own service is unhampered, some wish to be sure of value received. A few are willing to part with files bound and unbound which definitely do not belong to their field in exchange for any which are. Several urged the objection that the cost of handling would prove prohibitive.

Apparently the time is not yet ripe to go ahead to any great extent with such a plan. Little progress can be expected if each library insists on maintaining an attitude of indifference or aloofness. However, once the value of such cooperation becomes apparent as it is bound to do in the near future we may hope for as great success in other regional projects as has been attained in those cooperative enterprises which are now functioning so well in various parts of the country.

In conclusion I might list a few of the other questions which have been raised:

1. What shall be the policy of loaning bound periodicals?
2. Shall we continue to bind sets when the periodical changes its character?
3. Of what value are house organs as reference material?
4. Does a separate periodical room insure better service to patrons?
5. The problem of storage. Can the library afford to store large quantities of unused printed matter? Shall we not rather dispose of much of it?
6. What is the possibility of using microfilm copies instead of bound files of newspapers?
7. Is there a good American agent? Are there any good Latin American agents?
8. Does exchange of odd numbers of periodicals pay?
9. What is the experience of having large numbers of bound periodicals on open shelves?
10. What is the best plan for making accessible to the public a detailed list of periodical holdings of the library?

Audio-Visual Aids

Peabody Library School will introduce for the first time this summer a course on the nature and use of audio-visual aids. I believe this is the first time such a course has appeared in a library school curriculum. The course will include demonstration of materials, types of apparatus and their use and illustrative applications in specific areas of learning. Since last year the Peabody Library School has included, in its book selection courses, selection and acquisition of audio-visual aids, and the cataloging course has included a unit of preparation of audio-visual materials. An audio-visual laboratory provides students with first hand experience.

LOUIS STORES, *Director*

When Is A Book?

By Newman F. McGirr *

WHEN listing library data it is sometimes necessary to note both the number of books and the number of pamphlets. A line of demarcation between these two is then required. Nearly every librarian has a different line.

We naturally turn to the dictionary for a definition but the great Noah Webster, in this matter at least, was not "A Daniel come to judgment!" A book, he says, is a collection of tablets of wood or ivory, of sheets of paper, parchment or similar material, blank, written or printed, strung or bound together; commonly many folded and bound sheets containing continuous printing or writing; esp. when printed, a bound volume or volume of some size as distinguished from a pamphlet (etc.) And a pamphlet, states the same authority, is a book of a few sheets or printed matter . . . commonly with a paper cover. So then a book is not a pamphlet but a pamphlet is a book!

So much for the Webster New International. My desk copy of The Concise Oxford Dictionary defines a book as a portable written or printed treatise filling a number of sheets fastened together . . . usu. with sheets sewn or pasted hingewise and enclosed in a cover (etc); and a pamphlet as a small unbound treatise, esp. on subjects of current interest (etc)—which is more consistent but still not determinative.

The librarian may say—and some do—that up to fifty pages is a pamphlet. Add but one more leaf, and behold—a book! Other librarians may have a fixed idea that various numbers between fifty and one hundred pages (which they have arbitrarily decided upon) mark the change from pamphlet to book. Also what was a pamphlet of a few pages may be classed by some as a book if encased in a cover of cloth or other substantial material.

A brochure is a stitched booklet, pamphlet—saith the Concise Oxford. But Fowler's Modern English Usage holds that brochure has no right to exist in English as it is not needed by the side of pamphlet and that its introduction in the 19th century was probably due to misconception of the French uses. In the French brochure is used where the French "pamphlet" (chiefly applied to scurrilous, libellous or controversial pamphlets) is not appropriate. The sense "a few leaves of printed matter stitched together" has always belonged in English to pamphlet. Booksellers like to use brochure as indicating something exceptional, an aristocrat of a pamphlet. Perhaps it would be just as

well to drop brochure and stick to pamphlet—always hoping that some day what a pamphlet really is will be discovered.

In Francis K. W. Drury's *Order Work for Libraries*, 1930, he states:

"The American Library Association form for report, recommended by the Committee on Library Administration and adopted by the Council of the Association, calls for statistics of volumes, pamphlets and additions. 1. A volume is synonymous with a printed and bound book and need not be further defined. Even an unbound book is considered a volume if intended to be bound. 2. A pamphlet is a printed work consisting of a few sheets of paper stitched or sewed together but not bound. It is now generally defined as having from eight to about one hundred pages. It may have a thin paper cover. The stiffer the cover, the more a pamphlet approaches a book. . . . Pamphlets . . . may be accessioned as books after they have been passed upon by a responsible selector as worthy of cataloging. Otherwise they become ephemeral reference material, and are not counted and do not figure in the statistics of the library. . . ."

Harvard Rules for Counting Volumes and Pamphlets, by T. Franklin Currier, appeared in the *Library Journal*, New York, April 1, 1918. Here are some of the rules:

- Rule 3. A pamphlet is to be defined as a small piece of printed matter ordinarily containing eight or more pages, not treated as part of a serial publication and not originally intended to be separately bound. . . .
4. A collection of several pamphlets bound together in one volume shall be counted as so many pamphlets. . . .
6. The item serials though it might appear in the figures for accessions does not appear in the total count of the library. When a serial is received currently the first number placed on the shelves counts as one volume. . . .

Dr. Putnam of the Library of Congress . . . says:

"The disadvantages of the arbitrary distinction between volumes and pamphlets based merely on the number of pages are of course apparent to us, so much so that . . . we discard the distinction entirely in our annual reports."

Number 4 of Harvard Rules mentioned the practice of binding a number of pamphlets together—often a fixed number of twenty. Some libraries count such a collection one volume. Again, where a lot is enclosed in a folder or box and counted one, the confusion is increased since elsewhere such are counted by the titles in the group.

So long as these varied practices continue adequate comparison of collections is not possible.

One who is widely known for his scholarly research in history and bibliography has given some thought to the question on which these desultory notes are now offered. In his opinion any pamphlet worthy of being separately classified and cataloged should count as a volume.

Does the pot make the broth—or a cover the book?

* Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

HOW DOES THIS SOUND?

By Oscar C. Orman¹

IV—Library Test Pilots²

WITH all the centuries of thought and contemplation behind us, is it possible for an idea to be new? Or can it only be renewed? Interesting evidence supporting the view of repetition appeared the other day in this manner. A proposed union catalog for Missouri had our attention at the time and the discussion veered to the task of sorting and filing. Several dangerously modern suggestions were made, including the possibility of applying the punched card method to library routines,³ the practicability of "soundexing" library catalogs, and the feasibility of substituting grooves in the tops of cards for the recognized "soundex" symbols. Most engaging, however, was the recommendation that colors might be placed on cards to represent letters or sounds, and that the photoelectric cell might be used as a filing tool.

As the discussion of union catalogs continued someone referred to Dr. Bishop's address on the subject.⁴ Resort was made to volume seven of the *Library Quarterly*, and by chance it opened to page 58 which contained the following paragraph:

"To meet the need for handling efficiently and inexpensively the vast quantity of pamphlet material, Dana developed a plan for the arrangement of pamphlets which would make them easy to find and which would also indicate the contents of each. He devised a system of colorbands to be applied to the backs of the pamphlets, in which the color and the position of the bands indicate the subject and also the correct location of the pamphlet in relation to other pamphlets in the collection. By adding the factor of number values to each of the ten colors used in the colorbands a group of publications can be almost indefinitely subdivided, and it is possible to mark the pamphlets to be discarded, so that the collection may be kept in good working order. . . ."⁵

The prospect of using color as a sorting and filing agent in library work appealed to us as something new and untried. But it was old to Dana. Not only did he think of this device, but he applied it. And doubtless many other library applications of color sorting exist.

Librarians will tolerate manual indexes until (1) the distribution of library services is greatly increased, (2) book collections expand

and catalogs become bulky, and (3) circulation procedure becomes highly mechanized. These conditions precedent, which probably will evolve coincidentally, are rapidly unfolding, and the day of automatic keys to library resources is near at hand.

Witness the current advances in television and the introduction of the radio newspaper. The latter process is most ingenious. Manufactured by the Radio Corporation of America and first regularly used by the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, an abbreviated daily newspaper is transmitted by ultra high frequency to a receiving set which reproduces it. These scientific methods of disseminating information warrant close attention by librarians.

Circulation Procedure to Come

It is not difficult to imagine the circulation procedure of a few years hence. When in need of a book the citizen will merely telephone the nearest regional depository and make his request. A member of the distribution staff will receive the call and relay it to the resources department. Mechanical indexing equipment will locate the serial number of the book and by automatic means the volume will be obtained from its stack location and sent to the distributing office. The library will then call the user to inform him that the book is available and that he should adjust his receiving instrument to a certain broadcasting wave length. Thus the reader in his home, office, or laboratory will obtain quick and convenient library service. The use of films will facilitate the process and apparatus will be designed so that the reader will be able to control the speed with which the electrical page turner operates. "Going With The Wind" may well be the name of a best seller in 1959—a novel depicting new and exciting careers in library service. Television technique will permit broadcasts to be made of this volume to millions of readers at one time. The ramifications of this possibility are tremendous.

Of course, it will be necessary to assign to each book a definite location in the stacks and to arrange a system based on mechanical manipulation by which books will be released from shelves and transmitted to the broadcasting rooms. This will be an essential feature of the future library if the present rate of book production continues and libraries receive the support they deserve.

¹ Director of Libraries, Washington University.

² This is the fourth of a series of articles appearing in the *Wilson Bulletin* written by this author under the title "How Does This Sound?"

³ See K. M. Stokes, Land Grant College Fines Survey, *Wilson Bulletin*, 12:512-13, April 1938.

⁴ W. W. Bishop, Union Catalogs, *Library Quarterly*, 7:36-49, January 1937.

⁵ H. A. Johnson, John Cotton Dana, *Library Quarterly*, 7:50-98 at 58, January 1937.

What can librarians do about these proposals and forecasts? Can any library be expected to assume the financial cost of experimentation? True, it is being done in the field of microphotography. But it is unlikely that librarians will do much more than merely speculate as far as television, electrical sorting, and mechanical book shelves are concerned. Library budgets will not allow anything else. How can we accelerate our pace so that library service keeps abreast of science?

Call for an Experimental Library

To this query Anita Welge, of our cataloging staff, replied, "Librarians need an experimental library. There are experimental farms, testing laboratories in countless fields, and trial flights in aviation. Doctors, dentists, school teachers and even lawyers experiment on a large scale with new remedies, procedures, etc. Why not an experimental library subsidized by the various foundations which are interested in promoting and extending library service?"

It is an excellent proposal. Staffed with competent librarians and engineers, located in a community not now enjoying library service, such a library could serve as a testing ground for new methods. Librarianship might then be considered a science. The public would take notice that librarians were alive to the need of improving the techniques of library service. What a thrilling and inspiring idea. Would John Cotton Dana approve? I am certain he would. Do you?

Let us carry this suggestion along further. The laboratory library could be located near to a graduate library school so that there might be close cooperation between those who were learning to be library specialists and those who were actually engaged in experimental activity. Reports of research and study would be made in monthly bulletins distributed to librarians thruout the country. This library would set an example for a workshop technique in library administration. It would not usurp the experimental field to the exclusion of all other libraries. Instead it would induce all librarians to become conscious of the need for exploring and examining all of their processes in a continual search to improve library methods. One of the reasons why libraries and librarians lack color is the fact that libraries have used the same techniques for decades. Their habits have changed but little and as a result library patrons have lost interest and librarians have become fixed in their actions. An experimental philosophy in librarianship will make librarians test pilots. They will take chances in an effort to gain greater efficiency in li-

brary service. The public will be stimulated and refreshed by the development of new methods in library work. The establishment of a library laboratory will go far in revitalizing librarians and the very necessary service they render.

There is another library field in which test pilots could be used to good advantage. How much do we know about ourselves? Many times I have accused the library profession of being colorless, timid, and not interested in the general social and economic problems which face the country. This indictment is based upon the flimsy sources of limited personal knowledge and hazardous hearsay. Why would it not be a good idea to poll ourselves regularly on broad problems of library policy and on topics of more general interest. What is the current reaction of a cross section of librarians on the question of federal aid, A.L.A. reorganization, state-wide union catalogs, the National Labor Relations Act, Father Coughlin, Chamberlain, The League of Nations, etc. Are we thinking about these and similar problems? And, if so, what do we think? What do the nominees for A.L.A. offices think? Of course, we have our professional journals and committee reports. But they are not sufficient as complete and certain indexes of library thought.

Whether the experimental library should handle the "Library Gallup Poll" is another question. But this investigation of library opinion should be taken care of in some appropriate manner. What are your suggestions?

Annual Report—New York

A record number of readers—2,257,353—was served by the Central Building of the New York Public Library last year, according to the institution's annual report. These readers used 4,719,463 volumes. Proposals for an extensive addition to the building have been presented to the City Planning Commission.

Both equipment and resources fall far short of needs, according to Frank L. Polk, president of the library. If present service is to be maintained, additional funds are urgently needed.

The library reports a marked increase in its use by refugees from Central Europe. The applications of the newly arrived foreign born "are sometimes made on the day of leaving the ship, as soon as living accommodations are found. This new immigration includes borrowers of mature reading habits whose interest in the American scene frequently outstrips their immediate knowledge of English."

TYPES OF LIBRARIANS

By Dorothy Heiderstadt,* with illustrations by Virginia Feldman †

IN response to the enormous amount of fan mail which we received from our fans about our article on the Library Profession (March 1938, *Wilson Bulletin*, pages 452-454), we at once plunged into research on another aspect of the library profession: Types of Librarians which we find in libraries.

After several months of truly terrific concentration, research, and correspondence, done strictly on library time, we have amassed the following information, which we offer to you for what it is worth.

The Efficient Librarian

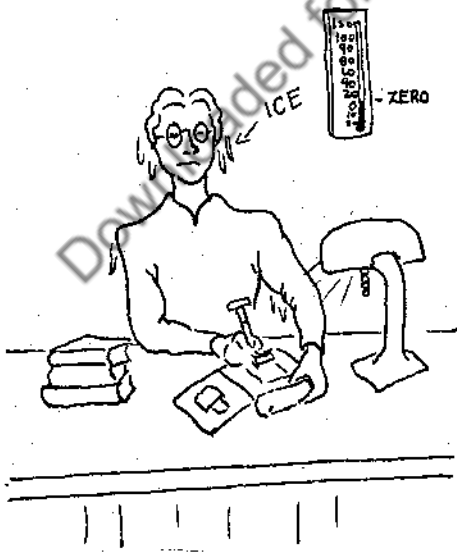
This type is the type which is so efficient that she cannot spare a moment from her work to indulge in such trivial things as chitter-chatter with the customers. She is icy in manner, never icy enough actually to offend the customer, simply icy enough to tinkle somewhat. Following is an example of the conversation between the average chatty customer and the Efficient Librarian:

Customer: Nice weather we're having, isn't it?

E. L.: Yes.

Or:

E. L.: No.



The Librarian Who Likes to Settle Down With a Good Book

Usually one the patrons themselves would like to read. Or, if they didn't want to read it before, they do as soon as they see her sitting there reading it with so much obvious enjoyment. She doesn't like to be disturbed, and is inclined to be rather sharp with anyone who interrupts her reading to ask a question.

The Good Reference Librarian



This kindly soul just loves to get her teeth into a good reference question. She becomes immersed in a swirl of books, pamphlets, pictures, and newspaper clippings. She descends on the unwilling patron with armfuls of stuff, when perhaps all he wanted was a paragraph in the Encyclopedia. It is like wrenching a fishhead away from kitty to wrench her reference question away from her, once she has become interested in it, and she is always interested.

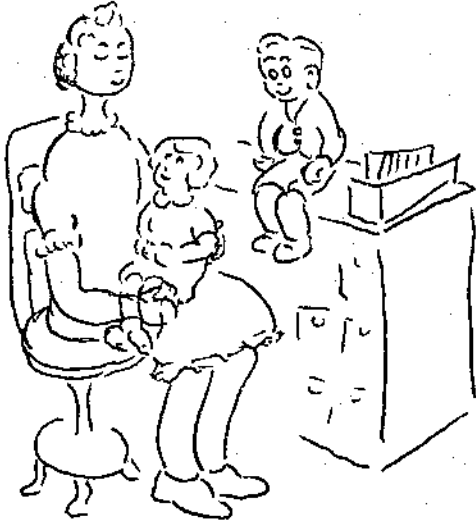
The Clinging Vine Type

This is the one who can never solve a question for herself, but always has to ask one of her colleagues where to find what the customer asked for. Patrons soon learn to avoid her, for she wastes so much of their time looking up somebody to look up their question for them. The question is: What shall we find for her to do when all the patrons have learned to avoid her, and nobody asks her anything?

* Children's Librarian, Bethlehem Public Library, Bethlehem, Pa.

† Cataloger, Bethlehem Public Library, Bethlehem, Pa.

The Children's Librarian



This person took up Children's Work because she Loved the Kiddies. Also perhaps because she had heard that there is a quick turnover in Children's Librarians. After several years' work with The Kiddies, she is less inclined to lift them onto her lap and smooth their hair, and want to tell them stories.

She throws them out of her Story Hours so fast for making a noise that the door to the Story Hour room looks like one of the machines at the Ford Assembling Plant tossing the parts of a car out of its maw. The Kiddies! Bah!

The Cataloger or Cataloguer

A department of the library which is veiled from the Public but which is nevertheless important, is the Catalog or Catalogue Department. This department is composed of a cataloger or cataloguer or catalogers or cataloguers who sit around reading books and typing little white cards. When they are not doing this, they are arguing with the Reference Department which is always trying to get them to do something they do not want to do, or vice versa.

Catalogers (or cataloguers) think they have a hard time, but they should always remember how much harder life is in Library School where, when you are learning cataloging or cataloguing, you not only have to type little white cards, but you get little red marks on them which, even though the Reference Department would probably like to give you, they don't dare, so at least you don't have to do them over.

The Snoop With Rubber Heels

This creature wears rubber heels so she can slip up on people in the stacks and see what they are up to. Fie, fie, fie! That is all we have to say to her! Where did she go to meet the boys when she was young?

The Timid Librarian

This little creature is so startled by the sound of her own voice that one can never hear what she is saying, and has to ask her to repeat it (if he is interested). She blushes violently, thereupon. Sample of a conversation between a patron and a Timid Librarian:

Patron: Can you tell me where I'll find the drinking-fountain?

T. L.:

Patron: What did you say?

T. L.:corner.

Patron: What?

T. L. (Bravely): Just around the corner.

Patron: Oh.



Run for Your Lives!

By this time, our research had become so fascinating that we were reluctant to give up. So we began to do research among the patrons, and this proved even more fascinating than research among librarians, because there are so many more patrons than librarians and we were able to run to earth so many different types. As soon as Miss Feldman gets around to drawing the pictures, we shall present our results to a gasping world.

EDITOR'S APPEAL to readers of the *Wilson Bulletin*: Somebody please tell us how to stop those girls up in Bethlehem!—S. J. K.



The Roving Eye



[Statements of The Roving Eye express the views of the writer and not necessarily those of The H. W. Wilson Company.]

Are Bibliographies Advertising?

A FELLOW member of the Wilson Company staff writes:

A great deal has been said about the educational purposes of the President's proclamation of last October establishing a postal rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ a pound for books for an experimental period ending June 30, 1939 (*i.e.*, extending to books the same low rate that has been available, for the furtherance of public education, to magazines and newspapers since 1879). With this broad purpose of the proclamation in mind, your readers will be shocked to learn that both the *United States Catalog* and the *A.I.A. Catalog*—two of the oldest and most necessary bibliographical tools used by librarians—have been barred from the privilege of the new low rate by postal department bureaucrats—on the ground that they are “advertising”! Of the two, the *U.S. Catalog* is considered the greater sinner. “This catalog not only,” reads the postal department's ruling, “shows the titles of books, but also the prices, publishers, etc., and also [*italics ours*] contains an advertisement regarding the furnishing of library cards.” This last objection, librarians may be interested to know, apparently refers to the last page of prefatory material wherein the Library of Congress card numbers shown in the main alphabet are explained and incidental instructions are given for ordering the cards—from the Library of Congress, which is a government department!

With regard to the “offense” of listing publishers and prices, both the American Library Association and the Wilson Company attempted to point out to the postal authorities that neither institution accepts fees for the listing of the titles and that neither institution accepts orders for the books listed; and also that the two catalogs are not “catalogs for sale” (in the sense that a catalog of automobile parts would be), but vital bibliographical tools in the truest meaning of the phrase. But to no avail. One might add that if this arbitrary ruling of the postal officials is to be carried to its logical conclusion, any book containing a bibliography which lists publishers and prices automatically becomes “advertising” and may be barred from the use of the low postal rate. It is perhaps unnecessary to point out that this would include a large proportion of all educational

books—exactly the type of publication the proclamation was intended to benefit!

It is doubtful that any reversal of the department's ruling with regard to the two catalogs can be obtained before June 30. It is an open secret that the postal department is opposed to the new rate, for the not unnatural reason that it means a curtailment of department revenues, and is arbitrarily excluding from the privilege every type of book for which it can find an excuse, however flimsy. (See recent issues of *Publishers' Weekly*.)

But the President's proclamation expires on June 30 and at the present time Congress is reported drafting legislation to perpetuate the rate. Opposing such legislation are the post-office department and express and freight handling companies, who at the least will attempt to write a maximum number of exclusions into the law. It becomes increasingly apparent that librarians must make a strong fight if they are not to be deprived of many of the benefits they should rightly receive from any such law. It is not only the publications of the American Library Association and the Wilson Company that are concerned. It is all publications of bibliographical nature, as pointed out above.

What can librarians do to help themselves? In our estimation the best course to pursue is to write to the Hon. Milton A. Romjue, Chairman of the Committee for Post Office, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., urging that the new law shall distinguish clearly between “catalogs for sale” and true bibliographical tools with an educational purpose—and that the latter be specifically admitted to the privileges of the low rates, so that no petty department official can later exclude them.

Parlor Trick

The tenacity with which the mind retains apparently useless and indifferent minutiae has often impressed me, but perhaps never more forcibly than the other night when a number of us were discussing the technique of propaganda and our host picked up a copy of Gedye's eloquent *Betrayal in Central Europe*.

“There's a good comment here on the Nazi game of creating confusion,” he said. “I wish I could find it.”

Intently but aimlessly, as people do, he began leafing thru the book. As I watched him, a number suddenly flashed up in my head like a card.

"Try page 242," I suggested.

He did—and to everybody's astonishment there it was!

Was it a trick? How had I known the page?

I couldn't even well explain, for more than a fortnight had passed since my reading of the book and I had had no special occasion to remember the passage in question—a single brief sentence embedded in a 500-page volume. Disclaiming mental magic, I recalled Freud's observation that the really remarkable thing about the mind is not that it remembers *some* things but that it forgets *any* thing.

My disclaimer was fortunate, for at the end of the evening, when the party had broken up and I was stepping on the starter, I discovered that I had left my hat behind. Retrieving it, I started again for home. About a mile down the river road I stuck my hand in my pocket and found that I had forgotten my pipe. But by now I was too abashed to return!

This morning the pipe came back to me in the mail. Enclosed was a note that read simply, "Do you still remember the page?"

The Technique of Confusion

Here is the statement from Gedye about which I've been "roving" above:

"When Nazi dynamism gets into action, its first principle is to bewilder the enemy by constant changing of ground so that he never knows where to strike, and to break his nerve by tireless feint attacks and a never pausing exploitation of every concession gained to demand fresh ones."

Re-read those few words, for they are a key to the understanding of much that is happening to our tormented world today. My own addendum is that the technique of confusion is employed not only by the dictators but also, with equal purposiveness, by the governments of what I laughingly call the democracies of Europe. The rumors and counter-rumors, the scares, the mobilizations, the threats, the ambiguities, the obscure pantomime of diplomats behind a verbal smokescreen—all now are instruments of government, to be used both against other governments and against one's own people. Witness the whole nefarious business of "non-intervention" in the Spanish tragedy. Witness the cries of indignation in Downing Street at the German occupation of Prague at the same time that the Federation of British Industries was signing a secret trade agreement with the Nazis to undercut the United States in flagrant violation of the Anglo-American trade agreement. Witness, on a smaller scale, the interesting little episode of the First Lord of the Admiralty's sensational reference to the manning of Britain's anti-aircraft guns—a statement half-suppressed,

half-published, half-denied, half-confirmed, that succeeded in baffling and terrifying all England. When a government is conscious that it does not fully represent its people and that there is danger of its being dismissed from office, the easiest way for it to gain unquestioning acceptance of its leadership is to render the popular will confused and impotent.

In a brilliant, if bitter, letter from France to the *New Republic*, novelist Jean Cassou writes:

"A serene and hypocritical gullibility seems to have permeated everything. And from time to time a politician energetically bangs his fist on the table or pounds his chest in order to cover some dirty deal. Gradually, almost systematically, Frenchmen are being dehumanized, made incapable of any natural, spontaneous reaction. China, Spain, the Jews in Germany—no response, absolutely nothing. Just as the police, by using advanced technical methods, bring their victims to the point where they can no longer distinguish between truth and absurdity, confessing everything that may be asked to confess, so the alternating use of threats and stupid phrases, of verbal purring and vociferation, has led the French public to proclaim everything it is asked to proclaim: that the Communists and the Pope want war, that M. Flandin is a patriot, and that it would be urgently necessary to hand over both towers of Notre Dame to Hitler should he decide to restore them to the Sudetenland where they justly belong."

But there is still, concludes M. Cassou, something in which one can place one's faith; and that is the people, the common people, "the only reality that French culture has at last discovered after its experience with chance, despair and adventure. . . the backbone of all that was good, great and beautiful in France."

It is not by looking in the Chancelleries of Europe that one would be tempted to cry with Shakespeare's Miranda:

How many goodly creatures are there here!
How beauteous mankind is! O brave new
world!
That has such people in 't!

If we are to have a brave new world—and I do believe that some day we shall—it will come out of the sweat and good will of ordinary mortals who, regardless of race or nationality or "manifest destiny," want nothing more than a reasonable chance to be secure, useful, and happy. Even now, at this dark and ominous hour, I am convinced that if the common people could speak to the common people there would be peace at once and everywhere.

"The strongest bond of human sympathy, outside of the family relation, should be one uniting all working people, of all nations, and tongues, and kindreds," wrote the wisest man who ever came to the White House, bringing the humble gift of his spirit and the marvelous grain of humanity.

S. J. K.

FILMS OUT OF BOOKS

By Maxine Block*

Alfred Nobel

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY has been quick to seize upon the tie-up between books and films which is found in the MGM short on the life of Alfred Nobel. The film recounts briefly his discovery of dynamite which became a vital factor in warring nations. When a woman accused Nobel of maiming her son and many others thru the use of dynamite he started a campaign for peace, traveling in many countries and consulting various state dignitaries. While these people listened to him politely, they did nothing for peace. Nobel decided to leave his tremendous fortune for the development of brotherly love and so established the Nobel Prizes.

Pygmalion

Three more Bernard Shaw plays will go into production following the astounding success of *Pygmalion*. The *Devil's Disciple* will probably be the first. The film *Pygmalion* has not yet been seen all over the United States. Librarians interested in making exhibits on *Pygmalion* and Shaw will find an interesting book mark issued by the Cleveland Public Library. In addition to *Pygmalion*, the Library recommends these comedies: *Androcles and the Lion*, *Candida*, *Arms and the Man*, and *The Devil's Disciple*.

Many high school libraries may not have complete books on Shaw. For their benefit I have selected some books on the drama which contain material on Shaw:

- Clark, B. H. Study of the Modern Drama p250-63
- Cunliffe, J. W. English Literature in the Twentieth Century p44-88
- Cunliffe, J. W. Pictured Story of English Literature p382-95
- Dickinson, T. H. Outline of Contemporary Drama p194-207
- Yaton, W. P. Drama in English p261-72
- Halleck, R. P. Story of English Literature p572-84

The Cleveland Public Library uses the subject matter of the film for a list of books of the self-help variety:

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| Bond | Give Yourself Background |
| Eichler | Well-bred English |
| Hempstead | Look Your Best |
| Shelton | Individuality and Clothes |

Alexander Graham Bell

An amazingly well-done film (as I feel many of you who have seen it will agree) is *The Story of Alexander Graham Bell* just released by 20th Century-Fox and featuring

Don Ameche in the role of the struggling young New England inventor; Henry Fonda as his ever-hungry helper Watson, and Loretta Young as his deaf wife Mabel. This film has almost the pure quality of a documentary and will make the work and personality of the inventor of the telephone extraordinarily clear to children for whom it should have great appeal.

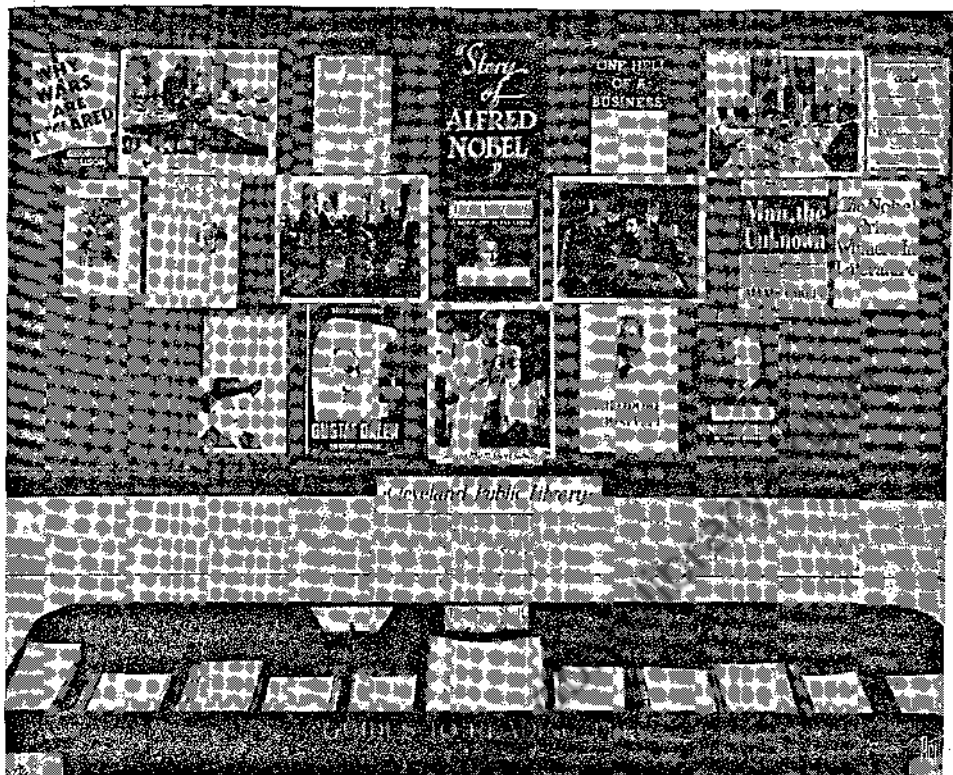
I saw it in a first-run rococo Broadway picture palacc where the audience is mainly used to light boy-meets-girl films. However, they were all attention as the rather slow-moving period piece told its story. The settings of Boston in the 1870's were delightfully reproduced. One does not envy the job of Frances C. Richardson, head of the Research Department of 20th Century-Fox and formerly assistant in the Los Angeles Public Library. Her staff had to authenticate the streets, the houses, exterior and interior and the period furnishings. A grocery store of the period is amazingly real. The only fault of the film is the inclusion of a rather "precious" Dickensy Christmas spirit. Some very "hammy" children singers in a postcard group stand at a window singing carols. A snow scene had this very Hollywood feeling also. Darryl Zanuck smarting under the criticism leveled at him for his historical and literary films has decided to rely on others for history and in this film has kept rather closely to history with only a little whitewashing of the Western Union Company.

Many in that Broadway audience left the film house talking about Bell and the telephone. Some will undoubtedly want more information and the library can suggest a wide variety of correlated reading. Here are some of the books recommended by Mary Duncan Carter, Director of the School of Library Science of the University of Southern California, which as you will note include a number of non-technical treatments of technical subjects especially written for laymen:

- Casson, H. N. The History of the Telephone
- Crawford, M. C. Romantic Days in Old Boston; the Story of the City and its People During the 19th Century
- Hathaway, E. V. Partners in Progress
- Mackenzie, C. D. Alexander Graham Bell, the Man Who Contracted Space
- Mumford, Lewis. Technics and Civilization
- Watson, T. A. Exploring Life; the Autobiography of Thomas A. Watson

For high school libraries I would suggest the following when the collection is small. For material on the telephone:

* Editor, Motion Picture Review Digest.



STORY OF ALFRED NOBEL

Cleveland Public Library has arranged the above display for the MGM short on the great Swedish magnate.

- Adams, J. H. Harper's Electricity Book for Boys p156-89
 Bridges, T. C. Young Folk's Book of Invention p163-73
 Darrow, F. L. Boys' Own Book of Great Inventions p40-71
 George, L. and Gilman, J. Modern Mercuries p180-206
 Hawks, E. Book of Electrical Wonders p124-65
 Lambert, Mrs. C. B. Talking Wires

For material on Alexander Graham Bell:

- Bachman, F. P. Great Inventors and Their Inventions p228-48
 Hertzberg, M. J. and Mones, L. Americans in Action p211-29
 Holland, R. S. Historic Inventions p215-32
 Wade, Mrs. M. H. B. Master Builders p41-84

Free Exhibits

Two new screen exhibits are at the disposal of librarians this month—the first to be issued for a considerable period. The first of these is a single poster recreating vividly the atmosphere and charm of *The Mikado* as it has just been made in Technicolor in England by the D'Oyly Carte Players. (I have seen this film and consider it delightful.)

The other which will have tremendous interest to ingenious librarians is an eight-panel exhibit on Samuel Goldwyn's production of *Wuthering Heights*. It traces every phase of the film's production from the selection of the cast to the final emergence from the cutting room of the completed film drama. All the panels are worthy of study. Three of the most effective are the panel on sets, which shows the authentic reproduction of the Yorkshire Moors made by Hollywood artists and architects; the evolution of authentic costumes of the period by Hollywood designers; and the processes of make-up.

Many of the big library systems of the country—the Cleveland Public Library system and some of the branches of the New York Public Library among them—have announced their intention of presenting auxiliary exhibits in connection with the Brontë film.

Hundreds of these exhibits will be mailed to librarians in early April. Applications for them should be made to the Motion Picture Producers & Distributors of America, Inc., 28 W. 44th St., N. Y. C.

Alice Mabel Jordan

By Barbara Holbrook*

IN 1907 the Children's Librarians Section of the American Library Association met for their annual conference at Asheville, North Carolina. The large Southern town, high in the mountains with its gardens filled with rhododendron and laurel, must have been a strange and lovely place to the president of the section. She, who had been born and raised on the rocky New England seacoast, was to remember that meeting clearly thirty-two years later.

Alice Mabel Jordan was born in the old seaport town of Thomaston, Maine. For years the town had been the home of sea captains when they returned from their trips to all corners of the globe. And their old houses, which lined the streets, held mantelshelves of mahogany brought from South America and shawls from Hong Kong. Miss Jordan was one of four children, neither the youngest nor the oldest. At a very early age, the Jordan children learned their geography from the sailing charts which had belonged to the sea captain grandfathers. There were relatives in different parts of the world, and it was a challenge to find their homes and learn about the customs of the country. The roots of library work were planted for Alice Jordan by a book-loving mother who read much to her children, sharing with them her own literary enthusiasms and her joy in the outdoor world.

Early Training

Miss Jordan was taught at home and later when the family moved to Newton, Massachusetts, she attended the public schools in that city and afterward had private instruction. In 1895 she became a teacher in the Carroll School in West Newton, Massachusetts. But, it was the career of Margaret McGuffey, whose father had worked on the famous Readers, that first interested Alice Jordan in library work, and she became a library assistant in the Boston Public Library where Miss McGuffey was then employed in 1900.

After two years, she became children's librarian of the children's room which had been opened in 1895. There was little material at that time to guide her in the purchasing of her books. Both Mary E. Burt's *Literary Landmarks* and Sargent's *Reading for the*

* Extension Librarian, Greenwich, Conn., Library; member, Publicity Committee, Section for Library Work with Children. This article is one of a series on pioneers in children's library work.



ALICE MABEL JORDAN
Supervisor of Work with Children
at the Boston Public Library

Young were becoming out of date. Therefore, she turned eagerly to Caroline Hewins' lists and read the new books herself in order to evaluate them by the best standards then available.

From 1911 to 1922, in addition to her other activities, she was an instructor in children's work at the Simmons College Library School. When the Bookshop for Boys and Girls opened in Boston in 1916, Miss Jordan became a member of the advisory board and has been a frequent contributor to the *Horn Book*.

Since 1917 Miss Jordan has been the Supervisor of Work with Children at the Boston Public Library. More than twenty-five years ago she founded the Round Table of Children's Librarians and for many years conducted it. This group, that began with eight young librarians in the vicinity of Boston, now includes members in all the New England states.

Anyone, who goes to the Children's Room off Copley Square today will carry away a picture of Miss Jordan. Shy, with a Yankee taciturnity about herself, Miss Jordan is always willing to cooperate with booksellers, book publishers, and the many people who climb the marble steps to ask her advice.

THE CROW'S NEST

Guy R. Lyle, Editor

[The purpose of this department of survey and comment, devoted to current library publicity, is to acquaint librarians with the efforts and experiments of their colleagues in popularizing library services, and by criticism and suggestion to help raise the level of effectiveness of this increasingly important phase of library activity. Librarians are invited to send articles, copies of publicity material, descriptions and photographs of exhibits, booklists, annual reports, etc. to the editor of "The Crow's Nest," Guy R. Lyle, Librarian, Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N.C.]



ON several occasions, we have been favored by contributions from the Newark Public Library. The name of the man who is responsible for Newark's first-rate publicity is Mr. Irvine White. Asked to comment on rotogravure publicity for libraries, a form of publicity which Newark has used with particularly striking results, Mr. White contributes the following brief but enlightening paragraphs. By way of introduction, he modestly writes, "It was difficult to make my ideas very practical, as the actual details of picture arrangement are better left to a skilled photographer* and my ideas on that side of the question wouldn't be worth much. Then, too, each story has its own peculiarities and I have simply tried to express the fundamental ideas which we have found useful here."

Rotogravure Publicity

"As library work is not, on the face of it, spectacular enough to excite the average rotogravure editor, the first problem in preparing a picture story for the library is to consider how it can be dramatized. What the average person sees on a visit to the library is not dramatic because he doesn't see it in dramatic sequence and there is too much to distract his eye from its dramatic elements. The task of the library publicist is to select these dramatic elements, emphasize them, build them up into a coherent story and present them in a sequence which will bring out in a popular and impressive way some phase of the library's work.

"Altho the actual photography and caption writing is usually left to the newspaper, it is well—and excellent training too—to be ready with suggestions and definite ideas to ease the newspaperman's job. According to Douglas McKay, rotogravure editor of the *Newark*

Sunday Call, "a good rotogravure feature should tell a story, the pictures should have action of a kind which will tie them together and keep the eye moving from one to the other; they should have life in them but not be obviously posed, and it always helps if the people who supply this life-interest are pleasing subjects for the camera." Other qualities which Mr. McKay and his staff look for in photographs are lighting effects, contrast between light and dark forms, unusual camera angles to help the action and relieve monotony, and, of course, good composition—a quality which embraces all the rest. Captions should be brief, clear, and closely related to the action of the picture.

"These ideas deal primarily with the picture story because that is what most gravure editors demand these days, getting away from the page filled with unrelated feature pictures. When single pictures are acceptable, the library's problem is not so complex, consisting largely of bringing out the photographic qualities of the scene to present the library's work in as pleasing and forceful a way as possible."

Annual Reports

In mentioning annual reports and newer trends in annual report making, we have on several occasions given honorable mention to Evanston (Ill.), Temple University, Newark, New Rochelle, Racine (Wis.), and Albany. The remainder (such as we received) were too official, too solemn, and unimaginatively produced to please anybody, with the possible exception of the trustees to whom they were addressed. This year's crop reminds me of the French proverb, "Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose." The economic picture is no brighter and the circulation continues to climb. Editorial comment in the *Evanston Review* points out the significant fact that the

* See: Laurence Dutton's "Photographs for Reproduction," *American Photography*, March 1939—Ed.

library is giving 44 per cent more service on 22 per cent less revenue and urges increased support for "this most popular of all tax supported institutions." For style, interest, and complete coverage without solemnity and long-windedness, we again recommend Evanston's newspaper report and offer to loan copies if requests are accompanied by a large self-addressed, stamped envelope. The sort of thing that interests an outsider more than anything else appears in the newspaper report of the Springfield (Mass.) Public Library (*Springfield Republican*, February 19, 1939): stamp questions asked by readers, the rising proportion of non-fiction users, borrowers looking to the library for the solution of many of their daily problems, special services for business men and commercial interests, the up-to-date-ness and efficiency of clipping and pamphlet file service, and photo reproductions showing individual readers tapping the library's sources of information.

We are not kidding ourselves into thinking that the foregoing offers you much in the way of practical suggestion for writing an interesting report. The fact is you cannot learn how to write a report by reading about "how to do it" any more than you can learn to play tennis by reading the sports column. You have to *observe* for yourself; not only observe and discover but *recognize*. There are a hundred vivid little incidents in the librarian's daily stint which catch the meaning and spirit of library service. Watch for them. Snatch a minute amid incessant interruption, the nagging grind of routine, and the hurly burly of public contact to jot them down. They are the stuff of which vital and inspiring reports are made. On one occasion, late evening, H. G. Wells was riding on the top deck of an open air bus. He lit his pipe and tossed the match to the sidewalk. It continued to burn with a strange hypnotic effect as he watched it. At the corner he got off the bus, stood absorbed while the flame flickered feebly, sputtered, winked, and went out. He stood for several minutes in the darkness while a glimmer of a thought, instigated by the tiny flame, churned his imagination. That thought revolved itself into one of his most powerful stories—*Fear*.

ABC Guide to Publicity

Vague generalities have long been the stock in trade of writers who attempt to explain publicity. One is thankful, therefore, to Miss Loizeaux, author of *Publicity Primer*, who writes with a clear mind and is sparing with her pen. The second edition of her compact little book (Wilson, 1939, 60c), pruned to bare essentials, corrects typographical and

factual errors in the first and adds a concise two-page account of pictorial publicity. Designed especially for the publicity novice and the busy librarian, her book highlights the entire field of library publicity and includes some unusual angles of publicity, such as lecture, opera and symphony tie-ups. The best chapters are those having to do with newspaper publicity, planning the publicity program, and lists and bookmarks. You can dip into it at any point with the assurance that it will not fail to yield a good idea or useful bit of practical information. Her ideas, she says, are those of an amateur publicist; the spirit of the book, we say, is that of a professional.

BOOK WEEK FAIR

By Alice Williams, Librarian,
Public Library, Moline, Ill.

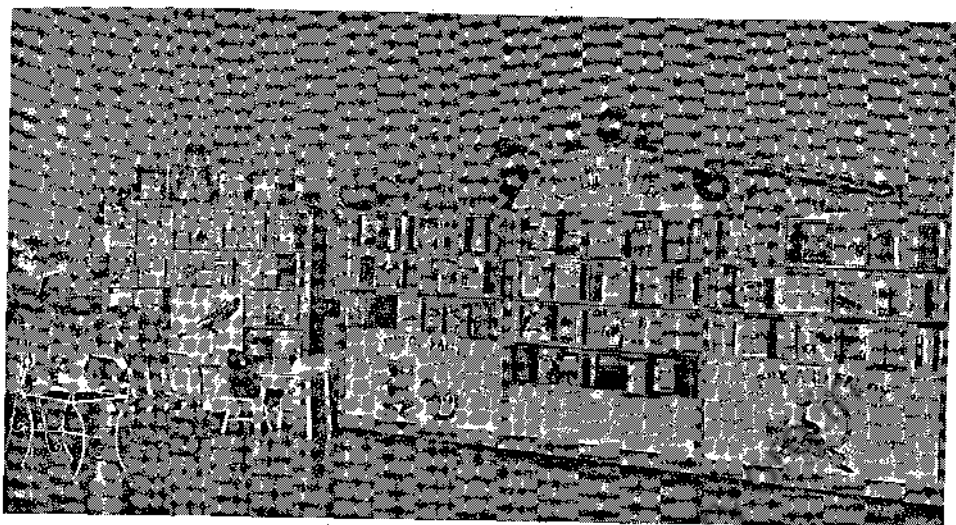
"Come one! Come all! Come to the fair!" was the cordial invitation of the little medieval trumpeter who decorated the announcement of the Moline Public Library's first Book Fair. The fine cooperation of the local book store made it possible to have over two hundred and fifty fresh copies of books, both old and new, for the exhibits. About the same number came from the library's shelves, making a total of five hundred and forty books on display. Over eight hundred visitors, both young and old, from near and from far responded enthusiastically as they viewed the many books on display.

The plan for the fair was very simple, but (we think) effective. The large club room on the second floor provided the space. A color scheme of red and cream gave the fair a gay, carnival spirit. The shelves and the backs of the bookcases were cream, and the edges red. A modernistic and unifying effect was achieved by smaller shelf units made from orange crates, which were covered with tan paper and placed on the radiators. Bands of red cardboard made a base of color around the room. Simple motifs illustrated the subject of each section, and wooden letters were placed on the top of each case to announce the contents of its shelves. Red and white paper awnings over the windows helped to make a "fair-ish" atmosphere.

"Oh goody, here's a book just my size!" exclaimed a delighted little fellow, as he came upon Mr. Theodore Brown Bear reading the diminutive *Pumpkin Moonshine* at his little white desk in the children's book exhibit.

Big attractions of the week were two local authors, who have had books published recently, Marjorie Allen Seiffert and Dr. Fritiof M. Fryxell.

In addition to the Book Fair, the art room on the same floor was devoted to a photographic



BOOK FAIR AT THE MOLINE (ILL.) PUBLIC LIBRARY

The balloon-festooned children's exhibit was called "Realms of Gold." The Petersham Bible stories and A.L.A. reading list, "Gifts for Children's Book Shelves," were especially popular with Moline's Book Fair visitors.

exhibit, sponsored by the local Camera Club. Dolls from all over the world, a hobby of one of Moline's teachers, were displayed in a glass case in the large hall. A second case with model airplanes showed the skill and ingenuity of the young men in the Y.M.C.A.'s Model Club. Sea Scouts had filled a third case with models of sailing vessels and steamships.

Wise and Otherwise

When new books are routed from the Catalog Department to the Browsing Room in the Sullivan Memorial Library (Temple University), a reserve slip, with space for twelve signatures, is filled out and placed in the back of each book. The slip bears the following legend:

If you wish to reserve this book, write your name and address in the space below. The reserves will be filled in the order in which they are requested.

After the new books have remained in the Browsing Room one week, the first student who requested to have the book reserved is notified. Other reserves are placed on file in the order in which they are received. The idea seems to have made a hit. Reserves have averaged about four to a book.

* * *

"A kind of friendly competition seems to have begun, in which the competitors (libraries) search for fresh ways of persuading a busy and preoccupied public to study the lists of recent additions to the library shelves. Thus the Bethnal Green public libraries have just published a handbook in which a selec-

tion of the year's books is described and discussed in dialogues between the librarian, and inquiring reader, and an old lady who 'once read a novel by a Miss Braddon.' Mr. Stanley Snaith, the sub-librarian who has written the dialogues, has succeeded in giving a large amount of information and comment on recent books in an amusing and very readable form." —*Times Literary Supplement* (London) March 18, 1939.

* * *

The normal year, so far as the Crow's Nest goes, begins in September and ends in May. June, July, and August are neutral periods when even busy librarians breathe an atmosphere of leisure and freedom from relentless grind. In that pleasant summer interval which is neither next year or this, when for the time being, at least, we cease to applaud, flatter, or say nasty things about the wretched publications which come our way, we propose to perfect a simple method of circulation charging for college libraries which will eliminate pockets, book cards, and reduce the charging records at the loan desk to one file. When September comes, and we wake up again to normality, we shall prepare a little prospectus for those who care during the summer months to send us a post-card expressing an interest in the charging device. We hasten to add that we are not in the business of hatching ideas for our health, but if you like the idea, it will cost you nothing to inquire, and supplies can be secured from the source designated in the prospectus.

LIBRARIES ABROAD

By Ruth Mishnun *

[A monthly commentary on foreign professional publications. Requests from readers for information on recent developments in any particular field will be welcomed.]

Not "butter and cannon" but "books, butter, and cannon" seems to be the prevailing axiom of the Soviet political economy. For a number of years the library administrators of the U.S.S.R. were chiefly concerned with establishing the services which have long been taken for granted elsewhere, and with covering their country with a network of libraries reaching to the remotest corners of the Asiatic republics. Recently, however, they have entered a new phase of activity characterized by admirable energy and ingenuity.

This progress probably rests with the young graduates of the 28 library schools and the 9 normal schools with library departments in the Russian Republic alone. The most advanced type of training is given to the Moscow Library Institute and the Library Department of the Leningrad Institute of Political Education.¹ The former, which was founded in 1930, prepares students for work as library inspectors, directors of reference and bibliographical bureaus, and staff members of national, rural, and departmental libraries. It accepts persons between seventeen and thirty-five who have a secondary school diploma.² In 1937-38 the enrollment numbered 472 students. The regular course requires four years. Two years ago a postgraduate course was opened. The curriculum covers three major fields: library science, bibliography, and children's and young people's work. Students who cannot attend the school in person may take a four-year correspondence course. They must, however, come to Moscow for eight days in January and for twenty to twenty-five days in July to take examinations and consult their instructors.³

In the same city a scheme has been devised for interesting parents in their children's mental development and at the same time enlisting their active participation in the work of the school library. At the beginning of the school year each Parents Association plans a program in consultation with the school librarians. According to their inclinations, those who have agreed to cooperate spend some of their time shelving books, making catalog cards, accessioning, compiling and illustrating booklists, and drawing posters. They also study the trends of the children's reading and discuss

their findings.⁴ Shortly before vacation one Moscow district holds a parent-teachers meeting at which the parents are given advice on the guidance of their children's summer reading. Throughout the summer the children are craftily pursued by the librarian. They see books at every turn—in the summer camps, playgrounds, parks, and in their own back yards; which are visited by perambulating libraries sent out by the House Tenants' Co-operative Association.⁵

Another angle of library work in Moscow is the daily preparation of a card index to a selection of sixty-five periodicals and newspapers. The report of this service, which appeared in July 1938, deplored the fact that only fifty-five libraries were at that time taking advantage of it.⁶

The death of N. K. Krupskaja, the widow of Lenin, has deprived Russian libraries of one of their most ardent and resourceful supporters. A number of articles by her on the educational function of the library appeared in *Krasnyi Bibliotekar*.⁷

Salaries in Sweden

In Sweden a survey has been made of the status of 221 public librarians in fifty localities, all but two of which are urban communities. The salaries of fifty-three librarians of high rank outside Stockholm range from 2,000 to 10,000 kronor, three in the highest bracket, two in the lowest, and the largest group, twenty-seven, amounting to between 4,000 and 6,000 kronor. Top salary for lower assistants is from 5,000 to 6,000 kronor, received by five individuals. Six are paid only 1,000 to 2,000 kronor a year. The median is between 3,000 and 5,000 kronor. Figure that out at about 2.2 kronor to the dollar. Vacations for the upper grade range from twelve days per annum to forty-five days. Fourteen are free for thirty days and thirty-three for twenty or more. Assistants have between twelve and thirty days, but two to three weeks is the usual period. It was discovered that some libraries employing both men and women in positions of equal rank do not remunerate them on an equal basis.⁸

According to your temper, you will be cheered or merely touched by the struggles of the librarians to reach an international agreement for standardization of forms and procedures in the midst of the current European turmoil. The editor of the *Deutscher Gesamtkatalog*, however, has studied the various na-

* These notes have been compiled with the collaboration of the editorial staff of *Library Literature*, of which the author is a member.

tional cataloging codes and has come to the conclusion that at present there is slight hope for the formulation of international regulations. He nevertheless welcomes A. D. Osborn's translation of the Prussian Instructions into English, as a step toward international understanding.⁸

An ambitious attempt is being made by the Belgian Commission for Study of Library Science and Bibliography to lay the foundations for standardizing the size of paper, book format, library equipment, including shelving and the height of stack tiers, bibliographical references, cataloging, alphabetical subject headings, and similar matters.⁹

In France a plan for regional libraries has been proposed which is intended to adapt this form to native conditions, rather than impose a foreign pattern upon them. It includes university service, documentation service, collection of manuscripts, rare books, and historical and local material, and a public reading service. The last covers branch libraries, affiliation with town and village libraries, traveling libraries, hospital libraries, and libraries in industrial plants. The entire system is to be administered by a general director, with assistants in charge of each special service.¹⁰

At frequent intervals (forty of them) along the banks of the Seine will be found the stations of the highly unorthodox library of the Boatmen's Mutual Aid Association, established for the pleasure of the bargemen who navigate the river. The main library is quartered on the barge, *Je Sers*, anchored near the Pont Saint-Germain. It has no catalog, and the charging records are rudimentary. Neither the branches nor the main library have a fixed stock and books can be returned at any point along the route. The collection is still small and includes chiefly adventure, sea, and aviation stories for the men and love stories for the female members of their families.¹¹

New Zealand Grant

The New Zealand Library Association has received a Carnegie Corporation grant of \$29,700 to cover a five-year program of library growth. Specifically, it will be applied to the improvement of staff facilities, publicity, co-operation with county library service, and the enlargement of the Association's monthly publication, *New Zealand Libraries*.¹²

Catalog cards for New Zealand libraries must be imported from England or the United States, because until recently it was impossible to obtain satisfactory stock on the Islands, and even now it is extremely difficult to get them cleanly and accurately cut.¹³

A list of books published in India during 1938 includes among others the following

titles: Activity School, Indian Monetary Policy, Nature of Self, Tudor Sonnets, Modern Cotton Spinning, Indian Company Law, Land of the Beauteous Black, Life and Teachings of Buddha, Indian After-Dinner Stories, Anthology of Persian Poets, and Shakespeare Criticism.¹⁴ The natives of the peninsula appear to be a serious-minded people on the whole, who are very much absorbed in themselves—which is not in the least unusual.

In honor of the sixtieth birthday of Lode Baekelmans, Belgian man of letters and director of libraries in Antwerp, *Bibliotheekgids* devotes an entire issue to a bibliography of works by and about him. He has written novels, short stories, plays, biographical and critical studies, and treatises on books and libraries.¹⁵

Boekenwurmen; uit het Amerikaans bewerkt door Willy Strijt is the almost impenetrable disguise under which Lucile F. Fargo's *Marian-Martha*, the story of two girls who became librarians, has recently traveled into Holland. If you try to pronounce the title you will find that it is simply *Book-worms*. The Dutch periodical, *Bibliotheekleven*, received two reviews of the translation and printed both of them. The first praises it as a stimulating and instructive book which should be useful in vocational guidance work. The second reviewer is even more enthusiastic; he recommends it warmly to librarians of every rank and remarks that in many ways it is as pertinent to the Netherlands as to the United States, altho it is especially valuable as a picture of professional training in America.¹⁶

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THE SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION

By Mae Graham

[This monthly department about school libraries is prepared for the *Wilson Bulletin* under the direction of the School Libraries Section, American Library Association. All school librarians are invited to utilize this department for the discussion of their problems. Inquiries and contributions should be sent to Mae Graham, Department of Library Science, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.]

On to San Francisco!

IN another month many of us will be starting for San Francisco and the A.L.A. meeting. We are looking forward to having a large representation of school librarians present. The local committee under the chairmanship of Marguerite Grayson, Librarian at the Mission High School, San Francisco, has been busy for some time making plans for our convenience and happiness while we are at the convention. Many others have contributed to the program plans. It is not, at the present writing, entirely completed but it is possible to indicate about what it will be.

The general theme of the convention is "Books," a kindly choice, for the world of books covers every subject and leaves us a free choice. It seems wise to be equally broad-minded about the choice of a theme for the School Libraries Section and so we have added the words "and the school library" so that we may talk about anything under the sun and still keep within bounds.

The first appearance of the School Libraries Section of the program is the general school library breakfast Wednesday morning. This is to be very informal and is to be devoted to discussion by small groups of people interested in the same topic. There will be no attempt at a general program except for a few announcements which may need to be made.

The second appearance is the afternoon of the same day when the business meeting is to be held. Except for routine reports and business the meeting will be devoted to the discussion of the reorganization of the A.L.A. as it affects the Section.

The third appearance is the supervisors' breakfast Thursday morning. This year the meeting will again be restricted to supervisors and their invited guests.

The big social event of the Section is to be a luncheon Thursday. That is the free day and American Library Association Day

at the exposition; so the luncheon will be informal and will be held on Treasure Island. The local committee is making interesting plans.

The general section meeting will be Friday afternoon. This is a two-hour session and there will be three speakers. Since two of the most important school library problems of the next few years are the extension of school library service to rural schools and the strengthening of state school library organizations, Helen Heffernan will speak on rural school library service and Margaret V. Gardner on the School Library Association of California as an example of the development of local leadership in school library work. The other speaker will deal with some subject related to literature or radio.

The last appearance is in cooperation with the Section for Library Work with Children and the Young People's Reading Round Table. Each section is presenting a speaker. Hildergarde Hawthorne will be the speaker for the School Libraries Section. She is, as every school librarian probably knows, the author of numerous books of fiction and biography for young people and a resident of Berkeley. Rachel Field will speak for the Children's Section and Amelia H. Mumson, who compiled the Reading for Background list on Poetry for High Schools, will represent the Young People's Section.

The Poster Problem

CLINTON (S. C.) HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

Jessie Tayloe Newby, Librarian

We have solved the problem of filing posters which are too large for the vertical file by putting them in ordinary paper coat bags which come from the dry cleaners. If the bag is reinforced at the top, six or seven posters may be slipped in one bag. The top is closed, of course, and the posters are slipped in and out at the bottom. The bag is hung by a coat hanger, and the bottom is folded. Four or five paper clips placed over the folded end hold the posters in place. We attach a slip of paper to each bag with a list of the posters it contains written on the slip.

We have found that in this way the posters are easy to find, take up little space, and are

kept free from dust. And best of all, the cost of our filing is negligible.

BERWYN (ILL.) PUBLIC LIBRARY

Margaret E. Ely, Librarian

In regard to your query concerning the storing of posters we have this suggestion to offer.

Eleven envelopes, 22" x 28", made of brown wrapping paper hold all our posters. Each envelope has "pleated" edges so that it can hold a number of rather thick posters; the envelopes open on the broad, or 28" edge.

Posters of one type are placed in the same envelope. A few of our envelope headings are, "Holidays," Holidays—Patriotic," and, "Business and Finance."

As all the posters in a particular envelope have the number of that envelope written on their backs, we are sure of returning them to the correct envelope. We store the eleven envelopes numerically in a two-drawer poster cabinet made by Library Bureau.

For an additional guide we have a loose sheet of paper called, "Table of Contents" which lists the slogans of the posters.

Conservation Charts

A series of ten conservation charts has been prepared by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service for distribution to libraries, schools and others interested in graphic presentation of methods of erosion control. Each chart measures approximately 12½ x 24½ inches, and consists of six halftone photographs showing field or pasture before and after erosion control measures have been applied, with explanatory captions.

Displayed in connection with available books and pamphlets, or reading lists on soil conservation, they afford an attractive means for calling attention to a library's holdings on this subject of vital interest.

The charts may be obtained free of charge by writing to the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D. C.

Solving the Library-Lesson Problem

By Ella H. Pope, Librarian,

Gosben Central School, Gosben, N.Y.

The problem of making library lessons vital, practical, and firmly fixed in the minds of the pupils is being solved in our high school by the following procedure:

Very early in the year, the librarian and the English teachers working together present the six or seven fundamental lessons: the book—its parts and its care; the Dewey system; general and special reference books;

the card catalog; *Readers' Guide*. After the pupils have been given the first three units of this series (the book, the Dewey system, and reference books), each subject teacher is asked to present to her pupils the Dewey numbers relating to her subject, and to explain the special reference books they are to use. For example, the social studies teacher calls attention to the 320's, 353's, and any other numbers that will be frequently used in the study of her subject; she also explains how to use the *Legislative Manual*, *American Yearbook*, *World Almanac*, etc. In this way the numbers and the reference tools are firmly clinched and gain real significance because pupils have a present use for them. Library lessons thus become a vital part of practically every subject in the curriculum—not merely a mass of confusing information soon to be forgotten.

Subject teachers are not overburdened by this procedure. Each one is given a typed sheet containing a brief, clear explanation of the Dewey system, with a simplified chart showing all the main numbers and some of the subdivisions. Following this is a list of the numbers likely to be used by her group. Then comes a list of the reference books for her subject, with an outline of the contents of each; their arrangement, and notations of important features needing special emphasis. This sheet is prepared by the librarian.

This cooperation of subject teachers is a help to them rather than an added task. Furthermore, it serves to inform them about certain reference tools which may not have come to their attention, and clarifies for them the Dewey numbering system with which many teachers are not thoroly acquainted.

Making the Most of Book Jackets

Miss Pope also sends us the following helpful hint.

"We mount our book jackets on construction paper nine by twelve or larger, and file them alphabetically by author. On the back of each mount we paste a small book pocket and in it put an author-title slip. This method makes it easy to use the jackets for several purposes: for library bulletin boards and exhibits; for teachers who wish to advertise books relating to their subject; for art and drama groups who want suggestions for posters. In assembly, if we wish to introduce new books thru lantern pictures, we find that having the jackets mounted facilitates their use with the balopticon.

"When we lend the jackets, we simply remove the slips and file them behind a guide-card bearing the name of the borrower. Before mounting the jackets we cut off the back strips and use them for additional display purposes."

A. L. A. NOTES

By Edwin E. Williams

San Francisco Conference

GEORGE V. DENNY, JR., founder and moderator of the Town Meeting of the Air, has accepted an invitation to conduct a Meeting for Libraries at the last general session of the San Francisco Conference on Saturday morning, June 24.

The theme of the conference is to be "Books—Mind to Mind: Author to Reader," and the second session will be devoted to production of books. Harry L. Gage, Vice President of the Mergenthaler Linotype Company and Trustee of the Montclair Public Library, will speak on printing, and Stanley M. Rinehart, of Farrar and Rinehart, on publishing.

Speakers on distribution of books at the third session will be President Aurelia Reinhardt of Mills College, Chester Harvey Rowell, Editor of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and Dr. Max Farrand, Director of Research at the Huntington Library.

Statement on Book Boycott

The A.L.A. Bookbuying Committee has approved the following statement prepared by Lawrence Heyl, chairman:

"A large firm, which imports books chiefly on orders from libraries, recently received threatening letters from two organizations. This importer has been placed on the list of "violators" for the simple reason that he is purchasing German publications for resale in this country.

"There are various opinions concerning the boycott of goods in general, but librarians, officially, can have only one position when it comes to anything that concerns the interchange of ideas. We believe and maintain that our collections of books should represent all shades of opinion, in so far as that is possible. The public deserves to have complete information on all subjects. There is no strength in ignorance.

"At a time like the present, it would be extremely foolhardy and unintelligent even to consider the boycott of German publications. It is most necessary that we keep as well informed as we can of what is going on in Germany, whether in the field of politics, science, philosophy, or what you will. The very fact that two American publishers have recently issued translations of the com-

plete text of Hitler's *Mein Kampf* shows how great is the interest of the public in German affairs.

"It follows that it is very regrettable that an importer is having difficulties because his library customers ask him to supply German publications together with those of other countries. So long as he receives such orders, it is his duty to fill them. The United States is officially at peace with all nations, and while that most fortunate state exists, libraries will continue to order books and periodicals published in all countries on this globe."

Federal Aid

The Senate Committee on Education and Labor has reported favorably on the Harrison-Thomas bill (S.1305) for federal aid to education, including libraries, and consideration by the Senate is expected soon. The committee report followed hearings at which the A.L.A. was represented by Carl H. Milam and Forrest B. Spaulding.

State legislatures in Alabama, Arkansas, North Dakota, and Utah have passed resolutions urging Congress to act favorably on federal aid for education, and legislation has been passed in Tennessee, Oregon, New Mexico and West Virginia to ensure eligibility of these states to receive and administer federal grants.

Fifty-five library groups have taken action in support of the bill, and numerous educational organizations are taking an active part.

The A.L.A. Federal Relations Committee emphasizes the fact that individual letters to senators and representatives in Congress may help materially in securing favorable action on the measure.

State Library Agencies

An act creating a public library Service Division in the State Department of Archives and History was passed by the Alabama legislature during March, and has now been approved by the Governor. Legislation was sponsored by the State Library Association and the Federation of Women's Clubs.

West Virginia has made the first appropriation for the State Library Commission which was established several years ago.

(Continued on page 621)

Junior Librarians Section

[This monthly department, sponsored by the Junior Members Round Table of the American Library Association, is concerned chiefly with reporting and integrating the activities of the younger librarians. Junior groups are asked to send regular reports and recommendations. Correspondence and articles from individual librarians pertaining to the work and welfare of library assistants are also welcome. Material submitted for publication in this department should preferably be addressed to the Round Table's editorial representative and "coordinator": Mrs. Mary Kenan, Kern County Free Library, Bakersfield, Calif.]

N.B. Since Mrs. Ruth Phillips Griffith finds herself unable to carry on with the task of coordinator, the JMRT section has been placed in charge of Mrs. Kenan, who will act as coordinator for the rest of the term.

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

A TREASURE ISLAND DINNER will be held Thursday evening, June 22, at 6:30, in the Administration Building of the San Francisco World's Fair. Plans for the dinner include a speech by a prominent author (see notice elsewhere in this section) and toasts by senior patrons of the group, who will be invited to attend as honor guests. Former officers of JMRT will also be asked to attend the function which will celebrate the organization's eighth anniversary.

The local committee in charge of arrangements consists of:

Natalie Mayo, San Francisco public library, Chairman
Mrs. Conrad Bue, Lodi public library
Dorothy Hamilton, Palo Alto public library
Mrs. Mary Kenan, Kern County free library, Bakersfield
Mrs. Anne Leigh, Arcadia public library
Mrs. Euda Lyons, Central Library county library, Merced
Evalyn Peat, Tehuma county library, Red Bluff

PROGRAM TO BE ANNOUNCED

A complete program of events, including the general program and business meeting (to be held on Tuesday morning of convention) will be announced in forthcoming issues of *A.L.A. Bulletin* and *Wilson Bulletin*. Watch for the list of speakers which will include a combination of prominent librarians (interested in the JM movement) and outstanding Junior Members.

NEWS-LETTERS MAILED

The second and final news-letters to state chairmen included plans for the state and district representatives' meeting to be held the first Monday of convention week. State and district officers are eligible to attend this meeting, or in their absence, an appointed or elected representative. It is important that at least one member from each of the state and district JM groups be present at this meeting, so please see that your group is represented!

PUBLICIZE JMRT

Extensive publicity for JMRT has been one of the aims of your officers this year. Recent plans have included the preparation of a brief history of JMRT—"What it is, what it does"—which is to be published in a west coast magazine, mimeographed, and distributed to all of last year's library school graduates (together with an invitation to join) and also at the Fair. Other publicity measures have consisted of articles and news notes to library periodicals, talks to local groups of librarians, the appointment of an exhibit committee to compile a permanent exhibit and arrange a booth at the conference, and the appointment of a historian to compile a scrapbook of all publicity and historical material.

NORMA OLIN IRELAND
Chairman, JMRT

PROMINENT NOVELIST TO SPEAK

Ruth Eleanor McKee, well-known author of *God's anointed*, *After a hundred years*, *Three daughters*, and *Under one roof*, will be the guest speaker at the JMRT Treasure Island Dinner to be held during the A.L.A. convention in San Francisco.

Miss McKee is a Californian, especially noted for her books on the Hawaiian Islands, where she was a librarian and teacher. At the present time she is attending the University of California Library School, at Berkeley.

JMRT DEPRESSION SURVEY PUBLISHED

The completion of the JMRT Depression Survey Project, begun several years ago, is shown by the publication of a summary article by Paul Howard in the March 15th issue of *Library Journal* entitled "Library personnel in the depression." Mr. Howard, a former chairman of JMRT, is now attending the Graduate Library School in Chicago.

California on a Shoestring!

By Marie Wild and Guido Ferrari

Here's packing your bag for the 1939 A.L.A. Convention in San Francisco with its "heigh-ho, come to the Fair." . . . And the burning questions of—how will I get there, how long does it take, where shall I go, what can I see, what to wear, and how much? . . . Here's how the shoestring fits, so get out your seven league boots!

(Worked out by the Travel Bureau of the H. C. Capwell Co., of Oakland, this bird's-eye view of the transportation problem should help to orient your pocketbook).

To San Francisco from	RAILWAY FARE		BUS FARE		
	Tourist Train	Pullman	Time hours	Fare	Time hours
New York	\$123.45	\$15.35	80	\$75.35	103
Washington, D.C.	116.70	14.75	75	73.75	98
Atlanta	91.20	11.30	80	64.10	93
Chicago	74.00	8.95	60	56.10	68
St. Louis	70.10	7.35	60	52.45	68
New Orleans	73.30	7.25	70	56.25	87
St. Paul	74.00	8.70	60	50.60	67
Kansas City	61.95	7.35	55	46.25	53
Salt Lake City ..	33.35	3.70	25	22.50	27
Dallas	61.95	4.50	55	45.10	68
Denver	49.45	5.80	25	18.30	35

Train fares listed here are in roundtrip figures; Pullman one-way lower berths.

See your local ticket-agent for complete details (they are awfully good at cutting the corners for you when you wear your fetchingest hat to expose an innocent but adamant countenance).

CLOTHES—OR WHERE ARE YOU, EVE?

But *what* shall I take to wear? That in-sistent little question is answered by Ninon, Fashion Editor of the *S.F. Chronicle*, who includes these essentials in her traveling case wardrobe:

1. A three-piece tweed suit, or a two-piece tailored suit with a top-coat to serve as the backbone of the necessary apparel.
2. A slip-on sweater and felt hat, a pair of low-heeled walking shoes to wear with the suit. (While there are motor-trains and all manner of conveyances on Treasure Island, my guess is that any visitor will have to do a little walking.)
3. Two blouses and one straw hat for the early summer, and one pair of dressy suit shoes.
4. One lightweight wool dress which can be worn either under the top-coat, without any coat, or with the suit jacket.
5. One street length dressy dress with accessories to wear to hotels in the city, to restaurants and clubs on Treasure Island, when dinner dress is not worn.
6. One dinner dress, semi-formal with sleeves or strictly formal with its own jacket (more as individual plans call for) with wrap, accessories, etc.
7. A fur coat or jacket is always handy in San Francisco, but if milady does not own one, a dressy type of plain dark untrimmed coat will do nicely.

While San Francisco is in sunny California, the city does not lend itself to lightweight Palm Beach types of clothing—even in mid-summer.

Country, resort, or informal sport clothes may be brought along if the Exposition visitor plans trips to Yosemite, Tahoe, or to some of the other popular California resorts.

MEN! Incidentally and just by way of an extra tip, San Francisco men dress well, but conservatively. Dark blue, brown, and gray business suits are favored. To be out of place: straw hats; white flannels; linen suits (especially white).

DEAR MOTHER: ARRIVED SAFELY IN S.F....

In between convention meetings there are tours of and from San Francisco ranging from \$1 up—and by up we include a \$5 scenic airplane ride over the bay, bridges, fair, and surrounding cities. A booth at the headquarters registration office will be maintained by the tours company to sign up people for the trips, and waiting busses will leave whenever desired.

There will be four tours every day:

1. To the East Bay, covering Oakland, Berkeley and the University of California campus for \$1.85, which will take 3½ hours.
2. To Marin County, over the Golden Gate bridge, to Muir Woods and Tamalpais, a five-hour trip costing \$3.50.
3. A peninsular trip, south along El Camino Real, which will include Stanford University campus. A beauty for \$2.25 and 4 hours.
4. The San Francisco 49-mile-drive which takes you to the point of interest in San Francisco—3 hours for \$1.50 and you get a brief idea of the city. Worthwhile.

There will also be a 145-foot launch available which will carry 20 people and sail around the bay and into the mouth of the Sacramento river. A scenic trip of great beauty taking not over 4 hours for \$1.50.

Leaving San Francisco, after the flurry of the convention and the excitement of the Fair, you may wish to travel to the national parks or resorts. These are noteworthy and have accommodations to fit any pocketbook: Yosemite Valley which includes Mariposa Big Trees; Sequoia National Park, with the oldest redwood trees in the world; Lake Tahoe, crystal clear and high into the sun; Lassen National Park, the only live volcano in the U.S.; and the Monterey peninsula presenting Del Monte, Carmel, and Monterey. If you want to leave San Francisco for longer jaunts, there's always room on one of the ships going to Hawaii, Alaska, the Orient, Australia, New Zealand, and South America.

But whatever you do, try to plan your trip to include an approach or retreat thru southern California. Los Angeles and Hollywood are fascinating—and who knows maybe a talent scout will pick you!

FAIR IS A FAIR IS A FAIR

You can't mention Convention without mentioning Fair and vice versa. There will be four main sessions of the A.L.A. during Convention Week: Monday afternoon, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings. Thurs-

day will be Fair Day—no meetings except the one C.L.A. session in the morning to be held on Treasure Island.

THE EMPIRE HOTEL will be the last word for Junior news, so be sure to register in the rooms and get all information. Don't forget to read your bulletins: the March, April, and May A.L.A. and Wilson Bulletins for hotel prices and general information. Maps listing eating places in San Francisco, with prices, and descriptive notes will be given to you when you register. We shall have city maps and automobile maps in the Empire rooms for your convenience also. Don't forget to get a 25c guide book to the Fair. Indispensable!

Western District

CALIFORNIA

(This material prepared by Natalie Mayo, Children's Librarian, San Francisco Public Library.)

OFFICERS 1938-39

State Chairman: Joseph A. Belloli, Public Library, Pacific Grove

State Secretary: Avis Bryson, Fire Underwriters Association, San Francisco

Golden Empire District

Chairman: Frances Murphy, County Library, Sacramento

Secretary: Eloise Ryan

This district met for "brunch," March 26, in Sacramento. Mrs. Marie Wild, Chairman of the San Francisco Bay and Portola Districts, gave a resumé of the plans for Juniors at A.L.A.

Mount Shasta District

Chairman: Mary Mather, City Library, Marysville
Secretary: Elizabeth Davison

A meeting of the Juniors was held in conjunction with the Mount Shasta District convention in Yuba City, April 1.

Redwood District

Chairman: Lillian Hart, Free Library, Eureka
Secretary: Frances Niemon

Redwood District is not formally organized, but interested Juniors have held forums in the Eureka Free Library and discussed books on various phases of democracy. Bibliographies have been compiled by the group and sent to local service clubs.

San Francisco Bay and Portola Districts

Chairman: Mrs. Marie Wild, Free Library, Oakland
Secretary: Stuart M. Boland

A breakfast meeting was held by the San Francisco Bay and Portola Districts on October 30, at Lokoya Lodge, Napa County. Joseph Belloli, State Chairman, discussed plans for a more unified program in the various districts.

The second meeting was held on Treasure Island, February 26. The Membership Committee reviewed Junior activities in the A.L.A. and the C.L.A. The committee is working on a roster of Junior members in California. The Junior Headquarters Committee reported a suite could be secured at the Hotel Empire if a guarantee was made for fifty reservations. The Policies and Principles Committee suggested a plan for closer cooperation between libraries, public forums, and other adult education discussion groups.

Final reports will be given at a third meeting to be held in June.

Southern District

Chairman: Mrs. Anne Leigh, Public Library, Arcadia

Secretary: Evelyn Benagh

Group organization was the purpose of the December 3 meeting of the Southern District held at the South Pasadena Library. The general opinion, expressed by those present, was that no project be undertaken unless it was of interest to the whole group and widespread enough to make the results significant. It was agreed that a fee of 25c a year be charged as dues.

Althea Warren, Los Angeles' number one librarian, outlined the activities of the A.L.A. Juniors since their inception as a group, and made suggestions for possible projects. A committee, Susan Campbell, Florence Crist, and Virginia Crozier (chairman) was formed to consider suggestions made by Miss Warren, before any single project be adopted.

Plans are to be presented at a meeting before the A.L.A.

Yosemite District

Chairman: Howard M. Rowc, District Library, Coalinga

Secretary: Mrs. Ruth Tronslin

No meeting has been held to date. However, the chairman plans that the group will meet soon to discuss the topic "What can we as Junior Librarians do to further Democracy?"

COLORADO

OFFICERS 1938-39

Denver Group

President: Alys Freeze

Vice-President: Frances Gorcon

Treasurer: Margaret Darfee

Recording Secretary: Emmy Lou Schwalb

Corresponding Secretary: Gordon Bennett

The Denver group deserves orchids for a variety of successfully completed enterprises. Not the least of these is the survey of occupations of Denver borrowers, just finished. Running a close second, booklists on subjects often requested by patrons have proved a success for the second consecutive year. Attractive covers, a recent innovation, play an important role in the ever-increasing public clamor for lists. The third major project of the year, a survey on the delectable subject of pensions for librarians, promises to attract much attention among Juniors the country over. Rocky mountain energy resulted in numerous minor projects—among them a production of the infamous A.L.A. and the big apple, or Snow White and the seventeen dwarfs; several publicity articles in local papers; monthly booklists on timely subjects in the publication of the Denver Realtors Exchange; a section on Junior activities in the Staff Lookout, monthly news bulletin of the library; several changes in rules governing the library; and lastly, an elegant Sunday night supper at a private club on January 22. Such are the rewards of house cleaning and the energy of two term president Alys Freeze.

State JMRT

President: Emmy Lou Schwalb

Treasurer: Esther Heckman

Secretaries: Eulah Gooden, Gordon Bennett

Colorado JMRT, young sister to the Denver group, not to be outdone by the latter, hangs out a sizable wardrobe of activities on the spring line to the gratification of the officers, elected at the Junior members luncheon when the Colorado Library Association met in Boulder last October 21 and 22. A directory of librarians and friends of the library within the state has been completed and shortly will be published. Constitution and by-laws have been drawn up and are ready to be acted upon by the group. Then, on the line, young sister's gay party dress waves brightly, ready to be donned when the Colorado group meets this spring at a dinner function in Denver.

IDAHO, OREGON, WASHINGTON

Altho at present there are no organized JMRT groups in these states, interested Juniors are working toward that end.

CURRENT REFERENCE BOOKS



Edited by

LOUIS SHORES



MAY 1939

REVIEWS 26—38

Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find it.—
Samuel Johnson

A monthly review of non-subscription publications. The judgments expressed are independent of The Wilson Company. Communications should be addressed, Louis Shores, Peabody Library School, Nashville, Tenn.

Last Call!

THE prize-winner, award, and ranked list will appear in the June issue. As was the case last year a large number of lists have come in weeks before the deadline. Two lists have been submitted as the composite work of entire reference staffs. Such collaboration is entirely legitimate and encouraged. One reference librarian writes that she and her staff discussed the ten books title by title during one whole staff meeting.

CONTEST

What were the ten most important new titles for reference work published during 1938?

A 1939 reference book will be awarded to the librarian who submits the best ranked list of ten.

Rules of the contest:

1. List in rank order the ten new titles published during 1938 that you consider most important for general reference work. Continuations begun prior to 1938 are not eligible but major revisions of standard works are.
2. Give full bibliographic information for each.
3. Give your name, address, and position.
4. Mail to this department so that it reaches the editor by midnight April 20, 1939.
5. A new 1939 reference book will be awarded to the contestant whose list is judged most satisfactory.
6. Another new 1939 reference book will be awarded to the student enrolled in an approved library school whose list is judged most satisfactory.

26. Reference Reviews

What does the reference librarian want to know most about a new reference book. Below are listed some of the criteria. It would interest me to receive expressions of opinion. I have tried to follow a pattern in the reviews for this department. At the head of each review I have placed scope and arrangement as essential to the reference use of any volume. In the review itself I have tried to add items

of interest about authority, history, comparison with related works, excerpts from the work itself, reference possibilities, types of libraries that will find the work most useful, etc.

I should be glad to have any reader comment on the following elements of a reference review and their relative importance to the reference librarian in selection and use.

1. Scope, including limitations
2. Arrangement
3. Authority
4. Format
5. Up-to-dateness
6. Treatment
7. Comparison with other works
8. Accuracy
9. Balance
10. Bibliographies

27. Art Cyclopedia

NEW STANDARD ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ART: architecture, sculpture, painting, decorative arts. Based on the work of Louis Hourticq and translated under the supervision of Tancred Borenius; fully revised under the supervision of J. Leroy Davidson and Philippa Gerry, with the assistance of the staff of the index of Twentieth-century artists college art association, New York City. N.Y. Garden City Pub. Co., inc.; c.1939. 2v. in 1. \$3.95

Scope: The visual arts of all periods and regions.
Arranged: Alphabetically, with cross references.

The publishers assure us the text of Harper's *Encyclopedia of art*, which sold for \$30 is present without change or omission in this less bulky format at the bargain price of \$3.95. At this price no library, no matter how small, can afford to be without it.

Into this volume have been compressed over 2,000 entries, 1,200 half tones, 1,150 line drawings. Samplings indicate every period from the beginning to the present have been represented. Biographical sketches of artists, catalogs of their works, descriptions and illustrations of individual masterpieces, articles about museums, art trends, objects of art, supplemented by many short bibliographies make of

this a remarkable reference work. Especially noteworthy is the recognition accorded American art and artists.

The four-column page gives the volume the appearance of one of the monumental foreign encyclopedias. Good paper, clean type, attractive layout induce the reader to read. Since the pattern is "short-article-cross reference," no index is included, but numerous cross references are provided.

The low price at which the *Encyclopedia of art* is now offered makes of it one of the best reference values on the market. Larger libraries can profitably duplicate copies for various departments and reading rooms, and school and smaller libraries that hesitated at the former price can now purchase freely.

28. Art Annual

17TH ART DIRECTORS ANNUAL OF ADVERTISING ART: N.Y. Longmans Green, c.1938. 185p. \$5

Scope: A record of progress in advertising art.
Arranged: Classified, with artist, advertiser, and agency indexes.

Perhaps one not well-versed in the techniques of the visual arts can be forgiven for the sacrilegious declaration that no museum, art gallery, or exhibition he has visited in the last year thrilled him half as much as the *17th art directors annual of advertising art*. This collection of representations from the magazine, the business paper, the newspaper, the poster, and direct mail advertising literally takes your breath away and makes you wonder whether such works of art can really be related to the commonplace ballyhoo of cosmetics, motor cars, soft drinks and what not. Yet there they are, irrefutable testimonials to the vitality of twentieth century American life and art.

Added to the selection of illustrations are illuminating discussions: an introduction by the President of the Art Directors' Club, a chapter on advertising art and magazines by the editor of *Woman's Home Companion*, and other chapters dealing with new trends in layout and typography, direct mail advertising, American poster art, and newspapers and business papers.

But we are not concerned here as much with the quality of this art as with the reference value of the book. I do not see how any type of library can fail to use this volume repeatedly. The public library should answer daily a dozen different business men's questions. The college library would relate it to courses in economics, business, art, history, journalism. In the school library the annual could become a veritable picture file and would warrant subject indexing.

And this brings us to the indexes. There are three—of artists, advertisers, and agencies. Libraries could use one of products. By means of such an index, reference librarians could augment their available picture collections with live illustrations of subjects currently vital to America.

29. Regional Readings

EAST, WEST, NORTH AND SOUTH IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS: an annotated regional bibliography for use in grade and junior high schools. Comp. by Dorothy A. Wurzberg. Boston, Faxon, 1939. 158p. (Useful ref. ser. no. 64)

Scope: About a thousand titles selected from a geographical point of view.

Arranged: Alphabetically by geographical division, and under United States by state and region, with author and title indexes.

Because school librarians have found standard lists weak in regional materials this bibliography will be welcomed. The primary arrangement insures a selected number of titles for every state and for sections like the South and Southwest. Brief annotations and grade level indications will prove helpful. Should prove especially useful in school and public libraries.

30. Catholic Teacher's Library

THE RELIGION TEACHER'S LIBRARY: a selected annotated list of books, pamphlets and magazines. Comp. by Rev. Felix M. Kirsch and Rev. Claude Vogel. Paterson, N.J. St. Anthony Guild Press, c.1938. 57p. 25c

Scope: Over 1,000 titles for Catholic teachers of religion.

Arranged: Classified, with directory of publishers.

31. Style Consensus

HANDBOOK FOR WRITERS, EDITORS AND TYPISTS: a universal style book, by Fred A. Sweet. N.Y. Dutton, c.1939. 189p. \$1.50

Scope: "Consensus of the style books of the Government Printing Office, various metropolitan daily newspapers and the more prominent publishing concerns, as well as of textbooks..."

Arranged: Dictionary, except for beginning section on abbreviations.

Such a consensus has long been needed. What with the diversity of form advocated by numerous publishers and societies and the frequent inconsistencies within individual style manuals, it is no wonder beginning and veteran writers handle certain problems gingerly.

Unfortunately, the brevity of this handbook results in omissions or condensations that will necessarily force the writer to consult individual stylebooks. Take for example the entry on "footnote." The explanation is platitudinous to say the least. What one wants is an example of the form to follow.

The alphabetic arrangement is convenient, and the larger type for significant entries helps. Guide words at the top of each page would add to the referability. Most of the entries deal with syllabification. A useful handbook but by no means a substitute for a shelf of style books.

32. East of the Rockies

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS: giving field marks of all species found east of the Rockies. Rev. & enl. by Roger Tory Peterson. Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1939. 180p. \$2.75

Scope: "North American east of the hundredth or hundred and third meridian."
Arranged: Classified, with index.

A compact handbook including both colored and black and white illustrations, by the director of the educational program of the National Association of Audubon Societies. The informal discussions take the beginner into consideration especially well. Because of its comparative simplicity and excellent organization reference workers will frequently find it more useful than detailed volumes covering the whole field of ornithology. A comparable volume on the western states is in preparation.

33. Art of Cooking

GOOD FOOD AND HOW TO COOK IT: a comprehensive modern cook book of practical, easily followed recipes, with suggestions that help plan every meal. By Phyllis Kraft Newill; illus. by Steele Savage. N.Y. D. Appleton-Century, 1939. 555p. \$2.50

Scope: 1208 intelligible as well as delicious recipes, and many other things that go into the fine and practical art of cooking.
Arranged: By courses and meals, with a startling index.

There is a point of view to this cook book. No special talent is required to misunderstand recipes from the average cook book because only too little care in the wording of directions is taken. But Mrs. Newill's book is different because it is human, humorous, sparkling, revealingly different. She has refused to write a single conventional cook book page. Somehow she has anticipated every one of the little tragedies that must loom big to every home maker at some time or other.

Since this is a reference review primarily I want to point out the features that make this a "basic" for public, college, and school libraries. There is a table of "equivalents and substitutions" for example that will supplement the average weights and measures with such units as a "dash" (something less than $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon), "jigger," "grated peel of 1 orange," etc. There are also annotations for various recipes that balance admirably the quantitative

specifications on the left, and the qualitative directions on the right. And then there is such an index as reference librarians have never seen before. Imagine an index which in addition to citations indicated at a glance answers to such needs as one-dish meals, economy, quickly prepared, quickly cooked, etc.

The author is a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, syndicates articles, directs movies, broadcasts, and could probably do a bang-up job in a reference library. She has written a cook book that combines readability and referability to a new high degree.

34. Games

COKEsbURY GAME BOOK. By Arthur M. Depew. Nashville, Tennessee, Cokesbury Press, c.1939. 411p. \$1.75

Scope: 600 games, entertainment plans and suggestions for leisure time activities.
Arranged: Classified, with index.

It has at least one reference advantage over Bancroft (Review 1938, no. 52) and Wood (Review 1938, no. 53): there is a section on games for special occasions, including most of the major holidays. The selection otherwise is based on the point of view in the author's *Cokesbury party book* and *Cokesbury stunt book*. Illustrations and simple directions contribute to the usability of the material. A good reference tool for school and public libraries.

35. Electrical Terms

DICTIONARY OF ELECTRICAL TERMS: including telegraphy, telephony, and wireless. 3d ed. rev. and enl. by S. R. Roget. N.Y. Pitman Pub. Corp. 1938. 425p. \$3.00

Scope: Electricity, magnetism, telegraphy, telephony, wireless and other electrical applications
Arranged: Dictionary, with cross references italicized.

Brief explanations rather than definitions are characteristic. Consequently the principal advantage is quick reference. Altho the author is English, American terms and concepts are carefully presented. A handy tool for public and other general libraries called on frequently for this type of special reference.

36. World Aviation

AIRCRAFT CALENDAR: an authoritative dictionary of all aeroplanes currently manufactured in every country in the world, giving particulars of engines, construction and performance, together with numerous comments on design and history. Ed. by Eric Sargent. N.Y. D. Appleton-Century, 1939. 144p. \$2.50

Scope: Specifications on all known currently manufactured planes
Arranged: Alphabetically by country; list of illustrations furnishes partial index to makes.

No need to recognize this as contributing to a live reference subject. Periodical literature

and the daily press have given space to even the most fantastic conjectures about Germany's supremacy in the air. The fact that the best authorities have peppered their comments with references to "unverifiable sources" has not in the least affected predominant belief that Chamberlain's policy is dictated from respect for Germany's air fleet rather than from fear of Russia's unknown power.

To this live reference subject the *Aircraft calendar* contributes something. There are such specifications as maximum speed and range in which German planes show up exceedingly well. The illustrations add much to what would otherwise be merely dry tables of statistics. But strikingly there is not a single illustration for any planes from the U.S.S.R. The American entries look impressive both in pictures and in tables.

The reference value of this little book would be enhanced with the addition of the following features: (1) Comparative tables, indicating which nations and makes lead in certain specifications; (2) Summary paragraphs on construction in each country; (3) Statistics, such as there are, on production; (4) Some discussion on the relative significance of each of the specifications cited. These features are suggested with the daily reference questions of libraries in mind.

37. Navies of the World

NAVAL CALENDAR: an authentic handbook of the navies of every nation, providing the leading particulars of each vessel of fighting value, with the addition of full details concerning the auxiliary and supply ships attached to each navy. Ed. by E. C. Talbot-Booth, R.N.R. N.Y. D. Appleton-Century, 1939. 272p. \$2.50

Scope: Specifications on all known naval vessels
Arranged: Great Britain, and then other nations alphabetically, with index to individual ships.

A compact and timely handbook. Over 100 illustrations add to the usefulness of the tabular information which includes date, tonnage, armament, protection, length, beam, draft, and speed. As usual mystery surrounds the description of the Soviet Russia fleet which the *Calendar* seems to favor with the largest submarine fleet. Comparative tables and some general discussions would materially add to the value of this compact and essential reference tool.

38. Guide to Current Events

AN ATLAS OF CURRENT AFFAIRS: 5th ed. rev. by J. F. Horrabin. N.Y. Knopf, 1939. 149p. \$1.50

Scope: "a short and simple guide to key facts and key places in the world of today."
Arranged: By political-geographical divisions.

The combination of verso map and recto explanation represents the most compact example

of ready information available in any reference tool. In the shortest possible time the reference worker can supply the reader with the background essential to an understanding of today's new international crisis.

Starting with Europe and the Mediterranean, and proceeding thru the Near East, the Far East, the U.S.S.R., India and the Indian Ocean, the Americas, and Africa the author presents in 74 highly selective and intelligible black and white maps, and in as many terse paragraphs, a surprisingly full picture of the world situation today. A place name index further contributes to referability.

In these trying though exciting world crises, the reference librarian will want this reference book within easy reach of her desk as reader after reader seeks interpretation of the day's news headline. Indispensable in all libraries.

A.L.A. NOTES

(Continued from page 614)

A State Library Consolidation Act passed by the Iowa Legislature creates a State Library Board with divisions charged with the State Traveling Library, the State Museum of Art and History, the State Law Library, and the State Medical Library.

A first appropriation for the Tennessee Library Division is contingent on federal aid for libraries.

Recent acts permit libraries to unite for regional service in Indiana, Montana, Oregon, and West Virginia. Comparable measures are pending in Ohio and Utah.

Public Relations Clinic

Librarians who wish to attend the Clinic on Staff Relations with the Public during the San Francisco conference are urged to make reservations at once, since attendance will be limited and half the available reservations have already been made.

Sessions will be held daily June 20 to 24, from 8:30 to 9:45 A.M. A fee of two dollars will be charged for the first four meetings. Reservations should be sent to Ruth E. Hammond, City Library, Wichita, Kansas, chairman of the A.L.A. Publicity Committee, Miss Hammond and Nell Unger, chairman of the Lending Section, are in charge of arrangements.

School Libraries Meeting

Mildred L. Batchelder, chief of the school and children's library division at A.L.A. Headquarters, attended a conference of state supervisors of school libraries called in Washington, D.C., March 30 and 31 by the U.S. Office of Education. Problems involved in school library programs were considered at the meeting.



WILSON BULLETIN FOR LIBRARIANS

May 1939

THE public libraries of large cities like New York should be given greater opportunity to serve as social centers—as “soap boxes” for orators, conversation halls for housewives, and theatres to keep young people from “less constructive occupations”—Dr. Milton James Ferguson, Chief Librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library, declared in his annual report to the Board of Trustees.

The big city offers few places of free recreation, Dr. Ferguson pointed out, and the average home is inadequate for entertainment purposes.

“If libraries had the facilities,” he wrote, “they might become the ‘soap-box’ for numerous orators, who could thus harmlessly blow off steam. A conversation room could serve the needs of those housewives who now gather for a talkfest after shopping and thus interfere with the routine library business. A simple little theatre would profitably take up the time of young groups otherwise devoted to less constructive occupations.

“But,” he added, “these possibilities, all of which have a more or less close relationship to our work, require space and some supervision. We in Brooklyn have neither.”

The library's book stocks were increased during the year by 12,339 volumes, bringing the total to 1,153,136. The circulation of books increased month by month until it ended the year at 6,717,477 volumes, an increase of 562,453 over the previous year. The reasons for the increase Dr. Ferguson believed to be a better supply of new books, a higher quality of publicity, and the fact that “more and more people anxious to succeed are using the printed page to help themselves toward a career, and to understand a little better why this strange world we in-

habit is in such agony.” The latter thought was borne out, he said, by the new eagerness for non-fiction books.

The library's circulation, while showing an increase, was “not particularly gratifying,” Dr. Ferguson said. “A little over two books per inhabitant is not something to chortle over in a literate democracy,” he declared, adding that what made it worse was that the circulation per library assistant was as high in some branches as 34,600, whereas the standard of the American Library Association is 15,000 volumes per assistant.

The registration of borrowers reached a total of 609,876, a net increase of 49,447 for the year. Roughly, one Brooklynite out of every five has a public library card.

The story of women's achievement in the field of library service is summarized in *Women at Work—A Tour Among Careers*, published by the New York Career Tours Committee, cooperating with the World's Fair. The book, in one of its sections, reviews the outstanding contributions made by such women as Sarah C. Bogle, Eleanor S. Cavanaugh, Linda A. Eastman, Isadore Gilbert Mudge, Linda Huckel Morley, Rebecca Browning, and others.

“In libraries all over the country, women, college-educated and trained in special library techniques, are making their mark and establishing enviable standards,” the book points out.

Margaret Culkin Banning, Inez Haynes Irwin, Dorothy Canfield Fisher, Ida M. Tarbell, and Mary R. Beard are the five women writers who have contributed the main chapters of the book in which women's struggle and mounting success to make a niche for themselves in business, in industry, in science, the arts and medicine are reviewed and evaluated.

On March 21 the Senate Committee on Education and Labor reported favorably to the Senate on the Harrison-Thomas bill, S. 1305, providing federal aid for education.

The “Washington News Letter on Social Legislation” says:

“With better than an even chance of passing the Senate, this bill reflects an increased recognition of the fact that the inability of rural areas to provide adequate schools and libraries is a matter of grave national concern.”

Now is the time for all friends of libraries to let their Senators know of the need for

federal aid. Since the Senate is a comparatively small body, it is particularly important to reach every Senator. Letters from individual laymen and citizen groups of all kinds and particularly rural groups are needed to supplement action by professional librarians.

Now is the time for our annual "warning" to remind subscribers that the *Wilson Bulletin* is not published during the months of July and August. So please don't bother to send us your summer address. Thanks! (School librarians whose schools close before the June issue is mailed will confer a favor by leaving forwarding instructions with their schools, rather than asking us to change their addresses for only one issue.)

To editors of library and educational bulletins and handbooks: Many bulletins and handbooks put out by state educational departments and others recommend the *Wilson Bulletin* as an aid for small and school libraries, for which we are duly grateful. But some continue to list the *Bulletin* at the old price of 50c, which causes a good deal of difficulty when subscriptions are received at this price. Will you see that your bulletin or handbook gives the correct subscription price—\$1.00 a year? Thank you.

Thanks to our readers who responded so splendidly to the call for back-number *Wilson Bulletins* on page 518 of our April issue. As a result of this response, we no longer need any issues of volumes later than Vol. 3. We will still pay 20c each, delivered, for any and all issues of Vol. 1; for Vol. 2 Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, and 24; and for Vol. 3 Nos. 3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 13, 17, 21, and 1sup (October 1926).... The prize shipment received up to date of this writing came from the Helena (Ark.) Public Library, which sent in 53 issues, mostly from Vols. 1, 2, and 3, including that rarity of all library rarities—Vol. 1 No. 1!

"As a library trustee," writes Mrs. Paul S. Reed of Tulsa, Okla., "I find the *Bulletin* very interesting, and not as a trustee at all—I find it comprehensive and quite invaluable as a general reference publication. I want to thank you for the many, many times it has stood me in good stead during the three years I have been a subscriber."

Mrs. Reed is chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Tulsa Public Library, and we think it extremely kind of her to have written such a friendly note. Do the trustees

of your library keep in touch with current library literature?

Charles Bragin, 1525 West 12 St., Brooklyn, N.Y., informs us that he will be pleased to furnish without charge copies of his Bibliography on Dime Novels.

The Okemah, Oklahoma, Public Library recently participated in a Hobby Show sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. The library exhibited 58 different arrangements of familiar objects, each representing the title of a book. Three cash prizes were offered to those guessing the largest number of titles. Contestants were invited to visit the library and check their answers with the card catalog.

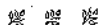
In 1933 fiction made up 73 per cent of the total number of books issued by the loan department of the Peoria, Illinois, Public Library; last year only 66.6 per cent of the 302,541 books loaned were fiction.

From Librarian Earl W. Browning's annual report we also learn that the Business and Industrial Room is at the peak of its popularity; the Art Room has shown 47 exhibits within the last five years, the only art exhibits in the city reasonably accessible to the public; the Children's Department noted an increase in circulation for the first time since 1933.

Harper & Brothers have just published *Bibliography On Consumer Education*, (\$4.00) compiled by Dr. George C. Mann of California State Department of Education and sponsored by Foundation for Consumer Education. Lists and classifies nearly 2000 selected and critically annotated books, articles, pamphlets, monographs. A foundation volume.

Mrs. Roswell Skeel, Jr. in making a bibliography of Noah Webster would be greatly gratified to hear of any unprinted letters or Mss. relating to him, rare pamphlets or addresses or prospectuses, especially if containing autograph notes or endorsements, and above all, odd and not easily found editions of his spelling book (a list of the latter material desired will cheerfully be supplied by letter), or others not commonly known. Mrs. Skeel will be glad to pay for shipment to and fro of all such loans, either by express or registered or insured post, which the New York Public Library will care for on delivery. Address Mrs. Skeel c/o Bankers Trust Co., 529 Fifth Ave., New York City.

In addition to its regular collection of books the bookmobile of the New Hampshire State Public Library Commission is now carrying a selection of the 10-cent pamphlets issued by the Public Affairs Committee, New York. These pamphlets are expected to prove especially useful for debates and discussion groups.



"In this the 20th year of its publication," writes Librarian Paul M. Paine, "the *Gold Star List of American Fiction* published by the Syracuse Public Library looks back to a record of increasing usefulness, and we who are responsible for it feel pride in the modest success it has attained.

"The number of books listed this year is about the same as formerly; the period covered, that is from the time of Cooper to the present date, is the same. Out of the 1938 crop of books of fiction we have chosen about 30. As usual the classification for those who wish to find stories of a certain type, certain period or a certain background appears in the back pages; one new classification being added: Business and Industry."

The price of the *Gold Star List* is 25c for single copies.



"Mobilization of Knowledge" will be the theme of the annual conference of the Special Libraries Association, for which approximately 500 librarians, specialists in their own field, will gather in Baltimore, May 23 to 27. Charter members of the association, which is celebrating thirty years of active research work in the various fields of business, science, and industry, will play an active part in the conference. A "Get Acquainted Luncheon" will officially open the conference on Tuesday, May 23.



On Tuesday March 28 the *Cincinnati Post* published the annual edition known as the *Woman's City Club* edition. This contained 2 sections and 22 pages. One page was known as the Library Page and was given over to articles about the Cincinnati Public Library. These articles totaled 78 inches of newspaper space.

On several other special pages library articles also appeared and there was a grand total of 122 inches of space given to the Public Library.

"This was one of the best special editions which the *Woman's City Club* has had," writes E. Gertrude Avcry. "The information in the articles thruout the newspaper were so good and filled with local information that the General Reference Department is going to index much of it in the newspaper index of the department."



A regional conference sponsored by the Library Associations of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia will be held at Hershey, Pa., October 12-14, 1939.

Eleanor W. Falley, librarian of Goucher College and president of the Middle Eastern Library Association has been serving as chairman of the Executive Committee planning for the conference. This three-day meeting will take the place of the fall meetings of the cooperating associations.

THE BOOK LIST FORUM

INSTRUCTIONS TO LIBRARIANS

Lists should be ordered *directly from the issuing libraries*. Single copies of most lists are free and for these a stamped self-addressed envelope should be sent.

Librarians wishing to have lists entered should send three editorial copies to Book List Forum Committee, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore. Do not neglect to inform the Committee as to whether the lists are free except for postage or priced. This should be plainly marked on the lists sent.

The Committee hopes to serve as a clearing house for information on lists available or in progress. Samples of lists, even if not intended for listing in the Forum, are desired; please mark such lists clearly "not available for distribution."

An asterisk indicates that the list is annotated. Unless otherwise indicated the lists are printed.

ENOCH Pratt Free lib

- *The citizen's job; a list of books on practical citizenship 5p '38 3c
- *The constitution; its history, theory and the present controversy, rev ed 5p '38 3c
- *From frontier to reconstruction 5p '38 3c
- *A guide to reference books 43p '38 10c
- *Handbook for the use of library collections 68p '38 10c
- Your city and mine 3p '38 3c

GARY (Ind) public lib

- Books men like 5p '38 mimeo
- Books women like 6p '38 mimeo

MARS HILL, col Mars Hill N C

- Guide books to your hobbies 9p nd mimeo

MINNEAPOLIS public lib

- *Books for collectors of glass 3p '39 mimeo 3c
- *Books for parents 3p '39 mimeo 3c
- *Charm and personality 3p '38 mimeo 3c
- *Courage for living 3p '38 mimeo 3c
- *Lancet and scalpel; Biography looks at the doctor 3p '39 mimeo 3c
- *Makers of music 3p '39 mimeo 3c
- *Novels too good to miss 7p '39 mimeo 3c
- 100 recent biographies 5p '39 mimeo 3c
- *Travel through books 5p '39 mimeo 3c
- *Up in the air: A list of books about flyers and flying 5p '39 mimeo 3c
- *Women pioneers of modern times 3p '38 mimeo 3c

QUEENS Borough public lib Jamaica N Y

- *Books men like 3p nd multi 1½c
- *Choice books for vacation reading 4p nd multi 1½c
- *How to do it: Puppetry 3p nd multi 1½c

ROCHESTER public lib

- Public speaking 2p '39 multi

ST PAUL public lib

- Books on winter sports 2p '39 mimeo
- Good companions in new fiction 5p '39 mimeo

The Mail Bag

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The correspondence columns of the *Wilson Bulletin* are open to all our readers for debate and comment. The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in these columns.]

"A Vulnerable Minority"

To the Editor:

Katharine M. Stokes' well merited jibe at the apathy of women has stirred me to express my agreement with her article, "Warning—Soft Shoulders." Married women are a vulnerable minority. But all women in professions suffer if married women lose their right "to pursue life, liberty and happiness." In other words if marriage terminates a woman's position outside her home, her work is a "stop-gap" and not a profession.

If democracy gives any guarantees to women as to men, women too must be free to follow their interests and not be forced into some mold of conventional conduct. No one expects all men to be farmers. Why should all women be housekeepers?

While I do not believe that legislation or rules of organizations will be passed to force women out of professions, yet we must indeed "be alert enough . . . to speak out against any suggestion" that we are not to be considered on the same basis as men in equality of opportunity. Here in Nebraska the legislature is now considering a law to prevent married women from working. Similar legislation has been introduced at every session since 1933. It has not passed so far, but it reminds us biennially that the problem of civil liberties is not a dead issue. May I add my voice to the plea for the "youthful zeal" for reform on the part of the younger members of the profession?

CONSUELO S. GRAHAM

University of Nebraska Library

Library Training

To the Editor:

The remarks on library training in Mr. Oscar Orman's article and Miss Anitra Kline's letter, both in the April number of the *Bulletin*, should certainly call forth some response from recent library school graduates. I should like to offer a few opinions based on recent observations, made during attendance at library school during the 1937-38 school year.

First, I should admit that I would probably be classed by Mr. Orman as one of the "disappointed graduates in other lines" who "transformed herself into a professional librarian" at the age of 26. (However, I deny any lack of aggressiveness!) I spent two years in teaching and two years in newspaper

work before attending library school. But not only do I deny that my general college course contained, in Miss Kline's terms, "a great deal of worthless knowledge from the practical point of view," but the four years after college and before library school were crammed with work-experience which was decidedly advantageous to me in library school, and in this, my first year as a county librarian with a job to grow into.

I disagree so far with the allusions to "worthless knowledge" and "useless courses" as to want to know what courses wouldn't be useful to a librarian? Particularly for reference work and book selection, I can't imagine any.

A course in book selection is probably as good a means of observing prospective librarians in a critical light, as anything can be. Their background, liberality and maturity of judgment will be evident there, if anywhere. In a class I attended, a quarter of the students were undergraduates of an average age of 21, and the rest were graduate students whose ages averaged somewhere between 25 and 30. The undergraduates themselves were probably most aware of their disadvantage due to a more limited background of reading and experience. This, in spite of the fact that most of them had entered college with the intention of going into library work and had aimed their first three years in that direction.

Members of my class came with widely varying types of education and experience: music, science, art, history. Their experience was turned to advantage in finding jobs where their special abilities were useful. They were the first to find jobs, and good ones!

I am in no position to offer opinions on most phases of this problem, but I do definitely believe that college freshmen who pick a profession and start training are seldom ready to choose well. Their chances of deciding wisely increase if they spend a few years developing a conception of their own capacity and ability, and most important, a knowledge of *what they can't do*. Can that be gained in any other way than thru work-experience? Perhaps some rare individuals are keen enough at self analysis to do that with just a course in psychology, but most of us need some experience to show us where our chances of success may be.

The selectivity feature of the four-year program as set forth by Mr. Orman could just as well be met by requiring a personal interview of the graduate students before they are admitted to a library school. Is there any

reason why we should suppose a bachelor's degree to be *carte blanche* as an entrance requirement? The powers of assimilation and general ability to profit by experience, to say nothing of other indications of probable library success, have been gauged before thru interviews.

Two particular features seem to me to be overlooked in the general discussion: to limit the enrollment to allow for small classes and to select individual students on the basis of interviews. This procedure has been followed at Wisconsin Library School for a number of years, under the direction of Miss Mary Emogene Hazeltine, who recently retired as head of the school. Her high placement record during 32 years of experience is surely significant.

JOYCE E. NIENSTEDT, *Librarian*
Center Rural Public Library
Carrollton, Ohio

Should We List Theses in Progress?

To the Editor:

Your announcement (February issue, p. 435) of the inclusion of library school theses in the new issue of *Library Literature* was quite a happy surprise. Valuable material has long been appearing in thesis form, yet it has largely been allowed to go to waste thru failure to make such studies available to the profession-at-large. In addition to acquainting the practicing librarian with the existence of this material, indexing should help to eliminate duplication of effort by advising graduate students beforehand of previous studies in a particular field.

The possibility of two students working on the same problem would be further reduced by the establishment of a central clearing-house for information concerning studies now under way in the various library schools. All graduate students would be obliged to notify this office upon their selection of a thesis subject, enclosing an outline of the proposed study. Then if a student should happen to plan a study similar to one already in progress elsewhere, he can immediately be informed of this fact and, at the same time, given an opportunity either to restate his problem so that it no longer conflicts with that of the other research worker or to abandon the field entirely. Furthermore, two people engaged, say, in personnel studies, might, thru the exchange of outlines and ideas thus made possible by the central office, divide or combine their attack on a particular problem in such a way as to benefit both themselves and their profession.

These are the chief benefits to be derived from such a service, but doubtless others

would suggest themselves once the scheme was in operation. Certain it is that there is no way now of a student's knowing whether or not his work is duplicating that of another worker somewhere else. As for the "clearing-house," it might simply be a department in one of our professional journals which would list all such studies at regular intervals.

ROBERT S. ALVAREZ, *Ass't Supervisor*
W.P.A. Library Project
Decatur, Illinois

Company for Tobe

To the Editor:

Guy R. Lyle in the *Crow's Nest* of the *Wilson Bulletin* for March reviewed the story of Tobe by Mrs. Stella Gentry Sharpe. While the book will no doubt prove an addition, it will not be entirely alone in its field. There is a goodly company of books about "nice little colored children who don't talk like Hambone" which are read by both white and Negro readers of public and school libraries.

This is to call attention to a particularly interesting reader entitled *Country Life Stories*, which made its appearance last year. The book is designed as a "social science reader for pupils on the elementary level in small rural schools," and deals with "some rural community helpers" whose work contributes to the lives of Negro children in the rural areas. The authors are Mrs. Elizabeth Perry Cannon, Instructor in the Department of Education at Spelman College and Atlanta University, and Mrs. Helen Adele Whiting, State Supervisor of Colored Elementary Schools of Georgia. The book is very interestingly illustrated by Vernon Winslow, himself a product of Atlanta University, who is at present Art Instructor of Tennessee State College for Negroes. Such a book, it seems to the writer, should prove helpful to teachers and school librarians working with Negro children. *Country Life Stories* was published by Dutton.

AZILE WOFFORD, *Ass't Prof.*
Library Science Dept.
University of Kentucky

"For Degenerates Only"

To the Editor:

After reading *The Strange Death of Adolf Hitler* I feel that at once all public libraries should be advised not to buy, or at least only on approval. The truth is incidental to the book, it is just the type of book that should not be placed before the American public; our people are not degenerates.

EDITH M. NORTON, *Librarian*
Coffeyville, Kansas



THE LIGHTHOUSE



Shakespearean Criticism in America

THE first complete American edition of Shakespeare appeared in 1795...179 years after his death... there is no certain evidence that a copy of any Shakespearean play existed in the colonies until *Macbeth*, in an English edition, was listed around 1700... in 1722 there is a record of a copy of Shakespeare's works in Boston... and in 1723 the librarian of Harvard noted in his catalog that Shakespeare and Milton had been recently acquired.

Yet today, comments Alfred Westfall in his introductory chapter to *American Shakespearean Criticism: 1607-1865*, Shakespeare is more than a name to the people of the United States, Shakespearean allusions are frequent in American speech, Shakespeare societies flourish even in small towns, Shakespeare's plays lead all others in amateur productions, and the Folger Library in Washington houses the most complete collection of Shakespearean documents in the world.

"This nationwide and universal interest in Shakespeare," continues Professor Westfall, "is due in a large part to the work of American scholars and critics who have called him to the attention of their countrymen, edited his works for easier reading and prepared his plays for classroom study."

It is the history of this American Shakespearean criticism that the author traces from the first introduction of the plays to the colonists to the time when Shakespeare became undeniably established in American culture. A great amount of research (as evidenced by the extensive bibliographies given at the end of each chapter) has gone into the preparation of Professor Westfall's interestingly presented and informative discussions of subjects, such as: the first productions on the American stage, the first American-born Shakespeare critic, the first American text founded on original sources and the various American editions. A chronological list of American editions from the David West printing of *Hamlet* in 1794 to the Globe Edition of Shakespeare in 1866 is included.

The Chain Store Tax Question

The next number scheduled for publication in the Reference Shelf is Daniel Bloomfield's *Chain Stores and Legislation*. A careful

compilation of some 60 excerpts from pertinent articles and comments on both sides of the controversy, it furnishes the general reader and the debater with a reliable source for information on: favorable and unfavorable opinions, mortality of retail stores, chain stores and independent stores, supermarkets, voluntary chains, the chains and the farmer, the chains and monopoly, the courts and chain stores, the Robinson-Patman Act and the Patman bill.

Typical of the articles excerpted are: "Fortune's" *Verdict on the Chain Stores*; Alfred G. Buchler's *The Incidence of Chain Store Taxes*; Malcolm P. McNair's *Marketing Functions and the Chain Store*; Donald Richberg's *Who Wants the Chain Stores?*; Carl W. Dipman's *Failure Among Independents*.

History of Inventions in 19th Century Periodicals

It was 1928 before the first complete "talkie" was released, but way back in June 1894 *Century Magazine* gave its readers an illustrated article on Thomas Edison's kinetograph, a combination of film and phonograph—the first talking moving picture machine.

With the world agog with interest in flying, *Century* kept its readers informed with articles by its leading exponents. To the September 1891 issue, Dr. Samuel P. Langley contributed "The Possibility of Mechanical Flight." The following month Hiram Maxim was represented by "Aerial Navigation, the Power Required" and in January 1895 with "A New Flying Machine," complete with pictures of a complicated arrangement involving five sets of wings. In the *Century* too, the brothers Orville and Wilbur Wright told how they were stirred to serious interest in aviation.

Many other such fruitful sources for the early history of twentieth century wonders are being brought to light in the material being indexed for our *Nineteenth Century Readers' Guide*, now in preparation. Work on this modern author and subject index to the rich storehouse of nineteenth century periodical literature continues apace. The *Century Magazine* is now completely indexed for the years 1890-1899, as are the *Atlantic*, *Harper's*, *Scribner's*, and *Yale Review*. As a

preliminary selection, *American Historical Review*, *American Review of Reviews*, *Bookman*, *Living Age*, *Nation*, *National Geographic*, *North American Review*, *Nineteenth Century*, *Outlook*, *Popular Science Monthly*, *Scientific American*, and *Forum* have also been chosen for indexing.

The Library Catalog

Even though American libraries are generally committed to the alphabetic dictionary catalog and its variants, librarians will find much of professional interest in S. R. Ranganathan's case for the classified catalog in his recent *Theory of Library Catalog*.

Librarian of the Madras University Library, Mr. Ranganathan already has five books on library problems to his credit. In this latest work he examines the theoretical foundations of cataloging practice, formulates the principles for the preparation of a library catalog and after a careful and critical appraisal of the merits of different types of catalogs, concludes that despite its complications for the average reader, the classified catalog is most efficient.

CALENDAR OF CUMULATIONS

In Preparation

INTERNATIONAL INDEX. July 1938-March 1939 bound volume. Ready this month

Watch this space each month for latest information on cumulated volumes, supplements, and schedules of publication of Wilson indexes and catalogs.

Better Parents for Better Children

Caroline S. Hughes, Readers' Advisor in Sociology, The Public Library, Washington, D.C., has revised and brought up to date (increasing the number of pages from 51 to 86) Lucile Reiner Stebbing's eminently practical bibliography, *Child Training and Parent Education*. This is a selective bibliography based on questions actually asked by parents, teachers, and students, and contains references only to non-technical and soundly practical books. Entries are classified for easy reference under headings, such as: adolescence, anger, art in child life, courtesy, discipline, habits, parent-child relations and others.

A Reference List of Compound Words

Now that Alice Morton Ball's *Compounding in the English Language* is about ready, we feel much better. Compounding correctly is a recurrent problem with us. Instinct and

WILSON PUBLICATIONS

mentioned in this issue

- Ball, COMPOUNDING IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE. \$2.50.
 Bliss, THE ORGANIZATION OF KNOWLEDGE IN LIBRARIES AND THE SUBJECT-APPROACH TO BOOKS. \$4.00.
 Bloomfield, CHAIN STORES AND LEGISLATION. *Reference Shelf*. \$1.25.
 NINETEENTH CENTURY READERS' GUIDE. *In preparation*.
 Ranganathan, THEORY OF LIBRARY CATALOG. *Madras Library Association Publications*. No. 7. From Madras \$2.75; from N.Y. \$3.25.
 Stebbing, CHILD TRAINING AND PARENT EDUCATION. rev. ed. Caroline S. Hughes. 76c.
 UNION CATALOG OF PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES OF THE BRITISH ISLES WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE HOLDINGS. From Great Britain \$12.50.
 Westfall, SHAKESPEAREAN CRITICISM IN THE UNITED STATES: 1697-1866. \$2.75.

recourse to the dictionaries only add to the confusion.

Miss Ball plunges into this sea of confusion, examines and compares the pronouncements of American and British variant authorities and emerges with an easily consultable, alphabetic list of compounds.

Knowledge Classification

When in 1933, Henry Evelyn Bliss's challenging study *The Organization of Knowledge in Libraries and the Subject-Approach to Books* was published, Dr. J. C. M. Hanson wrote:

"Mr. Bliss has performed a great service in preparing the present volume. It will be read and consulted by all who are concerned with classification."

The validity of this prediction has been demonstrated by the steady demand for the book necessitating two printings and now . . . a second revised edition in which new views are considered and new facts weighed.

Of its original fourteen chapters, five have been completely rewritten; in two, extensive changes have been made; three have been augmented by entirely new sections on *Consistent and Competent Classifying*, *Microphotographic Reproduction*, and the interesting recent *Colon Classification*. The bibliographic paragraphs at the end of the book have been expanded from seven to eleven pages. An important new appendix summarizes the principles of classification as stated in an extended paper given at the Fourteenth Conference of the International Federation of Documentation, held last summer at Oxford.

THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER

Library Review

A Bookish-Library Magazine

A note from Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers, F.L.A.,
President of the Library Association:—

"I always experience a thrill of pleasure when I find upon my desk the blue cover with the red ruling which is the sign of the LIBRARY REVIEW; I know it will be well-printed, have excellent articles, well-digested notes, library news selected with unusual discrimination, and at least one book list which I must check through carefully. The claims of the Editor that he has brought a literary freshness into library considerations and discussions are, I think, completely justified, and I sympathise with those who would like to see the magazine become a monthly."

Readers who have not yet renewed their subscriptions are advised to do so now, either direct or through an agency.

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LIBRARY REVIEW

3 Dunlop Street, Glasgow, C. 1, Scotland

FEDERAL ENCROACHMENT ON INDUSTRY

By THOMAS MARSHALL
Member of the Chicago Bar

The author is recognized as an authority on the Bill of Rights, and Constitutional questions relating thereto. His legal work in the Supreme Court dates back to 1897 thus giving an ample background of experience to the present work. A mine of information about the legal status of legislative acts. From your bookstore \$1.50

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"LITTLE SAID IS SOONEST MENDED" is an old familiar proverb. But so far as RADEMAEKERS BINDINGS are concerned there is much to say. That we shall exercise considerable self-restraint and remain silent in several languages!

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MAY 1939

Lillian Hellman

FEW poets, with even endless instruction on how *not* to write a poem, could turn out, say, an *Inferno*, but the business of being a dramatist carries with it a hundred hazards that lie outside the purely literary realm: and after a siege of constant and intelligent play-reading for Broadway producers, Lillian Hellman appears to have acquired such a stock of indignant information on how *not* to write a play that she can step right over most of a playwright's pitfalls with comparative ease.

Lillian Hellman was born, June 20, 1905, in New Orleans, La. Her nomadic parents, however, left the Deep South long before she was old enough to acquire any kind of drawl, and went to live in Atlantic City. A little later they struck out for New York and established themselves on Riverside Drive. These were the early days of the War, and with her ever-fertile fancy Lillian became, almost over night, a spy-hunter along the Drive: she could see a "bridge-blaster" in almost every stroller, and all the bench drowzers were consummate "comforts to the enemy."

From the public schools she was sent to Wadleigh and Hunter high schools, and then entered New York University, but withdrew in her third year. She enrolled at Columbia and after struggling a semester or so with her Dante she escaped—taking with her a whole-hearted endorsement of Dostoiévsky and a blazing desire to write a book about Lewis Carroll.

She began to read plays, scenarios, etc. for such diverse personalities as Harry Moses; Leo Bulgakov, in whose employ she "discovered" Vicki Baum's importation, *Grand Hotel*; and Anne Nichols. (Moreover, her husband, Arthur Koher, from whom she is now divorced, gave *Grand Hotel* some of its earliest backing.)

In the midst of play-reading—which included the manufacturing of an abundance of stage directions, dialogues, etc.—for Herman Shumlin, she became sufficiently confident of her own technical grounding and of the dramatic possibilities that lay in an actual piece of Scottish criminal law, "The Drumsheugh Case," to start the writing of her own play. (She and Louis Kronenberger had collaborated on *Dear Queen* but it had never gotten near a footlight). *The Children's Hour*, a hypothetical analysis of unnatural relations between two people of the same sex and a study in the temperament of a thoroughly malicious child, opened in the winter of 1934-35, had a Broadway run of 691 nights, and brought its author, in May 1935, mention as a ranking Pulitzer Prize contender. For the screen she made it into *These Three*; and wrote also *Dead End* and *The Dark Angel*.

When the opening of *Days to Come* was announced for December 1936, first-nighters were looking for something resembling what they had seen about a year earlier. This, she said, was the "study of innocent people on both sides who are drawn into conflicts and events



LILLIAN HELLMAN

far beyond their comprehension"; the strike and social manifestations were only background. Miss Hellman had even made a month's "atmosphere" tour in the region surrounding Cleveland, where the scene was laid; but the play survived only a week.

In 1936 Miss Hellman went to Havana; and in August of the year following she sailed for Europe. In Russia she was immeasurably impressed by the theatre; she went to Paris shortly afterwards; and in war-torn Spain put all her sympathies on the Loyalist side. When she returned Walter Winchell became so moved by her account of mad nights in Valencia that he asked her to write it for his column. King Features Syndicate thought about it for two days, and then flatly rejected it; and Hearst editors brushed aside Winchell's defence of Miss Hellman.

For the title of *The Little Foxes*, Miss Hellman's current Broadway success, she borrowed from Dorothy Parker's borrowing from the Song of Songs—

Take us the foxes, the little foxes,
that spoil the vines; for our vines
have tender grapes.

It is a somewhat Ibsenesque study laid in the home of an utterly selfish and grasping Southern family. Its author by no means presents malice for its own sake—as might have been said of *The Children's Hour*—but she rather suggests that the wickedness of the individuals has a very real connection with the social system of which they are a part. "She spares us nothing and even in her conclusions makes no concession to human weaknesses. . . . The curtain always goes down upon wrong in the saddle, riding hard."

READERS' CHOICE OF BEST BOOKS

The *Readers' Choice of Best Books* is a selected list of the more popular books likely to be included in the annual supplements to the Standard Catalog for Public Libraries, Standard Catalog for High School Libraries and Children's Catalog. All selections are made with the aid of recognized authorities and readers' advisors.

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FICTION

BEBBE, MRS ELSWYTH THANE (RICKER)
1900-

Tryst [by] Elswyth Thane [pseud.], Harcourt 1939 256p \$2.50

A modern love story and ghost story. It centers in the closed room in the top of an old English country house, whose lock was picked by seventeen-year-old Sabrina, and where she met Hilary Shenstone, late of the British secret police

LANCASTER, BRUCE

Guns of Burgoyne. Stokes 1939 424p map \$2.50

Burgoyne's campaign in the American wilderness is the background for an exciting story of Kurt Ahrens, a young Hessian in command of some of Burgoyne's guns

LANHAM, EDWIN MOULTRIE, 1904-

The Stricklands. Little 1939 311p \$2.50

"A story of Oklahoma tenant farmers and especially of two brothers. One is driven to steal the money he can't get in any other way; the other devotes himself to building up a union in which Negroes and whites can oppose their combined strength to exploitation by the large landowners." *New Yorker*

MATTHEWS, MRS MARGARET (BRYAN)

Such harmony; a novel, by Susan Good-year [pseud.], Scribner 1939 375p \$2.50

"The scene is a rural parish in western England. The story is of two sisters, Catherine, the older, married to the rector, and Rachel, who at forty is still unmarried. During extensive reconstruction work on the beautiful ancient roof of the church, Rachel acts as secretary to her brother-in-law. Gossip and jealousy stir up difficulties which are not settled until Rachel decides to marry the London architect who has charge of the work on the church." *Book rev. digest*

"What sets this work notably apart is something more usually associated with the highest poetry than with fictional prose. . . It is a novel that is concerned above all else with people." *N.Y. Times*

STEINBECK, JOHN, 1902-

Grapes of wrath. Viking 1939 619p \$2.75

A story of a family of the dustbowl region turning to a new frontier further west

WELLS, HERBERT GEORGE, 1866-

The holy terror. Simon & Schuster 1939 454p \$2.75

A novel based upon the rise and fall of a world dictator. The action is set in the immediate future

"It is racy exciting reading—for those who can lose themselves in another's fancies; filled with observations we have all made but never put so well; and prophesying a near future which in spite of its fantasticalness, is still conceivable." *Book-of-the-month club news*

WILLIAMS, BEN AMES, 1889-

Thread of scarlet. Houghton 1939 374p \$2.50

Maps on lining-papers

Nantucket during the War of 1812 is the scene of this novel featuring a great sea fight between a British frigate and an American privateer

"Mr. Williams has studied his 'stuff,' and the verisimilitude of his picture, the suspense achieved, will carry the reader breathlessly on and on." *N.Y. Times*

ABOUT PEOPLE

CORNELL, KATHARINE, 1898-

I wanted to be an actress; the autobiography . . . as told to R. W. Sedgwick. Random house 1939 361p il \$3

Autobiography of one of America's most popular actresses, telling of her start in

CORNELL, KATHARINE—*Continued*

stock companies, her great successes and her work as actress-manager with her husband. Includes reviews of the plays in which she has starred and illustrations of her famous roles

EINSTEIN, ALBERT, 1879-

Garbedian, Haig Gordon. Albert Einstein, maker of universes. Funk 1939 328p il \$3.75.

Popular, sympathetic biography of the great German-Jewish scientist. The book is largely personal and anecdotal in tone, but two chapters have devoted to explanation of Einstein's theories

FRÉMONT, JOHN CHARLES, 1813-1890

Nevins, Allan, 1890- Frémont, path-marker of the West. Appleton-Century 1939 649p il maps \$5

"Essentially a new life of John Charles Frémont. It is new in much of its materials . . . in its narrative form . . . in its more critical approach to Frémont and some of his acts. Of course it is built in some respects upon my older and shorter work upon the man, published more than a decade since in two extensively illustrated volumes." Preface

PHELPS, WILLIAM LYON, 1865-

Autobiography with letters. Oxford 1939 xxiii,986p il \$3.75

This autobiography of a Yale professor, lecturer, literary critic, and traveler includes many letters written to Mr Phelps by well-known men and women. The sketches of many famous people he has known include the following names: Clyde Fitch, W. G. Sumner, Henry Drummond, George Santayana, Thomas Hardy, William De Morgan, W. D. Howells, Gerhart Hauptmann, J. M. Barrie, Dorothy Canfield, W. H. Taft, Vachel Lindsay, Alfred Noyes, John Galsworthy, St John Ervine, George Moore, AE, Edison, Henry Ford, Pirandello, Bernstein, Daudet

WILSON, MRS EDITH (BOLLING) GALT, 1872-

My memoir. Bobbs 1939 386p il \$3.50

Autobiography by the widow of Woodrow Wilson. Tells frankly of the events and personages of the period 1915-1920; also of the critical days while the President was ill in the White House

Appeared in part in "Saturday evening post" under title: As I saw it

THE AMERICAN SCENE

BEALS, CARLETON, 1893-

American earth; the biography of a nation. Lippincott 1939 500p \$3

The history of the land itself, told in human terms. The first part of the book concerns the past—what happened to the land from Indian times up to the present.

The second contains the author's own investigations, the problems of the whole country from the dust bowl region of the West to the plight of the tenant-farmers in the South

BOWMAN, MRS ELIZABETH SKAGGS

Land of high horizons. Southern pub. 1938 212p il \$2.50

Maps on lining-papers

"I have related as briefly as possible arresting items concerning the people, the history, geology, geography, legends, traditions, and wild life of the Smokies. I have told also of their recreational possibilities." Foreword

BRYSON, LYMAN, 1888-

Which way, America? Communism—fascism—democracy. Macmillan 1939 113p il (Peoples library) 60c

Discusses simply, clearly and fairly the beliefs on which the three forms of government are based, and the goals toward which they are striving. It is also a practical and concrete discussion of communism in Russia; fascism in Italy and Germany; democracy in the United States

DOBIE, JAMES FRANK, 1888-

Apache gold & Yaqui silver; il. by Tom Lea. Little 1939 366p il \$3.50

True stories of buried treasure and lost mines of the Southwest, lost because their Indian guardians do not want them worked. Contents: Lost Adams diggings; Sierra Madre and bronze guards; Lost Tayopa mine; Scalp hunters' ledge; El Naranjal; Pedro Loco; Not the will of God; General Mexhuira's ghost

MASON, GREGORY, 1889-

Remember the Maine. Holt 1939 312p il \$3

Maps on lining-papers

"The book opens by telling how the news of the Maine explosion was received in a Boston household, recaptures much of the surrounding conversation and some of the then existing emotion, and from that point rambles on into an informal history of the Spanish War. A good deal of attention is devoted to the difference between the actual course of events and the stories of the newspaper correspondents, and quite a bit to the correspondents themselves." Sat. rev. of lit.

WRIGHT, CHESTER M.

Here comes labor. Macmillan 1939 121p il (Peoples library) 60c

Contents: Who is labor; What labor wants; What labor asks for; Labor on the march; Captains, privates, and camp followers; Structure of labor; C.I.O. walks out; Brothers under the skin; Party lines; Strikes; Peace has its victories; Labor and the lawmakers; Labor votes for its friends; Bargaining becomes legal; Labor against itself; Labor and the world picture; Labor looks at the new deal

ART AND ARTISTS

GAUGUIN, PAUL, 1848-1903

Gauguin, by John Rewald. French & European publications 1938 167p il \$2.98

Quarto volume. 127 plates of which 16 are colored. A Hyperion press publication

Contents: Paul Gauguin; First beginnings (1848-1886); Brittany, Martinique and Arles (1886-1888); Pont-Aven and Le Pouldu (1889-1891); Tahiti and the return to France (1891-1895); Last years in Tahiti and in La Dominique (1895-1903); The works; Notes on painting; Bibliography; Detailed description of the plates and reproductions

HOFFMAN, MALVINA, 1887-

Sculpture inside and out. Norton 1939 330p il \$3.75

Part I includes a brief historical outline of sculpture and anecdotes of Rodin, Metrovic, Brancusi and other famous artists. Part II shows what goes on in the sculptor's studio. Here are practical suggestions for the study of modeling, stone carving, etc. from many angles. The problems of technique, from the making of the first armatures to the painting of a completed work, are fully illustrated with explanatory diagrams and descriptive notes. There are also many recipes for the treatment of metal, plaster, stone and other mediums

SLOCOMBE, GEORGE EDWARD, 1894-

Rebels of art; Manet to Matisse; with a commentary by Murdock Pemberton. McBride 1939 xxii,304p 32 plates \$3.50

"This work is biographical rather than critical. It is intended as a study of men in revolt against a crippling convention and tradition in art." Preface

Contents: The background; Paris under the second empire; Paris in the nineties; Manet; The impressionists; Monet; Pissarro; Cézanne; Cézanne—the last phase; Renoir; Sisley; Degas; Van Gogh; Vincent at Arles; Gauguin; Toulouse-Lautrec; Modigliani; Utrillo; Matisse

WOLFE, BERTRAM D. 1896-

Diego Rivera; his life and times. Knopf 1939 xxxi,420p il \$6

The same author has already described Rivera's work at two periods of his career. The present volume, containing 167 illustrations, portray the painter's European wanderyears; partnerships with men like Modigliani, Kisling and Picasso; cubist experiments; long conflicts with the Mexican government, Soviet Russia and the Communist party, etc.

Bibliography: p411-20

CLOTHES

STOTE, MRS DOROTHY

Men too wear clothes; with an introduction by Lucius Beebe; drawings by Nina Granada. Stokes 1939 121p il \$1.50

Practical advice, humorously presented, on how the tall, the short, the fat, and the thin man can improve his personal appearance. Covers the salient principles of style, and gives advice on the choice of clothes

CODES

PRATT, FLETCHER, 1897-

Secret and urgent; the story of codes and ciphers. Bobbs 1939 282p \$3.75

Traces the use of secret writing and the efforts made to solve its puzzles. Begins with a discussion of the efforts of generations of scholars to solve the great puzzles of antiquity, the Persian inscriptions and the Egyptian hieroglyphics, down to the cryptographic battles of the World war

HUMOR

WHITE, ELWYN BROOKS, 1899-

Quo vadimus? or, The case for the bicycle. Harper 1939 219p \$2

"Mr. White examines a quarter-century of our progress and advises posterity to watch out. Symptoms of decay touched on in these thirty-seven stories and essays (all but one of which first appeared in The New Yorker) include radio broadcasting, non-stop aviation, endorsement advertising, and the belief that anything will look wonderful if you just do it up in cellophane." New Yorker

THE NATURAL WORLD

ALLEN, ARTHUR AUGUSTUS, 1885-

Golden plover, and other birds; with seven color plates by G. M. Sutton and 240 photographs of birds in nature by the author. Comstock pub. co. 1939 324p il (American bird biographies) \$3

Twenty-seven North American birds tell the stories of their lives; how and where they build their nests, what they eat, where they go in winter, etc. Appended are 29 pages of questions on the life history of American birds, answers to which will be found in the autobiographies

DRAPER, ARTHUR L. and LOCKWOOD, MARIAN

Story of astronomy. Dial press 1939 394p il \$3

Partial contents: Early beginnings; Astronomical tools of the past and present;

DRAPER, A. L. AND LOCKWOOD, M.—*Cont.*

The moon, a dead world; Flaming sun, our daytime star; Sun's family of planets; Comets and meteors, rift-raff of the sky; Solar system—an isolated family; The stars, other suns than ours; Queer kinds of stars; Star clusters, great stellar families; Milky way galaxy; Other galaxies than ours

PLAYS AND POETRY

ELIOT, THOMAS STEARNS, 1888-

Family reunion; a play. Harcourt 1939 131p \$1.50

Characters: 6 men, 6 women

The play has "to do with the different planes of spiritual blindness and insight where human beings live. The characters are a contemporary family of the English peerage . . . assembled in the ancestral house for a reunion. Most of them are unaware of anything beyond their immediate concerns. . . Harry, the son and heir, sees most. His vision is 'of the unredeemable degradation, the corruption of life. The Eumenides which pursue him become literally apparent to him at home. . . He learns that his Furies have a reality in the sins of his family. In his acceptance he is able to see through to a final expiation, and thus released he leaves to work out the curse.'" Sat. rev. of lit.

HELLMAN, LILLIAN, 1905-

Little foxes; a play in three acts. Random house 1939 159p \$2

One set of scenery. Characters: 6 men, 4 women. First produced February 15, 1939

The scene of the play is a small town in the South in the year 1900. "The two brothers and a sister who dominate the play exhibit various minor vices . . . but it is acquisitiveness which dominates them and leads them to delight in attempts to swindle one another whenever it so happens that they are not united for the moment in an effort to swindle outsiders or to terrify the weak." Nation

LA FARGE, CHRISTOPHER, 1897-

Each to the other; a novel in verse. Coward-McCann 1938 422p \$2.75

The main concern is to demonstrate the factors that may contribute to a deeply successful marriage. The form is an episodic autobiography of Thomas Cottrell. The incidents of his life until marriage have been calculated to dispose him strongly against marriage; but, falling completely in love with Judith Carpenter he marries her. The subsequent episodes deal with their married career over fifteen years, from many angles

RICE, ELMER L. 1892-

American landscape; a play in three acts. Coward-McCann 1939 145p \$2

One set of scenery. Characters: 14 men, 7 women. First produced December 3, 1938

"Play based upon American customs and ways of living. In order to have a peaceful

ending to a long life, an elderly Connecticut shoe manufacturer decided to sell the family business to a chain store company, and the family home to a Nazi culture group. The other members of the family, including ancestors long dead, protested, and the 'American way' won." Book rev. digest

PSYCHOLOGY

FEDDER, RUTH

A girl grows up; il. by Mary Magill. McGraw 1939 235p il \$1.75

Contents: Growing up; Gaining self-confidence; Acting your age; Growing up emotionally; Getting on with people; Living happily with your family; Associating happily with boys; Deciding about a job; The give and take of living; Books you may want to read

OVERSTREET, HARRY ALLEN, 1875-

Let me think. Macmillan 1939 106p (Peoples library) 60c

Contents: Our many-powered minds; We let the world in; We take the world in hand; If at first you do succeed, try again; We watch how things work; Mind as a weapon; Mind as artist; Mind as giver of help; We check up on our minds; We make things in our image; Keeping mentally alive; Achieving mental mastery

POLLOCK, CHANNING, 1880-

Adventures of a happy man. Crowell 1939 206p \$1.50

The book is a revision of a large part of what the author has printed with regard to the subject or delivered over the radio. For each chapter he has chosen "one of the one hundred reasons for happiness"

STOLZ, KARL RUF, 1884-

Tricks our minds play on us; mental hygiene for the plain man. Cokesbury press 1939 252p \$2

"The opening chapter describes the wholesome, normal personality mainly in terms of major positive interests and constructive activities. . . Each of ten subsequent chapters analyzes a typical personality impediment or defect and presents suggestions for an appropriate adjustment." Preface

Contents: Normality; Unrestraint; Nervousness; Morbid fearfulness; Egotism; Deflation; Delusion; Drunkenness; Sentimentalism; Misalliance; Sickness; Men without God

ROBOTS OR MEN?

YATES, RAYMOND FRANCIS, 1895-

Machines over men. . . Stokes 1939 249p il \$2.50

Contents: From the wheel up; Anatomy of "homo mechanicus electricus"; And whose little robot are you; Machine in

medicine; Robot on the farm and in the home; Robot goes to court; Robot saws a fiddle; Robot and the printed word; Radio robots at the throttle

"Here is a popular account of scientific matters, yet it is a book written by a competent scientist. . . The whole book is a resumé of the progress of popular mechanical science up to date." Book-of-the-month club news

TRAVEL AND GEOGRAPHY

CALDWELL, ERSKINE, 1903-

North of the Danube. . . Viking 1939
128p il \$3

Descriptions of the land and people of Bohemia, Slovakia, Moravia, and Ruthenia are accompanied by 64 photographs by Margaret Bourke-White

CAPEK, KAREL, 1890-1938

Travels in the North; exemplified by the author's own drawings; tr. by M. & R. Weatherall. Macmillan 1939 269p il \$2.25

On his way north the author pauses long enough to give brief sketches of Denmark and Sweden, but the bulk of his book is devoted to Norway and particularly to the lands above the Arctic circle

"Here, indeed, is the unspoilt wide-open eye for beauty, and in abundance the power to express it in words." Times (London) lit. sup.

CARTER, CLEMENT CYRIL, and BRENTNALL, HAROLD CRESSWELL

Man the world over; drawings by Silvia Hay and Marion Rivers-Moore, maps by R. H. Sherbourn. Appleton-Century 1939 xxii,508p il maps \$3

"Written so simply that a child of twelve could use it profitably, the book is intended for the adult whose recollections of school geography have grown dim and who wishes to refresh his memory on the broad aspects of the science of the earth. Here are descriptions of land, sea and air; of the distribution of plant and animal life; of man and his industries. Every page has at least one illustration." Scientific book club review

FAHNESTOCK, MRS MARY SHERIDAN

I ran away to sea at fifty. Harcourt 1939
247p il \$2.50

Maps on lining-papers

"This is the log of a woman, no longer young, going down one gangplank and up another around the world. She spent the first year with her two young sons on their sixty-five foot schooner 'Director,' cruising the South Seas. The other months take her from country to country." Introduction

The author's "humor and engaging interest in what she saw and had to do, bring the sea and the far corners of the earth to the arm chair very delightfully." Book-of-the-month club news

FARRINGTON, EDWARD IRVING, 1876- ed.
Gardener's travel book, ed. for the Massachusetts horticultural society. Hale 1938 390p il maps \$2.50

"Interesting points of horticultural interest in every state in the Union and in every section of every state . . . gardens, landscaped parks, wild flower displays, fruit blossom festivals, flower exhibitions and the like. . . Some attention has been given trees throughout the country which are notable for their horticultural interest rather than for their historical associations, although the latter have not been entirely omitted. An appendix lists public parks and arboreturns in various states and gives other information which may be found valuable." Explanatory foreword

HOLDRIDGE, DESMOND

Feudal island. Harcourt 1939 242p il \$2.50

Maps on lining-papers

"In a very secondary way, this book is meant to be a description of a social anachronism—a feudal society operating successfully today and paying dividends—against a strange background. Primarily, however, it is intended to be an outline of the feelings and experiences of an American couple during a prolonged visit to [Marajó island]." Foreword

McSPADDEN, JOSEPH WALKER, 1874-

Beautiful Hawaii. Crowell 1939 220p il maps \$2.50

Partial contents: Something about the islands; What to see in Honolulu; Some nearby drives; Waikiki; Luau and Hulas; Ancient home of Pele; Completing the circuit of Hawaii; Some islands seldom visited; Native life and customs; Melting pot of the Pacific; Making the crossroads safe for democracy; Necessary word about expenses

YATES, HELEN EVA

World is your oyster; the art of traveling smartly. Holt 1939 296p \$1.75

Contents: If you can't afford to travel, find a way; How to plan your trip; Adventure and education for one price; Popular trips in our own Americas; Around the world; Where to save—freighter, bus, bicycle; Where to splurge—plane, train, luxury liner; Saving tips on luggage; For men only; Foreign drinks and dishes you must try; For women only; Good taste and economy in wardrobe; Taking the children costs little; Pointers about foreign shopping; How not to be afraid of the customs man; Questions and answers; Our world's fairs; Appendix: Freighter information; Selected bibliography

- Rame, David, pseud. See Divine, Arthur D.
 Rawson, G. Strange case of Mary Bryant p
 Reed, M. B. Fundamentals of electrical engineering p
 Reinhard, J. R. Mediaval pageant p
 Rice, E. L. American landscape h p
 Richardson, Henry Handel, pseud. Young Cosima p
 Roberts, C. They wanted to live p
 Schuman, F. L. Europe on the eve p
 Schweitzer, A. Christianity and the religions of the world p
 Seager, A. They worked for a better world h p
 Sharp, M. Harlequin house p
 Shaw, I. Gentle people p
 Slocombe, G. E. Rebels of art p
 Speier, H. and Kähler, A. eds. See New school for social research. Graduate faculty
 Spencer, C. Three sisters h p
 Steinbeck, J. Grapes of wrath p
 Stevens, W. O. Discovering Long Island p
 Stolz, K. R. Tricks our minds play on us p
 Tarbell, I. M. All in the day's work h p
 Terhune, A. P. Grudge mountain h p
 Thane, Elswyth, pseud. See Beebe, Mrs Elswyth Thane (Ricker)
 Villard, O. G. Fighting years h p
 Warren, R. P. Night rider p
 Waugh, A. Planning the little house p
 Weldon, R. A. Your automobile and you h p
 Wellman, P. I. Jubal Troop p
 Wells, A. L. Microscopa made easy h p
 Wells, H. G. The holy terror h p
 Wheeler, E. Tested public speaking h p
 White, E. B. Quo vadimus h p
 Whitehorn, E. Supercargo h p
 Whitman, A. From head to foot. p
 Whitman, W. God's valley p
 Williamson, C. C. H. ed. Great Catholics p
 Wolfe, D. E. Diego Rivera p
 Wright, C. M. Here comes labor p
 Wurzburg, D. A. comp. East, west, north and south in children's books c h p

NEW SUBJECT HEADINGS

THE following subject headings have received the approval of five or more of the members of the Committee on Subject Headings of the Catalog Section of the A.L.A. and the catalogers who are cooperating with the Committee:

Acculturation

- Refer from (see ref.) Culture contact
 Refer from (see also ref.) Anthropology; Civilization; Culture; Ethnology; Race problems

Actors—Legal status, laws, etc.

Architectural libraries

- Refer from (see ref.) Libraries, Architectural
 Refer from (see also ref.) Art libraries

Balinese drama

Barter, International

- Refer from (see ref.) International barter
 Refer from (see also ref.) International law and relations

Bolivian fiction

Hour-glasses

- Refer from (see also ref.) Time measurements

Iloko literature

Insurance, Depreciation

- Refer from (see ref.) Depreciation insurance; Insurance, Property-life; Property-life insurance

Iron-nickel alloys

Karaitic literature

Meninges—Tumors

Mineral wool

Partitions (Mathematics)

- Refer from (see ref.) Waring's problem
 Refer from (see also ref.) Forms (Mathematics); Numbers, Theory of

Radio authorship

- Refer from (see ref.) Radio script; Radio writing
 Refer from (see also ref.) Authorship; Radio broadcasting; Radio plays—Technique

Raw materials

- Refer from (see also ref.) Animal products; Commercial products; Farm produce; Forest products; Mines and mineral resources

Roadside improvement

- Refer from (see ref.) Roadside planting; Road-sides
 Refer from (see also ref.) Landscape gardening; Roads

Textile chemistry

- Refer from (see ref.) Chemistry, Textile; Textile industry and fabrics—Chemistry
 Refer from (see also ref.) Chemistry, Technical; Dyes and dyeing—Chemistry; Textile fibers; Textile industry and fabrics

Librarians are again invited to send to the Chairman new headings not yet in the L.C. list or supplements.

DOROTHY E. COOK, Chairman
 Committee on Subject Headings
 A.L.A. Catalog Section
 The H. W. Wilson Company

THE STEINBECK BOOM

THE publication of John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* not only provoked a superlative array of reviewers' superlatives but actually saw the advance-sales figures rise in the region of 90,000. The interest in Steinbeckiana, from a collector's point of view, has taken on such tremendous proportions that three bibliography-critiques have appeared in short order.

John Steinbeck: Personal and Bibliographical Notes, a 14-page brochure by Lewis Gannett, book critic of the *New York Herald Tribune* and an acquaintance of the novelist, has been issued by the Viking Press. Mr. Gannett presents a brief and lively summary on the writer's literary evolution and gives a piece of Steinbeck's own attitude—"I am not neurotic about personal publicity. . . . I just think it foolish. . . . The fact that I have housemaid's knee or a fear of yellow gloves has little to do with *The Grapes of Wrath* or any book. . . ."

Lawrence Clark Powell, in an article in the Autumn 1938 issue of *Colophon*, wrote an equally interesting account ("Toward a Bibliography of John Steinbeck") with considerable emphasis on the "personality" element in bibliographical criticism.

And Harry T. Moore's *The Novels of John Steinbeck*, containing a check list of first editions in book form and a frontispiece map of the "Steinbeck Country" in California, was published by Normandic House, on April 14.