

# SPECIAL LIBRARIES

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Feature Articles by

HARPER LEECH

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# Special Libraries Association

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Also to serve special departments of public libraries and universities.

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# Special Libraries

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No. 1

The February issue of *Special Libraries* will be the Pittsburgh Number, to be edited by the Pittsburgh Chapter. The March issue will be devoted to Life Insurance, a branch of the Insurance Field which was not covered in the Insurance Number published May, 1925.

## The Business Library as an Aid to the Newspaperman\*

By Harper Leech, Chicago Tribune

I WAS a little hesitant, when Miss Burke asked me to tax your patience this evening—and for a very good reason. Libraries and librarians are my raw material to such an extent that policy, if not gratitude, would make me very wary of boring them. But just what are you going to do when you talk to people about their own business, which they necessarily know a great deal more about than you do? In spite of the fact that so much of my stuff comes from libraries, and that I owe so much to librarians, what I don't know about libraries and what's in them, or how it is collected, classified, and managed, is a very respectable vacuum. The efficiency of librarians is to blame for this. You really don't need to know much about them, in order to get the benefit of them.

I see by the program that I am set down as a special writer—which reminds me how many aliases have been invented for the newspaper reporter. Yet that's what I am, even if I get a good deal of my stuff from libraries—and the fact that reporters nowadays resort to

libraries is in itself a very significant thing—it is just one of many symptoms of a great cultural change taking place in our civilization, as the result of the speeding up and mechanization of the economic processes, upon which its culture and habits of thinking, reading and talking are based.

Far be it from me to say whether these changes are for better or worse. I am not a "better worlder," and I am not flattering myself with the idea that my fellow workers or yours are responsible to any great extent for the mental changes which are taking place. I don't know that I would care enough about them to promote or oppose them, if I had any such Aladdin-like power. All I know is that they are on the way and we are on the boat. I started in the newspaper business in pursuit of a very definite objective: I was determined that whatever might betide, I was not going to starve to death, and it so happened that the editor of an afternoon paper had stations on my free lunch route of those days; so we became

\*This talk was given before the Illinois Chapter of The Special Libraries Association at the meeting on November 7, 1927.

acquainted and I got a job. That was 17 years ago, and reporters and libraries had very little to do with each other. Of course a big paper, as the Tribune was even then, had some sort of library. Editorial writers and old time personal Editors were often men of great reading and general culture—although many were not, and acquired their knowledge of the world almost exclusively from personal contacts. But the newspaper shop itself was not usually cluttered up with books beyond Ayer's directory, the dictionary, a Bible, and the publications of the type founders. Most newspapers had morgues, but an ill kept morgue is worse than none at all, and many were badly kept in those days. You could never be sure about the pictures—I remember that in our paper Madam Caillaux was a blonde, although the rest of the world had her a brunette.

The New York Evening Post had a grand library for generations back. It was even said that they had a carpet on its floor—although this rumor was repugnant to us Hairy Apes who heard about it. Doubtless you will recall the old quip to the effect that the function of the New York Sun was to make vice attractive in the morning, the function of the Post to make virtue odious in the evening.

In the first five years that I practiced the newspaper art, four of them as managing editor of an afternoon paper, I doubt if four assignments in that time took a reporter to the public library of that city. The works we conned were the police blotters, the tax lists, the poll sheets, the historical records of the criminal court clerk, the show programs, and a few other lively varieties of belles lettres. A reporter of that time and place calling on a library reminds me of the Montana cattleman who came to Chicago for a wife. The matrimonial agency fixed him up, but in about a year he was back with a repeat order. "Why man, we supplied you with a fine wife just a few months ago," said the wedding broker. "Oh, sure—she was all right—I like your line." "What became of her?" "She broke her leg and I had to shoot her." So far as the average news writer was concerned in those

days with statistics and trade—well, an exporter was a former employe of the Pullman company.

That newspapers now devote more and more attention to their own libraries and reporters can be caught in libraries 'most any old time, is one indication of a change in the mental weather—not so much noted as jazz, the tabloids, and the comic strips, but just as pronounced. We have had a lot of nonsense about the supposed inanity of the comic strips, but they have grown better every year—their characters have more validity than the psychological mechanisms of much contemporary sophisticated fiction—and Moon Mullins for instance is a very valid historical document, on a large school of contemporary manners. The tabloids too, if you will read them carefully, will be found to be good newspapers as well as good thrillers—productions in which the news is distilled to its utmost values—perhaps too much so, as compared to well edited standard size papers, but the toil and sweat of tabloid news is a greater intellectual feat than printing reams of undigested dispatches and documents. But the increasing use of the resources of the libraries is what I came to talk about, and it proves that a vast army of newspaper readers today require facts and a discussion of facts which cannot be treated properly without checking and comparison with the accumulated knowledge of the race, stored in your institutions.

Two great sources of news interest have been increasingly tapped by the newspapers in recent years. The use of the cheap automobile and of small electric machinery in house, shop, and office, has whetted the curiosity of the people about science and engineering, about power, fuels, and processes. The widely diffused economic prosperity, which has flowed from these new industries has given millions an interest in finance and the news of the markets, who never read such things before. It has imposed upon the news writer the task of popularizing this kind of stuff, of translating it, from the technical into the everyday vernacular, and to do that he has had to go back toward the fundamentals of industry, back to science

itself, and that road lies through the library. I can very well remember my own transition in this respect. The newspapers that I worked on for many years never had any financial pages, because our readers were all too close to the bread line to know the difference between stocks and bonds. Both were things owned by big-bellied silk hatted Wall Street ginks, who appeared in cartoons, that's all. The actual finances of our constituency consisted in matching the Saturday night pay envelope against the grocery bill, provided that the man of the house got home with that much. Every one of these papers today has a financial page—every one discusses economics on those pages in language that the small investor can grasp. As from eighty to ninety per cent of their readers are motorists and most of them are familiar with power driven machinery at home, in office or shop, they find a new sort of reception for stories which would once have had but a limited appeal.

It was in 1919 and 1920 that this changed outlook became so notable to newspaper men. The discussions of the high cost of living and wage rates in those years were accompanied with a good deal of the old fashioned impassioned muck raking, but in the midst of rent and traction fare fights I found it necessary to send reporters over to the public library to get dope on the course of prices and wages after the Civil War for comparison with our own post war period. I found that the bank circulars were beginning to be very interesting and that economic facts taken from them and applied to every day conditions brought a lively response.

Now prior to 1912 about all the stuff on such subjects I ever wrote consisted of the dissection of traction company balance sheets and tax statements. It was easy work—no trouble to prove that the straphanger's nickels were disappearing down Wall Street's greedy gullet—for one thing it was so disappearing—and then people always like to be told that somebody's gypping 'em. Last month I ran across the former head of one of the great traction holding companies, with which we had done such terrific verbal battling. The traction baron was as mellowed by time, as the

public has become. We could both laugh over old times, and without any stultification. He smiled as he recalled how the watered common stock of companies capitalized on a five cent fare franchise basis, in days when labor was fifteen cents an hour, vanished into the blue with the coming of war prices. "Don't brag about your winnings, don't cry over your losses" was his comment. Yes, the world had changed a good deal for him, as the economic world has changed for the vast majority of newspaper readers, and as a result more news stories today have a library angle.

All the issues we had fought over had been settled, in a way nobody could have foreseen, to the satisfaction of nobody's pet theory or grouch. Both sides had been part right, part wrong—neither had cared much for the abstractions of economics. The library and what it represents of racial and national experience had been consulted but little. New questions have arisen to take the place of the old ones. They too may be settled in the same unforeseen and unplanned ways, but if more sense is applied to them and more foresight results in less injustice and disaster, it will be because this generation is more generally interested in economic questions, more ready to consult statistics, more skeptical of soap box rhetoric—and therefore making greater uses of the library. Of course it is easy to exaggerate the cultural change. I think there is undoubtedly a shift from the humanities to the mechanics. But it will be a long time before as many people will get a kick out of Clerk Maxwell's electromagnetic theory of light as can be thrilled by Hamlet—both works of supreme genius. It will be millions of years perhaps before as many will get the point of giving a whoop about Hamlet as will enjoy Little Orphan Annie, but on the whole I think the swing toward the engineering and mathematical type of interest is rather marked. I note that boy books today have a lot of their interest in airplanes, and machinery of various kinds. When I was a kid, we liked Jules Verne, but whether it was the nice respectable Henty Books or the equally innocuous and impossible heroics of Nick Carter and Diamond Dick there was less of the machine and

of modernity in our reading matter.

Miss Burke said that I was to tell you what I expected to find in a library. That's a large order. I usually find what I am looking for, and when it isn't there, it's mainly because it has never been worked out before—and it is surprising what large subjects have as yet been untouched by writers and statisticians. In the past few months for instance there has appeared for the first time a crude sort of compilation of bond issues classified as to the issuing houses. Our statistics of capital flotations are incomplete back of 1922. The volume of trading on the stock exchange has only recently been recorded with real accuracy—the older figures are but crude guesses. I myself appear to have worked out the first gorgeous guess as to the total annual power consumption in terms of man hours in this country, and I would hate for any hard-hearted critic to dig into that estimate.

But these gaps are being rapidly filled. I need not tell you what has happened to government statistics since Herbert Hoover took charge of the Department of Commerce. Many of the great corporations and the trade associations now issue important volumes, usually unbound. The trouble in the future is going to be the very multiplicity of such documents and the space to put them in. I have collected so many that I must get a bigger flat or I will be given a divorce.

The other day the contractors boring the Moffat Tunnel under James Peak got out a wonderful illustrated booklet—a semi-advertisement—which certainly should have an honored place in the archives of the State of Colorado. The National Electric Light Association has printed an analysis and forecast of the industries and population of the Great Lakes region, which should have a place in every library hereabouts. The recent report on Chicago Terminals and the analysis of Chicago's manufacturing by the Association of Commerce are types of these documents, which the older libraries seldom had to deal with. The habit of the Crerar library, and probably others, in keeping the mimeographed releases of the government bureaus on file, until they are superseded by the later printed documents strikes

me as a most progressive and advanced step. I should imagine that the United States Daily will prove very useful to the librarian trying to keep the stock of statistics and trade information up to the minute.

The official reports in Mr. Rex's library represent another type of document, which will have increasing importance. Last year I contributed an article to a supplementary volume of that great propaganda publication—the Encyclopaedia Britannica, and if it had not been for Mr. Rex's institution, it would have taken me months to have assembled the facts which went into a few paragraphs.

In short the library is becoming as important as the conventional newspaper morgue to the newspaper worker. As the effect of this financial, mechanical and power driven civilization of ours makes deeper imprints upon our contemporary culture and habits of thinking, the importance of the library will grow, because the new kinds of news which this civilization generates are not so much simple spot events, depending upon a few primitive dramatic elements for their appeal. The new news consists of developments which can only be treated in the light of past knowledge and contemporary facts about them. They must be found in the library. Let me illustrate. Not long since Judge Gary died. I was asked to write a life story, relating him to the development of the steel industry, and the civilization of the age of steel.

The morgue had ample materials for a mere personal sketch. But the morgue did not have the history of steel, as affected by Gary and as it affected him. There were in the Tribune library, however, two very good books on the subject—aside from Ida Tarbell's biography. I might say that I got most help from a book which was not written about Gary at all, but which did trace the immensely complicated effects of the changes in the steel industry in which he played a part. The fact that this story—necessarily historical—got over a column of space in several newspapers—is indicative to my mind of the increasing importance of libraries and librarians in the making of modern newspapers.

## Business Research in American Universities

By C. L. Jamison, Associate Professor of Business Administration, University of Wisconsin

IN the past few years collegiate schools of business have taken an increased interest in business research. Of the thirty-eight members of the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business, twenty-six have been conducting researches in business. These research surveys have embraced a variety of fields of activity pertaining to costs, profits, turnover, methods and problems, labor and personnel, market surveys and credit relations in retail, wholesale, and manufacturing. They also have gone into the subject of transportation, building, banking and finance, real estate, public utilities, taxation, forecasting, and miscellaneous fields pertaining to economic theory and method.

The purpose of this research is generally twofold. First, to assemble material of practical business transactions for classroom work. Also for the purpose of enriching the college curricula and acquainting teachers of business with prevailing business methods. It further gives them business contacts which they miss in the isolation of many of their teaching connections.

Second, the results of the research are analysed, interpreted and made available to business men. It is hoped that the material contained in the research reports will prove useful to business men in pointing out the best methods that are followed in business practices and the results that normally should be obtained.

As a means of improving college courses in business the research does not directly interest business men. It should interest them indirectly, however, because the men who are being trained in business courses in American universities are presumably the men who will rise to positions of executive responsibility in future years. The training that they receive in the University will be used in a practical way eventually.

As a present aid to business, the accuracy of conclusions drawn from research in business, as in any social science, is usually of less consequence than the accuracy of similar research in the natural sciences. That is to say, it is impossible to predict from the phenomena of past behavior just what the future behavior of men will be. For this reason the science of business will never be an exact science even though it may approach more closely to exactness than it is at present. Quite apart from the value of business research to educational institutions the project is worthy of support for the information it gives to business men.

Business research presupposes investigation into business methods and an analysis of the results obtained from those methods. It is essentially an accumulation of facts. Those facts must be obtained in some form of expression such as numerical measurement. All facts obtained from accounting records are expressed in numbers and usually in terms of money. Other facts of a statistical nature pertaining to marketing and personnel analysis also are expressed in terms of numbers. Much research in business, however, deals with human relationships and these can be described only qualitatively but not in quantities. Nevertheless, for the purpose of averaging and comparison all statistical data must be expressed in terms of numbers. This is a weakness of business research that cannot be corrected. That is to say, if a person is attempting to analyze the advantages of location of a store, for example, as compared with the advantages of other locations, the advantages cannot be expressed by adjectives in a manner that will give a definite idea to all persons, for the reason that descriptive adjectives connote different things in the minds of different persons. Therefore, such research is expressed in terms of quantita-

tive values such as the number of people that pass the site in an hour or a day, which is a thing that can be measured mathematically. Further than this the intent of the persons that pass the site can only be estimated and the estimates reduced to some arbitrary numerical measurement. The passers-by may hurry along or they may loiter, they may be intent upon shopping or they may be intent upon reaching their places of employment or their homes or a place of amusement. The investigator in order to reduce the results to some comparable expression, will assign a value to what he considers as the shopping potentiality of the people. The measurement may range from zero to 100%, the latter measurement representing that all of the people are intent upon buying something and all of them have money in their pockets with which to buy. Even though the investigator may be sure that all the people have come along the street for the purpose of buying and all have money with which to buy, he still does not know how much each one is able and willing to buy and again must give some numerical value to the degree of purchasing power represented by these passers-by.

The foregoing illustration is intended to emphasize the difficulties which arise when attempting to approach absolute accuracy and the futility of comparing results of one business research with the results of another.

Altogether apart from the difficulty of being able to analyse, interpret and compare the results of business research there is the difficult problem of obtaining facts. Facts may be obtained by personal observation and personal interviews with persons who know the facts, and by questionnaires that are presented personally by investigators or that are sent through the mails. To send personal investigators who ask the questions and fill in the questionnaires is a costly procedure. To send questionnaires by mail is still costly but very much cheaper. Nevertheless, business men find that mail questionnaires are so bothersome that only a small percentage of such questionnaires are returned. The facts given in the ones that are returned frequently are the

results of a hurried consideration of the problem and do not reflect the real truth as well as answers based upon more deliberate consideration would do. Some types of business research can be conducted by simply studying and analysing financial statements that are given out by business men. If the accounting records are correct and the statements have been correctly taken off, the results of the research are reasonably dependable providing a large enough assortment of statistics has been obtained to be representative of an entire field of industry.

On the whole, the best source of facts in business research is the business men themselves who are in contact daily with the problems of their own industry. If business men can be induced to give the facts fully and accurately, a supply of statistical data can be assembled that will be accurate and dependable. The interpretation and analysis of the data can well be done by collegiate schools of business whose faculty members are supposed to be analytical, unbiased, and possessed of the scientific desire to follow the truth wherever the truth will lead. The greatest achievement in business statistics, therefore, will come in the future when business men themselves supply the facts and college professors analyze and interpret the facts.

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The Membership Committee of the S. L. A. met on Friday, January 13, 1928, in the library of the Standard Statistics Company, New York City. This Committee, under the leadership of Lewis C. Armisted, is one of the most active committees in the association.

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The Committee on Amendment to the Constitution of the Special Libraries Association has been appointed by President F. E. Cady, consisting of Miss Rebecca B. Rankin, Chairman; Miss Jessie Callan and Mr. Lucius Cannon.

## The Chemist and His Work: A Plea for A Great Chemical Library

By Samuel C. Hooker\*

IN recent years the appreciation of the important place of Chemistry in the world's affairs has been steadily growing, but the full extent of its enormous influence upon the development of every form of human activity is still but imperfectly recognized. Nevertheless, wherever we turn, we are confronted by evidences of the chemist's work. The very foundations of the civilization we enjoy, the comforts of our home life, the art in which we rejoice, the alleviation of pain in sickness and under operation, the control of disease, the ability to navigate the air and circle the globe, have all been made possible by the chemist's labor. For it is he who has furnished to his brother scientist, to the physician, to the inventor, to the engineer, to the artisan and to the artist, the products with which to make their tools or to carry on their work. He has made available the raw materials taken from the earth, or produced upon its surface, for the multitudinous uses of modern civilization; and he has succeeded in creating countless additional substances to meet the never ending call of the onward march of science and industry.

The marvelous progress of the iron and steel industry, the extraordinary usefulness and wide application of modern cement, the existence of a suitable alloy or metal for every demand, the colorful dyes, the indispensable drugs, photography, the storage battery, artificial silk, and a thousand and one other evidences of the chemist's activities—all proclaim the inestimable service of chemical research to mankind.

Necessarily preceding the countless useful applications of the chemist's work long periods of exacting study and experiment in the realm of pure science are the rule. Patiently, and usually seeking no selfish ends, the man of science frequently labors for many years,

or even for a lifetime, on a single task. The pleasure of accomplishment, the satisfaction of work well done, and the thrill of gratification to which the discovery of a new fact, or the corroboration of a new theory gives rise, are sufficient reward; and it matters little whether or not the work is immediately appreciated, as sooner or later, if properly recorded and made available to other investigators, it will surely aid in reaching some important goal fraught with possibilities for the further progress and happiness of the human race. Thus, while the researches of the individual chemist may be entirely unknown to the multitude, and his name may soon be forgotten, a record of his work stands in the scientific literature; and the combined effect of the researches of thousands thus preserved and continually drawn upon and developed, is exercising an immeasurable influence upon the welfare of the world.

From year to year, upwards of 26,000 chemists are adding to the sum of our knowledge by the publication of the results of their researches. The formulation of new theories, the substantiation or modification of earlier ones; the generalization of current or previous work; the investigation into life processes; the inquiry into the wonders of radium emanation and the structure of the atom; the methods of preparation of thousands of new substances and a record of their properties; the description of new processes, the improvement and development of older ones; these, and almost countless other investigations in all branches of chemistry, annually give rise in the aggregate to a very large increase in the chemical literature. Year after year the newly discovered facts grow in numbers, increase in usefulness, and open up new and undreamed of possibilities; for science knows no boundaries, and each new discovery furnishes but an addi-

\*Dr. Hooker is Chairman of the library committee of the Chemists' Club.

tional stepping-stone from which many paths radiate into the great unknown.

The researches published of interest to the chemist which should be available for reference in the course of his work if necessary, are printed in upwards of a thousand current periodicals embracing the 'Proceedings' and 'Transactions' of the many Chemical and Scientific Societies as well as the scientific, chemical and technical journals. These serials which appear either monthly or at more or less frequent intervals, are constantly increasing in number and importance. They are printed in many countries, and in many languages, for chemical research is world-wide. Many publications have been issued regularly for upwards of fifty years; a number of others date back to the 18th century. The Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London were first issued in 1665. In addition to all these periodicals, hundreds of books, pamphlets, etc.,<sup>1</sup> written by specialists, dealing with every branch of chemical science and industry are printed every year, and swell to enormous proportions the current chemical literature.

Now, every worker must have his tools, and other things being equal the better the equipment, the more efficient and satisfactory the work. There is no exception to this well recognized fact; it applies equally to the chemist as to other workers, and of all his tools, the most important and indispensable is the library.

In the present advanced state of knowledge no matter how new or how radical a discovery may seem to the layman, it has nevertheless been led up to and only made possible by the work of hundreds who have gone before, and whose researches have been recorded and made available to subsequent investigators; and, similarly, before that new discovery can be made capable of its greatest service to mankind, many brains will have been concentrated upon its development and the library again records the steps of progress.

When entering upon new work, all the literature bearing upon the subject should be available for study by the

investigator, so that he may not only benefit by the accumulated knowledge, but be prevented from repeating something that has been accomplished already, and perhaps well established long before. A thorough search of the literature is also very apt to disclose some forgotten fact or some suggestion, which may prove of great value to the development of the work in mind. A further search may show how similar cases have been most efficiently handled and what may be expected under a certain definite line of experiment; or as difficulties are encountered temporarily, and inexplicable results obtained, a reference to a previous work may clear up uncertain points, analogous difficulties having been already solved in the past. Or, it may be that a substance with certain definite properties may be required, or a particular compound to be built upon for some new and important purpose. And so, in the course of his investigations, the chemist will be continually appealing to the Library for information, for guidance, and for inspiration, and great is his disappointment when a particular reference or book needed at the commencement, or in the course of his work, is not available. Unfortunately this is too often the case because the large and rapidly increasing mass of chemical literature, and the rarity of much of the older material makes it difficult for the scientific libraries, as they are now organized, to more than approximately cover the field.

It is true that there are many excellent scientific libraries in this country, notably those of the great universities. There are also a number of other extremely important scientific and technical collections such as those of the New York Public Library, of the John Crerar Library of Chicago, of the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, and of the numerous libraries in Washington. All these are of inestimable value to the investigator, but the many fields of knowledge which they usually cover make it difficult to do full justice to every subject, even if the necessary means were available which, unfortunately, is not generally the case. Recent

<sup>1</sup>*Bibliographia Chimica*, a periodical publication gives about 3,500 titles for 1925; for 1926 about 3,000.

compilations<sup>2</sup> by making known the specific scientific and other periodical literature available in each of about 200 libraries of this country have added greatly to the convenience and resources of the investigator.

Many of the scientific collections of the future will be undoubtedly highly specialized; and subjects not intimately connected with the main one will be eliminated. Thus the collections, though more complete in their respective fields, will be smaller, much more readily accessible for study and service, and, by having the undivided attention of the librarian, much more readily kept up to date by the accession of old as well as of new material. Moreover, the rapidly increasing number of publications adding greatly to the expense of the library, requiring in the aggregate enormous shelving<sup>3</sup> and frequently considerable sums for binding, is giving concern to many librarians, and so in itself, bringing about specialization whereby unnecessary duplication is avoided. The library of the Royal College of Physicians in London has been forced to part with many books of such collateral subjects as chemistry and general science. Periodicals in these classes which have been taken, preserved and bound for decades have been discontinued and sold to make room for the more strictly medical publications. The library of the Royal Society of Arts of London has likewise been undergoing a reorganization in recent years and much of the essentially scientific periodical literature, dating continuously back for many years, has been removed and sold, so that the entire shelving might be available for technical publications.

In this country many a general library has found it necessary to dispose of its high grade scientific and technical litera-

ture, because room was needed for other publications; and the scientific books being relatively few in number, were not sufficient to attract the specialist who will naturally turn to that library where he is reasonably sure of finding all or most of the references needed to pursue his studies.

Thus, by the weeding out of material from libraries in which it is out of place opportunities are offered from time to time to add to the great and more highly specialized collections.

The Library of the Chemists' Club in New York, located in the Club Building on 41st Street between Madison and Park Avenues, contains one of the largest collections of strictly chemical publications in existence; and it differs from all other libraries in this country in that it is confined to such literature as that with which the chemist is directly concerned. Founded in 1898, increased in 1912 by the gift of the library of the American Chemical Society, the collection has steadily grown year by year by gift and by purchase. Moreover, a number of very important libraries such as those of Prof. Morris Loeb<sup>4</sup> and, more recently, of Prof. C. F. Chandler<sup>5</sup> were bequeathed to the Club, and thus hundreds of valuable and difficultly obtainable books have been added to its shelves.

This Library, which is freely open to the public throughout the day, has acquired an international reputation amongst chemists and scientists. It is called upon for service almost hourly, by investigators, economists, inventors, scientific institutions and the industries. It contains in all about 40,000 volumes and many thousands of pamphlets consisting of monographs, dissertations, reports, etc., but notwithstanding the broad field of the chemical literature covered, there remains much to be done

<sup>2</sup>*Union List of Serials in the Libraries of the United States and Canada*, Winifred Gregory, Editor. Published by The H. W. Wilson Company, New York. This list covers about 75,000 titles.

<sup>3</sup>The main building of the New York Public Library has in its steel stack and reading rooms combined about 75 miles of shelving.

<sup>4</sup>Morris Loeb, a son of Solomon Loeb, one of the founders of the Banking House of Kuhn, Loeb & Company, was for a number of years director of the Chemical Laboratory of the University of New York. Besides being a distinguished chemist he was no less prominent as a philanthropist, contributing largely to many charities, founding with his brother, James Loeb, the Wolcott Gibbs Memorial Laboratory at Harvard, and being extremely helpful in making possible the Chemists' Club with its fine building and notable library.

<sup>5</sup>Charles Frederick Chandler, one of America's most distinguished chemists, and the recipient of many honors here and abroad, was for many years the beloved head of the Department of Chemistry of Columbia University, of which he was emeritus professor at the time of his death in 1925.

before that completeness is reached for which every chemist hopes.

There can scarcely be a doubt that the United States is ultimately destined to have the premier chemical library of the world, with the most complete collection of chemical literature in existence. This would seem to be assured by the enormous resources of this country; by the indispensable part which chemistry plays in its daily life, and as a means of national defence; and by the vision and generosity of its leaders and men of wealth.

It cannot be too often repeated that the physical welfare, the moral well-being, the progress and protection of a nation is largely dependent upon scientific research, and the importance of aiding the development both of fundamental scientific work and industrial research through unsurpassed library facilities, cannot be overestimated.

The immediate needs of the less fortunate of mankind must necessarily be provided for; but the greatest philanthropies are those which reach out to all, and of these the furthering of knowledge by scientific research stands alone in the vastness of its possibilities. Every discovery properly recorded in the library and made available for further study, no matter how apparently unimportant it may seem at the time of its birth, will surely help to secure the foundations of peace, happiness, and prosperity throughout the world. The future will therefore undoubtedly point to the benefactions of the Rockefellers, the Carnegies, and those of numerous other men of similar vision, as being amongst the greatest gifts the world has yet received.

A Directory of Special Libraries in the New York Metropolitan District has been compiled by the New York Chapter of the S. L. A. The valuable book lists 373 libraries, arranged under eighteen sub-divisions. Following the Classified List there is a Title Index and a Personnel Index with the Key number of the library appended to the entry. The publication is a distinct credit to the New York Chapter.

Copies may be obtained from the General Office at 11 Nisbet Street, Providence, R. I.

### British Empire Overseas

The catalog of the Royal Colonial Institute, the publication of which is about to be undertaken, should form a valuable bibliography of the literature relating to the overseas portions of the British Empire and to problems of colonial administration generally, both British and foreign. As brief biographical particulars of authors will be included it should also form a useful biographical reference work.

The Library contains nearly 200,000 books and pamphlets relating to the overseas British Empire and problems of colonization and administration generally, including foreign colonies. It is particularly rich in works of history, economics, and ethnology; a special feature of the collection is a large number of Official publications including Blue Books, Departmental Reports, Reports of Commissions and Committees, Parliamentary Proceedings, and Statutes and legal proceedings.

The catalog will be divided into sections as follows:

- A. . . . . Author Index
- B . . . . . General Subjects
- C. . . . . British Empire generally
- D. . . . . Geographical Divisions, the most important sections of the catalogue, divided into subjects.
- E. . . . . Biographies
- F. . . . . Voyages and Travels
- G. . . . . Societies' Publications
- H. . . . . Botany, Agriculture, and Vegetable Products
- I. . . . . Zoology and Animal Products
- K. . . . . Mineral Products
- L. . . . . America and American Colonial History
- M. . . . . War of 1914-18
- N. . . . . Portraits
- O. . . . . Title Entries and Periodicals
- P. . . . . Official Publications

Owing to the generous support of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust it will be possible to sell the catalogue at much below cost price.

Enquiries may be directed to the  
Royal Colonial Institute  
181 Northumberland Avenue  
London, W. C. 2, England

## Editor's Desk

AT the mid-winter meeting in Chicago the American Library Association received a petition from a group of business librarians asking for the establishment of a Business Libraries Section in the A. L. A. After debate it was moved that the petition be laid upon the table and it is hoped that this marks the end of a controversy which first came to the surface at the S. L. A. meeting at Saratoga Springs in 1925. The whole question has placed the S. L. A. in a most embarrassing position and little has been said in the columns of *Special Libraries* concerning the matter. We appreciate the action of the Council in connection with the petition as the establishment of a Business Libraries Section would establish a serious precedent and create in this country two rival associations reaching out for the support of the business world. The two associations should be able to collaborate in the solution of this problem which so vitally concerns the welfare and efficiency of all business libraries. The solution will strengthen the bonds of affiliation and will give us on our part greater opportunity to stress the professional side of our work which is equally important with fact-finding and research in the proper development of the S. L. A.

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## General Office Notes

IN the formation of the General Office various problems concerning membership have arisen. We suggest that members or subscribers when sending payments for renewals specify exactly their wishes.

Our readers may recall that there are three classes of membership: Institutional at \$15.00, Individual at \$5.00 and Associate at \$1.00. In addition, persons who are not members are entitled to subscribe for the magazine at the rate of \$5.00 per year, or if a foreign subscription for \$5.50 a year.

Some of our most active members have been in the habit of sending in subscription renewals through magazine agencies and a subscription of this type does not carry with it membership in the Association or a voice in its management. For renewals placed through an agency, the agency is entitled to 10% of the subscription renewal. Several public libraries have requested additional memberships, but in reality these are extra subscriptions to the magazine and should be so classified.

In every respect the institutional membership which, under the constitution, includes any library, firm or organization maintaining a library, is the ideal type. The institutional members not only receive the magazine, but all other publications of the Association without extra charge. We are making rapid strides in increasing the institutional memberships and believe that as our members more clearly understand its advantages we will still further augment this group.

M. H. B.

\* \* \*

Librarians in the larger cities get a dual benefit from the national and the local memberships, librarians in the smaller places far removed from the metropolitan centers will always be welcome at the monthly meetings of our chapters. Notify the General Office and we will put you in touch with the local officials.

\* \* \*

In a rush of work which accumulated at the close of the year many excellent items of value have escaped our attention. We offer apologies to our readers for the neglect.

\* \* \*

We expect to print a title page and index to volume 18 in the next issue.

\* \* \*

Begin now to plan for the Washington conference which occurs in May, 21, 22 and 23, 1928.

## Report of Indexing on Life Insurance Material

D. N. Handy, Chairman, Insurance Group

When I assumed the chairmanship of the Insurance Group of S. L. A. last fall, I found that a project for indexing the literature of Life Insurance was already under way. There was already a suggestion that if arrangements could be made for scanning likely sources of material and for indexing them and preparing the copy, the actual mimeographing and distribution might be done by the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau in Hartford, Connecticut. Building on this foundation, I have during the months intervening since our last meeting in September carried on somewhat extensive correspondence with members of our group in the attempt to formulate a plan for carrying these ideas into effect. I am now able to report progress substantially as follows:—

*First*—That there is general agreement among Life insurance members of our group that such an indexing project, if carried out systematically, will be of great benefit to Life insurance libraries and their supporters.

*Second*—That at the beginning the indexing should be done by a committee of Life insurance librarians who shall be responsible for apportioning the sources of material to be indexed, and for the work of preparing the manuscript and getting it into the hands of the distributing agency.

*Third*—That at the outset, it will be better to have the index mimeographed rather than to attempt to put it on cards.

*Fourth*—That the index should be distributed not oftener than monthly.

*Fifth*—That at the outset annotations, if used, should be brief.

A circular was sent to interested members of the group asking what material should be indexed. The following sources recommended are given below in order of their frequency with which they appeared on the replies to the circular:—

### *Periodicals*

1. Insurance Field
2. National Underwriter
3. Eastern Underwriter
4. Life Association News
5. Weekly Underwriter
6. Spectator
7. Life Insurance Courant
8. Life Insurance Salesman
9. Best's Insurance News, Life
10. Underwriters Report
11. Printed Salesmanship
12. Trust Companies

### *Proceedings*

1. Association of Life Insurance Presidents
2. American Life Convention, Medical, Legal
3. National Association Life Underwriters
4. Actuarial Society of America
5. American Institute of Actuaries
6. Association of Life Agency Officers
7. American Management Association
8. Casualty Actuarial Society
9. Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau
10. National Convention Insurance Commissioners
11. Association Life Insurance Counsel
12. Association Medical Directors
13. National Association Office Managers
14. National Fraternal Congress
15. Fraternal Actuarial Congress
16. Convention Year Book

In a letter from Mr. Niles, Manager of the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau, it is suggested that an attempt be made to assign a somewhat definite limit to the amount of material that will probably need to be mimeographed and distributed each month. In the hope of being able to secure more definite data, I divided the sources to be indexed among different members of our group, and requested each to submit a list of the articles deemed worthy of indexing which had appeared in these sources over a definite period of time. All the replies to this questionnaire have not yet come in. Those which have give an indication of the number of items which we may expect to index regularly.

It is apparent as the study proceeds that the work will be one of some magnitude, even if undertaken at first in its simplest form. It will require considerable effort and some expense. It is not likely that the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau will be in a position to assume the entire expense, although it is possible that it will be able to arrange for having the work of mimeographing and distributing copies of the index done in its office.

I hope that at this meeting, we may go over the essential details and decide definitely to what extent we are willing to support the project, if undertaken. It is the Life insurance libraries and their supporters which will be principally benefited by an index of this kind. It is to them, therefore, that we must look for the support necessary to carry the project through. In a communication from Mr. Niles which has been already distributed to members of this group, the practical problems are very clearly presented. We have reached the point, I think, where we can discuss those problems.

## Associations

### Illinois

The Illinois Chapter met on Tuesday evening, December 13th, in the luxurious and attractive quarters of the Library in the new Stevens Hotel.

Mr. Edward L. Burchard, Treasurer of the National Association of Community Centers was the principal speaker of the evening, his subject being "The Public Library and the School Community Center." Mr. Burchard briefly traced the development of the community center movement in the school buildings, outlined the various activities connected with such centers, and showed how the branch public library, available for both school and community use, was but a natural adjunct of the public school community center. He cited the highly successful operation of branch public libraries in school buildings, available for both the use of school children and the adults in the community, in such large metropolitan cities as St. Louis, Kansas City, Grand Rapids, Minneapolis and Cleveland.

An unusual treat was in store for the assembled guests, suitable to the season of the year, when Mrs. Frances Clarke Sayers of the Adult Education Department of the American Library Association, in a most gracious and interesting way, spoke on a topic of extreme interest at the time, namely: "Christmas Book Suggestions."

Miss Gertrude M. Clark, Librarian of the Stevens Hotel Library, then gave a brief talk on the work of her library, interspersed with interesting comment relating to distinguished visitors of the hotel who had patronized her Library.

### New York

The second fall dinner meeting of the New York Special Libraries Association was held at the British Luncheon Club, 53 Broadway, New York City on December 6th, 1927, at 6 P. M.

The meeting was well attended, 109 being present. Mr. Angus Fletcher, presiding.

After everyone had enjoyed the very good dinner the more serious part of the evening was spoken of by Mr. Fletcher. He announced that the membership Committee would very shortly have some news with regard to the various types of memberships and the amount of dues, privileges, benefits, etc., attached to each class.

Mr. Fletcher announced with regret the inability of Professor John Madden, School of Business, New York University to speak at this

meeting. However, we were very fortunate in securing Professor Marcus Nadler, Professor of Finance, New York University and Managing Director of Institute of International Finance. Professor Nadler has had a wide experience in the financial field. In his talk which was built around the contacts between Research and Special Libraries he told of the various things that happened in his personal experience. The many times the material needed was obtained very quickly through the knowledge of the trained Librarian of the subject material involved. The speaker stressed very much that the research man without the trained Librarian was very greatly handicapped.

The talk given by Professor Nadler was very interesting and all present could not help but gain in ideas and enthusiasm.

After the speech of the evening time was taken to get better acquainted with each other. It was very informal and no doubt the contacts thus made will serve a broad purpose.

### Philadelphia

The Special Libraries Council of Philadelphia and vicinity held its regular monthly meeting on Friday, December 2, in the meeting room of the beautiful new building of The Free Library.

The subjects discussed were government documents and pamphlets.

Mrs. Martha C. Leister, Head of the Department of Public Documents of The Free Library, gave an interesting address on "The United States Government as a Publisher and Distributor of Public Documents."

Mrs. Esther C. C. Ware, Head of the Pamphlet Division, talked of the collection of pamphlet material in The Free Library; how the material is acquired; its care and use.

The Special Libraries Council of Philadelphia and vicinity held its January meeting at the library of the Philadelphia Inquirer. The meeting was addressed by Professor Reese James of the University of Pennsylvania, whose subject was "The College-Trained Newspaper Man and the Reference Library." Professor James convinced the group that no newspaper can serve its staff without an adequately run reference library. He spoke of the splendid cooperation of Mr. Foster in arranging to have the university students work in the Inquirer library. A tour of the building followed and there was much interest shown in the machinery and method which has been perfected in the printing of this important Philadelphia newspaper.

## Events and Publications

Rebecca B. Rankin, Department Editor

*Cleanliness Journal*, vol. no. 2 for October, 1927, contains an article on new books which was prepared by Miss Marie K. Pidgeon, librarian of the Cleanliness Institute.

The National Research Council and the Japan Society have recently published a booklet entitled "The Industrial Transition in Japan." In it are described pearl culture, Japanese fisheries, civil aviation, and the silk industry by Mr. Maurice Holland, who made an investigation of the industrial situation in Japan.

The October issue of the *Bulletin of the American Institute of Banking* contains an article on the "Investment of Trust Funds," a compilation by Beatrice Hager and Billy Neal of the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Library. (V. 9, 421-427.)

The Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company Library at Hartford periodically publishes attractive little leaflets about New Books and the library. They use different colored papers for various months which are made in loose-leaf form to fit into a binding.

The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research has filed plans for adding to its group of buildings a three-story structure to house its library and dining hall. It is to cost about \$500,000.

Laura A. Thompson, librarian of the Department of Labor, has compiled a bibliography on Union-Management Cooperation which is printed in the *Monthly Labor Review* for October, 1927. Reprints are also available.

"A Practical System for Filing Catalogs," by Ruel McDaniel is discussed in the *Purchasing Agent* for October, 1927, pages 1100-1102.

The Engineering Institute of Canada at Montreal has a library at headquarters which has been recently reorganized and recataloged, and in their journal of October, 1927, they print the new Regulations for the Library.

*The Architectural Forum* for December, 1927, is mainly devoted to libraries, illustrated by many attractive photographs.

The *Boston Evening Transcript* for November 8 contains an article by George Winthrop Lee, librarian of Stone & Webster, Inc., entitled "Good English Card-Indexed." The sub-heading is New Extension Service at Boston Public Library Will Act as Local "Supreme Court" of Correct Usage.

Under the heading "Women in Business" in the *New York World* of Sunday, December 25th, is a good article about special librarians, particularly Mary Louise Alexander of Barton, Durstine & Osborn. It has a photograph of her with the caption, "Ask Her Another."

*Publishers' Weekly* for July 30, 1927, carries an extensive article entitled "Bookselling School at Columbia." In three parts: I. How the course was conducted; II. Columbia and its Program for the Book by C. C. Williamson and III. Planning a book selection course for Booksellers by Sarah B. Ball, the work of the course is described.

*The Municipal Reference Library Notes* of October 26, 1927, carried a "Bibliography on Municipal Landing Fields," covering the period from January, 1925 to October, 1927, supplementing the first one published on January 7, 1925.

The Merchants' Association of New York has published a map showing the NEW New York Metropolitan District. This new districting is of vital importance to all businesses as the 1927 Census of Manufacturers is to be based on it.

In this Department, we have overlooked calling attention to a splendid bibliography which was issued during the summer. It is entitled "Reference List of Literature on Urban Electric Railways." It was compiled by Lewis Armistead of Boston Elevated Railway. It is conveniently indexed by cities.

The Telephone Book Library maintained by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, numbers 4000 volumes and is much used for many research purposes, so states an article in the *New York Times* of October 22, 1927.

"The Growing Importance of Subject Filing," by Guy E. Marion, now of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, is being reprinted in *The File* of November and December, 1927.

*The Iron Age* appreciates special library methods to such an extent that they have adopted a policy of printing "routing slips" free of charge for each of their subscribers.

In the *Chicago Banker* for November 19, 1927 we read that Industrial corporations and the federal government spend about \$200,000,000 annually on industrial research. The corporations spent \$2 for every dollar spent by the government.

## Personal Notes

Mary C. Parker, Department Editor

Those who have attended the Special Libraries Association Conferences will learn with sorrow of the death on December the eleventh of Mrs. Annie Rankin, mother of Miss Rebecca Rankin. Her gay spirit had made her many friends among the regular attendants of the conferences.

Mrs. Mary McCloskey Burke has resigned her position as librarian of the Mercy Hospital Staff Library, Pittsburgh, and has been succeeded by Miss Lillian Beiter.

Miss Edith Norton has succeeded Mrs. Julia C. Wheeler as librarian of the Medical School Library, University of Pittsburgh.

Miss Margaret M. Morris has been appointed librarian of the Philadelphia Co., Pittsburgh, to succeed Miss Margaret P. Burns, who left to be married.

Miss Gertrude L. Woodin has resigned as librarian of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, Pittsburgh Experiment Station, to join the staff of the Smithsonian Institute. Her successor, Mr. Giles R. Taggart, takes up his new duties December 16.

Miss Alice McCann, former librarian at the Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, has been appointed librarian of the University of Pittsburgh School of Dentistry.

Mr. Edgar Jones Hughes, executive vice-president of the First Wisconsin National Bank, died on December 12, after a six days' siege with pneumonia. Nine and one-half years ago it was Mr. Hughes who suggested that the First Wisconsin Library be organized.

Miss Flora Lilienthal, formerly Assistant Librarian under Mr. D. N. Handy in the Insurance Library Association of Boston, has taken the position of Librarian in the Department of Indexing and Filing, Library Service Division of the Rand Remington Business Service, Inc., in New York City.

### Secretary's Report

The Executive Board of the Special Libraries Association held four meetings since the last Conference. At these meetings the various committees were appointed. Membership dues were changed to read as follows:

Inst. Membership . . . . .	\$15
Ind. Membership . . . . .	5
Assoc. Membership . . . . .	1

A strong plea was made to have local chapters and affiliated groups in various cities join the S. L. A. as associate members where institute or individual membership was impossible. This was done in Cleveland, New York City, and recently in California. One new local chapter was organized at Cleveland.

There are twelve committees, four groups and eight local or affiliated associations in the S. L. A.

The Secretary's biggest job this year has been to get the mailing list corrected, and to verify this record required a great deal of comparing notes, and grateful acknowledgement is hereby made to Miss Boyer and Miss Clafin, who assisted in this task.

#### Correspondence:

This can be divided under the following heads:

#### Invitations:

Most every State in the U. S. A. has invited the Special Libraries Association to hold their next Convention there. They offer us every thing from moonlight rides to franking officers' quarters. Two States not heard from were Nevada and Utah.

#### Complaints:

About not receiving *Special Libraries* or about sending them to folks who have died a year ago!

#### Requests for Information:

Concerning the Association and its publications.

And last, but by far the most interesting:

Requests for specific help in organizing libraries. These have come from Presidents of banks, insurance companies and industrial organizations.

Probably the best piece of S. L. A. publicity this year was Dorsey Hyde's article in a recent

(Continued on page 28)

## Meeting of Cleveland Chapter

On account of conflicting interests, the meeting of the Cleveland Chapter of the Special Libraries Association—originally announced for November 16—was postponed to December 7. It was held in the Treasure Room of the Cleveland Public Library with fourteen members and guests present. Dr. Alexander Meiklejohn, who was speaking at the Women's City Club, proved to be a serious rival.

A few items of general business were introduced. Miss Emma M. Boyer, President of the Chapter, spoke of the type of program being planned for the year and emphasized the aim of the Chapter to increase its membership. The greeting from S. L. A., confirming the application of the Cleveland Group for membership, was read; also, a letter from Miss Margaret Reynolds, containing a plea for items for the We Do This column in *Special Libraries*.

Mr. Francis E. Cady, Nela Research Laboratory, suggested that on account of the varying attendance at local chapter meetings, it would be well to take a few minutes at each meeting to discuss the classes of membership and other pertinent topics so that the entire personnel of the chapter would eventually become more familiar with the organization as a whole.

Miss Boyer mentioned another aim of the Chapter—to cooperate with the individual members just as far as possible. To this end, a union list of periodicals available in the various special libraries throughout the city, is contemplated. Miss Alta B. Clafin, Federal Reserve Bank, will be in charge of the project and will work out a method for taking care of the list when completed.

Miss Grace Haskin, Cleveland School of Art, was named chairman of the Committee on By-laws.

The special subject for the evening was "Business and Financial Services." Miss Rose Vormelker, White Motor Company, opened the discussion with a comprehensive survey of services in general, including a definition of the term, and mentioned some of the more important ones. Miss Emma M. Boyer, Union Trust Company, then gave a rather detailed description of the publications of the Standard Statistics Company, with helpful comments on the special features of each. Miss Vormelker continued with descriptions of other similar services, mentioning the publications issued by the Library Division of the H. L. Doherty Company of New York, giving a list of the services: abstracted, also, a similar

abstract and comparison of business services issued by the American Management Association, known as Business Forecast; Bank Letters—national and foreign; Letters of Brokerage Firms in Foreign Countries; Letters and Reports of Consular Offices; the Weekly Letter of the Dartnell Sales Service; the Sherman Services; the Industrial Bulletin of Arthur D. Little, Inc., which deals with technical research; and the new and especially important Weekly Card Index Service about to be issued by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

The Harvard Economics Service was ably discussed by Miss Leona Kohn, Federal Reserve Bank, after which Miss Vormelker spoke of the loose leaf service of the Corporation Trust Company, the various U. S. Government publications, and the list of Commercial Information Services compiled by Mrs. Jennie Schramm of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. This might, in a sense, be considered as a supplement to the list issued by the Special Libraries Association in 1924.

Illustrative material was circulated as the publications were discussed, thereby establishing a visual association which is always especially helpful.

Mr. Francis E. Cady, National President, then told of his recent visits to the Boston Chapter and to the new General Office in Providence. He next proceeded to give a very interesting survey of the budget for 1928, as discussed at the recent meeting of the Executive Board in New York City. It is indeed gratifying to hear that the prospects for 1928, both financially and otherwise, are so promising.

## Engineering Index Research

A remarkable piece of research has just been completed by the editorial staff of *The Engineering Index* in preparation for *The New Weekly Engineering Card Index Service*, which goes into existence in January, 1928.

For the purpose of making the index conform to general usage, over twelve thousand engineering subject headings have been separately entered upon individual cards and upon these cards have been placed classifications used by the Library of Congress, the American Library Association, the Industrial Arts Index, and the original Engineering Index. This minute classification has thus developed a Master Index as one of the most valuable by-products of the new research project.

## Institutional Members

Alexander Hamilton Institute  
 American Bankers Association  
 American Telephone & Telegraph Co.  
 Baker & Taylor Company  
 Baker Library—Harvard School of Business Administration  
 Barton Durstine & Osborn  
 Bell Telephone Laboratories  
 Boston Elevated Railway  
 Brookmire Economic Service  
 Child Study Association  
 Christian Science Monitor  
 Cleanliness Institute Library  
 Consolidated Gas, Electric Light & Power, Baltimore  
 Consolidated Gas Co. of N. Y.  
 du Pont de Nemours, E. I.  
 Edison Electric Illuminating Co., Boston  
 Federal Reserve Bank of Boston  
 Federal Reserve Bank of New York  
 First Wisconsin National Bank  
 Fleischmann Company  
 Grant Co., W. T.  
 Guaranty Company of N. Y.  
 Home Insurance Company  
 Imperial Life Assurance Co. of Canada  
 Industrial Relations Counselors  
 Insurance Library Association, Boston  
 Insurance Library of Chicago  
 Jackson & Moreland  
 McCall Company  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology—Library  
 Merchants Association of N. Y.  
 Metcalf & Eddy  
 Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.  
 National Association of Manufacturers  
 National Automobile Chamber of Commerce  
 Newark Public Library, Business Branch  
 New Jersey Zinc Company, New York  
 New Jersey Zinc Company, Palmerton  
 New York Academy of Medicine  
 New York Telephone Company  
 New York Times, The  
 Old Colony Trust Co., Boston  
 Price, Waterhouse & Company  
 Proctor & Gamble  
 Public Service Corp. of N. J.  
 Research Laboratory, G. E. Company, Nela Park, Cleveland  
 Royal Bank of Canada  
 Standard Oil Co. of N. J.  
 Standard Statistics Company  
 Stone & Webster  
 United States Rubber Company

Western Union Telegraph Co.  
 White & Kemble  
 Wilson, Co., H. W.

### Secretary's Report

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issue of Nation's Business. This article, and the success of the Rubber Bibliography which was noted in various Rubber and Chemical Journals, makes it most obvious that S. L. A. would have much to gain by getting publicity in general business, trade and professional journals. People who never have and never will read *Special Libraries* and *Library Journal* do read *System*, and *Scientific and Technical Journals*. They are vitally interested in the very things S. L. A. stands for, i. e.: "Putting knowledge to work."

The terms S. L. A. (for the Association) and S. L. (for the Journal) are more or less of a mystery to business men as are libraries in general. Our News Committee has a real opportunity for service.

It is most necessary that a paid Secretary be hired who can devote all his time to the S. L. A. 227 letters that required dictation were handled by the Secretary since 1st November, 1926.

### Treasurer's Report

The report of the Treasurer includes the period from October 1, 1926, through May 31, 1927:

Balance from 1925-26.....	\$1,017.67
Received from dues.....	2,478.13
Publications.....	408.31
Handbook.....	24 00
Directory.....	123.46
Index, Vols. 1-13.....	2.00
Vols. 14-16.....	9.75
Bulletins.....	254 85
Magazines.....	1.00
Gifts.....	12.50
Rubber bibliography.....	217 09
<b>Total receipts.....</b>	<b>\$4,834.42</b>

#### Disbursements

Publications.....	\$2,684.15
Convention expenses.....	60.95
Stationery and postage.....	175.82
Travel.....	188 92
General.....	223.34
Balance, June 1, 1927.....	\$1,280.26

Pages 25-28 deleted, advertising.