

Official Organ of the Special Libraries Association

Special Libraries

"Putting Knowledge to Work"



Important Books of the Year

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Important Books of the Year

A Symposium by Correspondence

An advertising agency librarian writes

IF IT is of our most used books you wish to know, I hope you will not hold me too closely to 1935, but let me use a fiscal year of rather indefinite beginning. I'm asking this particularly because Burton Stevenson's *Home Book of Quotations*, published late in 1934 by Dodd, Mead & Co., deserves the place of honor. Our older quotation books had been worn to such raggedness and the sinking feeling was increasing to such acuteness whenever a request came for "an inspiring success quotation to keynote the sales meeting!" The cultural reference has its place, and probably should have a larger one in business, but, in spite of the title, industrial libraries will appreciate Mr. Stevenson's including a splendid assortment from recent business and public life, — recent enough to include comments by the thirty-second President. And what is more, when these success quotations have been worn threadbare there is a promise of a new supply. Right now a new edition is being started, — this one to incorporate a section on advertising slogans with origin, history, etc. The author has asked for contributions from business firms having slogans.

If this had been written a whole year earlier Webster's *New International Dictionary*, second edition, would have been included. It was just that good to find most of the post war vocabulary in

one alphabet. This year, however, The Columbia Encyclopedia, by the Columbia University Press, has done a remarkable work collecting over 52,000 entries between two covers. As must always be the case in such a general collection of very-ready-reference material, one is never quite certain his particular question will be answered therein. But the chances are very good if it is a proper name, for that is a prominent feature, comprising three-quarters of the entries, one reviewer estimates. We were particularly glad to find pronunciation given. To be sure, it seems not to have been quite prepared for the Italo-Ethiopian dispute, but again perhaps Addis Ababa wasn't either.

We have never found anything so satisfactory for the inquiring secretary who wishes to keep her work up to par as Sarah Augusta Taintor's *The Secretary's Handbook*. This year, with Kate M. Monro as co-author, a completely revised fourth edition has been published. Queries on how to address officials and dignitaries are ever recurring and here is an unusually long list with approved forms for any part of a communication. Of course the usual chapters on writing reports and manuscripts, points of grammar, punctuation, etc. are very fully treated.

Though it probably isn't the type of book you had in mind, it doesn't seem fair not to include *Fortune Magazine's Five Year Index, 1930-1934*. I believe

we were thinking primarily of the wonderful illustrations when we decided to bind the magazine. But now, whenever there is need of a comprehensive background for some company or product, this index seldom fails to give a clue. Industrial Arts Index did not include Fortune until 1932. Which reminds me that Readers' Guide has recently added our most used *magazine* — that is from a reference point of view — Time. Now we shall not have to look in a second place for the larger subjects, but I'm sure we shall still rely heavily on Time's own excellent quarterly index for all those minute and often obscure references to people and things which are so useful to the publicity and copy staffs.

Realizing this list has all the appearance of belonging to a general reference library, I will briefly mention some of the ranking advertising texts. By and large, Otto Kleppner's Advertising Procedure is a most satisfactory general account of all phases of the subject. It answers questions for the executive as well as it furnishes a comprehensive guide for students. All of this, of course, has been true for the past ten years, but I venture to include it because a revised edition was published only little more than a year ago after the first edition had sold over 50,000 copies.

Possibly the extra enforced care in planning budgets during recent years is responsible for the renewed interest apparent in advertising tests. L. E. Firth has a book called Testing Advertisements which makes the whole subject most comprehensible, and more recently the Bureau of Business Research of Harvard University published a study entitled Test of the Consumer Jury Method of Ranking Advertisements. This is very instructive in that the advertisements and methods used are reproduced fully. F. H. Young has long been a popular

authority on layout and his recent work, Modern Layout in Advertising, will serve to enhance that reputation. Another guide to the subject, and very practical and concise, is Eugene de Lopatecki in his Advertising Layout and Typography.

And then again, this could have been written about the books that would have been most used had I known of their existence. For instance, what do radio libraries do for a check on popular songs? I hope we may hear from a music library —, again not too cultural in subject, since that side seems to be fairly well covered. — *Mildred Treat, Campbell-Ewald Co.*

A science museum librarian writes

As Helen Haines says, "To open the great domain of science more fully to public exploration and acceptance is an inspiring enterprise. The advance of science continues through the modern world, but only as its aims are understood and its results known can the knowledge it releases be infused into common living. Through the provision and dissemination of the books that diffuse this knowledge the library, more vitally perhaps than any other agency, participates in bringing the purpose of science to unpredictable fulfillment."

It has been an inspiration to participate in the selection of some 1,000 volumes which have been acquired in the Museum of Science and Industry Library, Chicago during the first ten months of 1935. During this period two encyclopaedic sets have been completed — Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences, 1930–35 and Brockhaus, 1928–35. Some of the recent handbooks and yearbooks which have been used continually in the Library are: Aircraft yearbook; Yearbook on coal mine mechanization; American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, Guide; Bennett, H., Chemical formulary, vol. 2; Machinery's handbook

for machine shop and drafting-room; Magie, W. F., A source book in physics; National Advisory Committee, Bibliography of aeronautics, 1931; Roush, G. A., ed., The mineral industry during 1934; U. S. Bureau of Mines, Statistical appendix to minerals yearbook, 1934.

Numerous trade directories have aided in the location of trade information. A few outstanding titles are: Association of British Chemical Manufacturers, British chemicals and their manufacturers; American Iron and Steel Institute, Directory of the iron and steel works of the U. S. and Canada; American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Mechanical catalog, 1935-36; Keystone Coal buyers manual; Paper and Pulp Mill Catalog; Sweet's Catalog file; Thomas' Register.

In the field of science the list is unusually long. A few titles which have been popular with our public are:— Eddington, A. S., New pathways in science; Gruenberg, B. C., Science and the public mind; Huxley, J. S., Science and social needs; Wolf, A., A history of science, technology and philosophy in the 16th and 17th centuries.

The literature on inventions has had some real contributions to the subject, such as: Gilfillan, S. C., The sociology of invention, and Yates, R. F., The art of inventing and what to invent.

Last but not least in any sense are the following titles: Bradley, J. H., Autobiography of earth; Boyd, T. A., Research the pathfinder of science and industry; Hammond, J. H., Autobiography; Lindbergh, A. M., North to the Orient; Outhwaite, L., Unrolling the map, the story of exploration; Leonard, J. N., Tools of tomorrow, etc., etc.

These are only a few selected titles which have been rather arbitrarily selected because they have been in constant demand by our curatorial staff and the Museum public. — *Mary B. Day, Museum of Science and Industry.*

An industrial corporation's librarian writes

In writing about the newer books in our Library, I am reminded of a question I am so often asked by other librarians (who know me well enough) when I go afield to look up an out-of-the-way problem: "Now please tell me what on earth does that have to do with a storage battery?"

The space here is not long enough, nor am I asked to explain why we have found a certain book useful to own, or why we find others of only very occasional value. This is not a publicity letter on our Company's product, so I shall only say then that a storage battery gets behind the scenes of many and varied activities of modern life and there are more problems under that rather uninteresting looking black exterior than appears on that surface.

A book dealing somewhat with a part of the externals as well as the internals which we have found of much interest, is "The Science of Rubber" by K. Memmler and translated from the German by the research staff of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. This was published late in 1934. It has passed so closely from one laboratory man to another that I have had little chance to get acquainted with it. However that fact in itself speaks well for it, but one feature I do know is that it has a voluminous and excellent bibliography at the end of it, compiled by Hilda Albaugh, librarian of the Firestone Company. It is a fine piece of work and a real contribution to rubber literature research.

Our spectrographic laboratory in their work with metals delves into problems which few of us can follow. For their interest and problems we bought "X-Rays in Theory and Experiment" by A. H. Compton with S. K. Allison. This is the most outstanding book on the subject this year and gives the latest theo-

ries, according to what I am told. "A Study of Crystal Structure and Its Applications," by Wheeler P. Davey (1934), is a scholarly work on crystal forms and differs from Compton because of its practical technique. Professor Davey was formerly with the General Electric Company and is now Research Professor of Physics at State College, Pa.

"Properties and Structure of Matter," by Herman T. Briscoe, is a good textbook for a person wishing to have a picture of the modern structure of matter. It is more elementary than the others. (The word "elementary" is not mine!) "Colloid Chemistry," by Arthur W. Thomas (1934), Professor of Chemistry, Columbia University, is another useful and thorough textbook.

"Electron Tubes in Chemistry," by Keith T. Henny, is an interesting, up-to-date book for electrical engineers working with that problem. "Elements of Electricity," by Anthony Zeleny, was obtained and is used on fundamental problems for review for those wishing it, and for those others with intelligent curiosity who are on the fringes of the deeper technical questions.

Volume 2 of the "Chemical Formulary," by H. Bennett, was published this year as a companion to Volume 1 which came out in 1934. Both of these are handy for all sorts of odds and ends in the work, as well as in personal hobbies.

"Industrial Maladies," by Sir Thomas Legge, is a thorough work on this subject. Though written from a British viewpoint, he is a well known authority and after all, all flesh (British or American) is heir to the same ills!

Nineteen thirty-five brought another volume — the 14th — to the monumental inorganic chemistry of Mellor's, and another supplementary volume to Thorpe's "Dictionary of Applied Chemistry," both of which are so well known

to all librarians with chemical problems. Without these sets it would be hard to navigate.

"Diesel Engines," by J. W. Anderson, though recently purchased, promises to be generally useful as a reference for the fundamental principles of marine or land diesels of many applications. Storage batteries are used for starting purposes so that it is necessary for our engineers to know as much about the characteristics of these engines as possible.

May I mention the 1935 Special Libraries Directory as a personal desk companion which certainly deserves to be counted in as one of the most useful of the newer publications.

These cover the main interests, I believe. Some of the annuals which are common to most of us are probably more widely used for general reference than any of the above, but I shall leave those to others for mention. — *Gertrude W. Maxwell, The Electric Storage Battery Company.*

A fine arts department librarian writes

Here are the book notes — but do the books *have* to be useful? One of the nicest of this year's books just can't go in that category. It is William Blake's "Book of Job" (Morgan library, \$75). All the drawings and engravings made for that series have been collected and beautifully reproduced, together with an interpretative explanation by Geoffrey Keynes.

One of the books I have found most really useful is not an art book, strictly speaking. It is the first volume (Aa-Goetheana) of *Lexikon des gesamten buchwesens*, edited by Karl Löffler and Joachim Kirchner. As far as I have found, it lives up to its title, having short notices on all subjects connected with the book arts, including technical terminology, illuminated manuscripts, printers and publishers, names and designers of

type faces, famous libraries, and collectors. There are many cross references, sometimes even referring from the French or English term to the German, where the word is defined, with its equivalents in other languages. Bibliographies at the end of each article add to the dictionary's usefulness.

The ever present need for authoritative surveys on special subjects is this year filled by David Talbot Rice's Byzantine art and Roger Hinks' Carolingian art — painting and sculpture in western Europe, A.D. 800–900. Both are scholarly, readable, and stimulating approaches to the subjects, with well-chosen illustrations, some of which are published for the first time. The Byzantine art is rendered more useful by an historical table, several maps, and good bibliographies. The sources of Carolingian art are brought out in Mr. Hinks' book for the first time in a comprehensive and entertaining manner.

Japanese scroll painting, by Kenji Toda, deals with a subject inadequately treated in most books on Oriental art. Mr. Toda's knowledge of Oriental literature and life and his understanding of the western viewpoint makes his interpretation of the scrolls particularly interesting. It is a key to books and scrolls published only in Japanese as it has lists of titles, artists, temples, and much used words in Japanese characters and their transliteration. Relegation of some other factual material to the appendix along with the notes on technique would have made the book more readable.

An interesting survey of art history, Art in the Western world, by D. M. Robb and J. J. Garrison, is not only a good textbook (with a glossary and chronological table) for students of college art history but also an entertaining summary for the general reader. The histories of architecture, sculpture, and painting are treated separately, each pre-

ceded by a chapter on principles and technique.

One of the titles which has been published over a period of years was completed this year, namely the publication of Sir Arthur Evans, covering his thirty years' excavations in the palace of Minos at Knossos. The last volume continues the high standard set by the first, which appeared in 1921.

Some of the most interesting material of the year is to be found in periodicals and serials, among them *Dolphin* and *Colophon*. *Colophon* has changed its format and is now more satisfactory from a librarian's viewpoint as it has continuous pagination throughout each number. The book is designed by W. A. Dwiggin whose work is described in *Dolphin*.

If you don't want to run a private press or bind a book after reading the second number of *Dolphin*, at least you'll begin collecting fine printing with renewed fervor. There is a useful article "On recognizing type faces" and a good one on binding, as well as many others of interest to librarians and collectors. — Sarah St. John, Department of Fine Arts, University of Pittsburgh.

A librarian "off-the-record"

Since the Editor provides me with the opportunity to mention the important books in the *life* of one librarian, it is amusing to realize that the year has been one of quite intensive mental training; an exception rather than the rule. Although some novels have been read, only "Lightship," by Archie Bevens, stands out; a fine book in the opinion of many besides reviewers.

Of books, not novels, the list is more complete. Among those that have given me a better grasp of current conditions, Paul H. Douglass' book on "Controlling Depressions" was hard work but more successful than anything similar. "Tools

of Tomorrow," by J. M. Leonard, was a revelation of exciting possibilities to a non-technically minded reader. "The Great Wall Crumbles," by Grover Clark, was an engrossing picture of China. After reading it, one wonders, to paraphrase a familiar quotation, if Japan should conquer China, would she gain the whole land to lose her own soul?

"Is This America," by John Gibbons, was such an amusing, sympathetic picture of a part of America that it was a particularly delightful vacation companion. "Bermuda in Three Colors," by Carveth Wells, kept me laughing and pining to go there. In an entirely different line, "The Doctor and the Public," by J. P. Warbusse, was fascinating with its revelation of the ramifications of medicine's service to humanity, and the sane and penetrating comments of the author.

Many books introduced me to people that I wanted to know. "Men of Turmoil" helped to make contemporary events clearer through its pictures of leading personalities, by authors of distinction. Other volumes that served this purpose were "Strange Street," by Beverly Baxter, with its vigorous and entertaining picture of English politics

as seen from the managing editor's office of a great paper, and "Myself," by John R. Commons, the vivid, valiant story of one of the men who has been a leader in the study of workmen's compensation and labor legislation, and was himself a person of warm human contacts. Perhaps the most enthralling biography was that of Thomas Mott Osborne, R. W. Chamberlain's "There Is No Truce." David Lanson's "We Who Are About to Die," written in the death-house of San Quentin, is a book that for courageous and objective writing, I shall not soon forget.

Of many other books that meant much to me personally: "On Liberty Today," by C. E. Joad, because of its brilliant penetrating analysis of current political thought; "New Minds for Old," by Esmé Wingfield-Stratford, because of its charming, sound and practical application of psychology to normal living conditions; and "The Woman Asks the Doctor," by Emil Novak, for its simple, straightforward discussion of health problems. On a subject frequently wrapped in flowery evasions, the author deserves congratulations for his clear un-sentimental style. — *Sue, Outgoing Mail.*

(To be continued)

What Books Shall We Buy?

ANY library, regardless of size, finds judicious book selection an ever-present problem. The development of many current lists, stressing different phases has simplified the task to a great extent. It is as well, however, for each librarian to consider, in the light of her particular problem, the manner in which each tool assists in such selection.

Regardless of the library, a foundation stone in an understanding of the philosophy of book selection is Helen Haines'

"Living with Books." This opens a whole new world of possibilities in adequate book service. Its study will give constant stimulant and refreshment, and re-reading or dipping into its pages will serve to secure that necessary fresh point of view. While it is intended primarily for public library use, the theory is as suggestive and the style as invigorating for special librarians.

With Miss Haines' book at hand for general guidance, what are the book bul-

letins for current use? For general selection, three monthly lists are particularly useful, *Emma Baldwin's Book Selection Service*, *The Booklist*, published by the American Library Association, and "Publications of Special Interest" in SPECIAL LIBRARIES. While all of these stress different aspects, in many cases, all three would earn their way in any library.

The Booklist covers reasonably current books giving full descriptive notes. The selection is based upon votes by leading public libraries. Titles are arranged by class. The annotations are conservative, and describe rather than evaluate. *Emma Baldwin's Book Selection Service* consists of recommendations of books she has examined before they are placed on sale. Her bulletin lists titles to be published within the coming month. It is primarily intended to enable the small library to buy with judgment and without waiting for reviews. Miss Baldwin has had years of experience in book selection and much practice in skillful annotation. Her service covers fiction and general non-fiction. These two publications are particularly helpful for special libraries with large personnel circulation.

"Publications of Special Interest" in SPECIAL LIBRARIES gives brief, evaluating annotations for books in the varied fields of special library interests. Features of particular usefulness to libraries are stressed. Economics, sociology, business, and the arts are given primary attention. Strictly technical books, fiction, essays, poetry and drama are omitted.

Such are the selective, general, annotated book list bulletins available as guides. Other lists appear in *Publishers Weekly*, *New York Times Book Review*, *Books*, and in other weeklies announcing forthcoming publications. These are frequently useful as checklists when the element of library selection is not essential.

Among the specialized book bulletins

that serve different types of special libraries, the new S. L. A. *Technical Book Review Index* is the most comprehensive and important. This bulletin, published ten times a year — September to June, covers around 300 titles a month. It gives author, title, page, and price, and includes extracts from reviews of the books listed. The bulletin is arranged alphabetically by author, and there is a cumulative subject index which refers by number to the various publications. This cumulative index will be particularly useful to those technical librarians who wish to be certain of complete collections. While they may have noted eighty percent of the titles included, the chance to check the remaining twenty percent will be of particular value.

The *Technical Book Review Bulletin*, published quarterly by the New York Public Library, is a selective book list covering some 350 titles in the year. Prices are frequently noted, and quotations are given from book reviews. The bulletin is arranged by subject, and not indexed.

Book bulletins helpful in other fields are not so elaborate. The quarterly *Insurance Book Review Bulletin*, issued by the Insurance Group of the Special Libraries Association, gives annotated lists of insurance books arranged by broad general groups — fire insurance, etc. Much pamphlet material is noted. This *Bulletin* is a helpful, and constructive activity on the part of the Group.

Municipal Reference Library Notes, published monthly, is useful in the field of municipal administration and allied topics. While only a few books are reviewed in each issue, the reviews are long and specific, and are of decided value in selecting such material.

Two book bulletins on business as a whole are published by business departments of public libraries. The *Bulletin of the Business Information Bureau* of the Cleveland Public Library appears at

irregular intervals. Instead of covering new books per se, as a rule, each issue gives an excellent bibliography on some special topic, as for example, the four page bibliography on "Durable Goods: Sources of Information," in the September 1935 issue. Brief annotations are given for each entry.

Business Literature, compiled at the Business Branch of the Newark Public Library, and now in its seventh volume, appears ten times a year from September to June, and consists of annotated lists of books or references to special subjects particularly in demand at the Business Branch. These lists are supplemented at frequent intervals so that the series on accounting or marketing, for example, give a general view of the literature of the subject.

Emma Baldwin's Book Selection Service, Denville, N. J. \$2.00 a year.

Booklist, American Library Association, 520 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois. \$2.50 a year.

Bulletin of Business Information Bureau, Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio. 50 cents a year.

Business Literature, Business Branch of Newark Public Library, 34 Commerce Street, Newark, N. J. \$1.00 a year.

Municipal Reference Library Notes, New York Municipal Reference Library, Municipal Building, New York, N. Y. \$2.00 a year.

Publications of Special Interest, SPECIAL LIBRARIES, 345 Hudson Street, New York, N. Y. \$5.00 a year.

Technical Book Review Bulletin, New York Public Library, 5th and 42nd Street, New York, N. Y. No price.

Technical Book Review Index, Special Libraries Association, 345 Hudson Street, New York, N. Y. \$5.00 a year.

Notes on Bibliographies

SOME varied bibliographies have recently passed through Headquarters. The most impressive in point of size and subject content is the first supplement to the London Bibliography of the Social Sciences. This subject catalog of the British Library of Political and Economic Science at the London School of Economics, the Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature at the University of London, the Libraries of the Royal Statistical Society and the Royal Anthropological Institute, and certain special collections at University College, London, and elsewhere, lists their additions from June 1929 to May 31, 1931. No annotations are given, nor are prices, but the volume is a comprehensive guide to sociological literature. The list of subject headings is interesting as an indication of English practice.

Economic movements, especially as they relate to the government, have been among the most fertile fields for bibliographical reference. The Library of Congress has compiled a list of

some 200 references covering state income taxes, arranged first by general references and then by state. The New York State Employment Service has issued a selected bibliography on unemployment insurance compiled by Hazel Ohman, arranged under the headings General Works, United States, and Foreign Countries. The contribution of the Florida Emergency Relief Administration is an impressive "Bibliography of Transient and Homeless" of 87 odd pages, giving annotations and prices. Besides the list by topics, there is one by periodicals covering references from approximately 1932 to 1934. A list of directories and bibliographies is also included, as well as an author index. The great service in indexing legislative measures given by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration library is particularly clear in the state series. The cumulated bulletin is an impressive indication of the efforts made. Other series cover federal measures and summaries by states. Miss Carroll has done

her usual thorough job in preparing the "Key to the League of Nations Documents Placed on Public Sales, 1932-33."

In a "Bibliography of Civil Service and Personnel Administration," Miss Greer has completed an impressive undertaking, and compiled one of the outstanding publications of the Commission of Inquiry on Public Service Personnel. The many references to studies in other countries is particularly noteworthy. Another publication based on extensive research is the "Bibliography of Negro Migration" by F. A. Ross and L. V. Kennedy. This is especially satisfactory because of the fine annotations for each entry. The functional classification suggests interesting possibilities in the use of the bibliography though the lack of a straight subject index may prevent rapid consultation. A useful list in connection with a college course is the "Systematic Outline of Criminology with Selected Bibliography" by Walter Lunden of the University of Pittsburgh.

Some of the specialized bibliographies that have appeared show a wide range of interest. Mr. Thomas of the Columbia University Library has completed a strenuous task in providing a "Bibliography of Nicholas Murray Butler from 1872-1932." This is arranged chronologically and the subject index is a striking indication of the wide range of President Butler's interests. An annotated list which is particularly helpful in evaluating sources of information has been compiled by the Rubber Committee of the Science-Technology Group.

An attractive and unusual bibliography is that on Italian Late Renaissance Art brought out by Francis J. Geck, instructor of interior decoration at the University of Colorado. This not only includes the usual and well-known subjects, but gives references on chimney pieces, fountains and lighting fixtures. An amazing amount of related material is covered in its pages. The redwoods of California are one of the chief forestry treasures of the country, and an active "Save-The-Redwoods League" guards their interest. The League has prepared an attractively illustrated reading list of articles, pamphlets and books on the Sequoia *Sempervirens* of real value. Two of the fine bibliographical projects of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture are "Agricultural

Economics Bibliographies" 55 and 56, with their indexes to information on prices and consumption of fruits, vegetables and nuts in the United States.

For those with spare time, the National Council of Teachers of English has prepared an attractive little list called "Good Reading," covering some 900 books and intended as a guide for college students and adult readers. Another help for so-called leisure hours, especially those spent in taking care of birthday presents and Christmas gifts for young nieces and nephews, lies in "Books of the Year for Children: 1934" brought out by the Child Study Association of America. This annotated list, arranged by years, may prove an ever-ready help in time of trouble. A list with annotations that are particularly informative is the "Annotated Bibliography on Adult Education" compiled by W. M. Proctor of Stanford University. All phases of the subject are adequately covered and many references to the development abroad are noted.

Probably the most fascinating bibliography of the year, both to compile and to use, is "Propaganda and Promotional Activities" by Harold D. Lasswell. The great growth, both in propaganda, and in the groups using this weapon, makes such a bibliography a compilation of particular value. It will be of constant reference use to any one concerned with current trends of thought. Two bibliographies that have placed particular stress on careful annotations are "A Trade Union Library" compiled by Helen Baker, and "Business Book Shelf" by Marian C. Manley and Mary E. Hunt. Both publications are selective rather than inclusive. Another well-annotated bibliography is that on "Intellectual and Cultural Relations between the United States and Latin America" by M. Alice Matthews. "Books for the Advertising Man" by A. T. Falk, though not annotated, is an exceptionally well-selected list.

* * *

Allen, F. P., comp. Check list of periodical literature and publications of learned societies of interest to zoologists, in the Univ. of Mich. libraries. Univ. of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, Mich. May, 1935. 83 p. No price.

Am. Petroleum Inst. Selected bibliography of the current literature of petroleum. Vol. 1, No. 2. The Inst., N. Y. July-Sept., 1934. 71 p. Free.

- Baker, Helen, comp. Trade union library. Industrial Relations Section. Princeton Univ. 1935. 28 p. No price.
- Bauer, H. C., comp. Bibliography of the Tennessee Valley Authority. Tennessee Valley Authority, Technical Library, Knoxville. 1934. 25 p. Free.
- Baden, A. L., comp. State income taxes, a bibliographical list of writings. Lib. of Congress, Div. of Bibl., Wash., D. C. 1934. 21 p. No price.
- Bassett, L. A. Bibliography of transient and homeless persons. Florida Emergency Relief Administration, Transient Dept., Jacksonville. 1934. 101 p. 38¢.
- Bibliography of the Redwoods; reading list of articles, pamphlets and books on the Sequoia Sem-pervirens. Save-the-Redwoods League, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley. 1935. 15 p. 10¢.
- Books of the year for children; a selection of various ages and varied tastes. Child Study Assn. of Am., N. Y. 1934. 21 p. 10¢.
- Carnegie Inst. of Technology. Bibliography of non-metallic inclusions in iron and steel. Bull. No. 70. The Inst., Pittsburgh. 1934. 330 p. \$4.00.
- Carroll, M. J. Key to League of Nations documents placed on public sale, 1932-1933. (3rd sup. to Key to League of Nations Documents, 1920-1929.) World Peace Found., N. Y. 1934. 119 p. No price.
- Colvin, E. M., comp. List of periodicals containing prices and other statistical and economic information on fruits, vegetables and nuts. (Agric. Econ. Bibl. No. 55.) U. S. Dept. of Agric., Bur. of Agric. Econ., Wash., D. C. Jan. 1935. 242 p. Free.
- Culver, D. C., comp. Selected descriptive list of sources for the study of federal administration. Bur. of Public Administration, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley. March 15, 1935. 6 p. No price.
- Day, M. B., comp. Reading list on the history of railroads. Museum of Science and Industry. Chicago. 1935. 6 p. No price.
- Falk, A. T., comp. Books for the advertising man. Advertising Federation of Amer., N. Y. 1935. 24 p. 50¢.
- FERA Research Lib. Legislative Bulletin: Federal Series. Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Wash., D. C. 1935. 22 p. No price.
- FERA Research Lib. Legislative Bulletin. State series. Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Wash., D. C. 1935. 138 p. No price.
- FERA Research Lib. Non-institutional relief measures of the states and territories, Pennsylvania, 1920-1933. Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Wash., D. C. July 1934. 74 p. No price.
- Geck, F. J. Bibliography of Italian late Renaissance art, 1540-1600. Vol. 8. Univ. of Colo. Book Store, Boulder. 1934. 76 p. \$1.25.
- Graf, Dorothy, comp. Soil erosion and its prevention. (A partial list of references 1900-1934.) U. S. Dept. of Agric., Bur. of Agric. Eng. Lib., Wash., D. C. 1935. 91 p. Free.
- Greer, Sarah. Bibliography of civil service and personnel administration. McGraw-Hill, N. Y. 1935. 153 p. \$2.00.
- Herb, M. I., comp. Consumption of fruits and vegetables in the United States; An index to some sources of statistics. (Agric. Econ. Bibl. No. 56.) U. S. Dept. of Agric., Bur. of Agric. Econ., Wash., D. C. Jan. 1935. 130 p. Free.
- Laswell, H. D., Casey, R. D. and Smith, B. L. Propaganda and promotional activities: An annotated bibliography. Univ. of Minn. Press, Minneapolis, Minn. 1935. 46 p. \$3.50.
- Lunden, W. A. Systematic outline of criminology with selected bibliography. Univ. of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh. 1935. 115 p. No price.
- Manley, M. C. and Hunt, M. E., comp. The Business bookshelf. Business Branch of the Newark Library, Newark, N. J. 1935. 75 p. \$2.00.
- Mathews, M. Alice, comp. Intellectual and cultural relations between the United States and Latin America. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington. 1935. 17 p. No price.
- Ohman, H. E., comp. Unemployment insurance, a selected bibliography. N. Y. State Employment Service, N. Y. Jan. 30, 1935. 7 p. No price.
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- Proctor, W. M., comp. Annotated bibliography on adult education. Am. Assn. for Adult Educ., N. Y. 1934. 124 p. No price.
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- Rubber periodicals: an annotated list of the periodicals of that industry. Special Lib. Assn., N. Y. 1934. 7 p. 25¢.
- Thomas, M. H., comp. Bibliography of Nicholas Murray Butler, 1872-1932; a check list. Columbia Univ. Pr., N. Y. 1934. 438 p. \$5.00.
- Townsend, A. H., ed. Good reading: a guide for college students and adult readers. Nat. Council of Teachers of English, Com. on College Reading, Chicago. 1934. 71 p. 15¢.
- U. S. Dept. of Interior, Office of Educ. Bibl. of studies of the home economics curriculum, 1926-1934. (Voc. ed. Bul. No. 179.) Supt. of Doc., Wash., D. C. 1935. 70 p. 10¢.



President's Page

FOR the past three months I have been using my allotted space to stress some of the more vital S. L. A. problems — constitutional revision, participation in group work, and membership support. As the holiday season approaches, I am going to turn deliberately to a more general and less strenuous phase of special librarianship.

This number carries a symposium on important books of the year, contributed by members in various fields of work. In other ways it brings together information about, or at least lists the titles of, books in widely separated branches of knowledge. I am going to suggest this month that we are all capable of acquiring an improved outlook because of an occasional excursion outside our own domain.

There are two points of view that are rather interesting. One reader says, "There are so few books relating to my particular field that the reviews are not of great use to me." Another says, "I am so shut off in my own job that this department is of particular help to me because it gives me a glimpse into the other sort of literature. It is broadening because of that view of others' activities."

This is a point that many special librarians can think about with some emphasis. These librarians are busy; they have much to do in their own libraries; and, yet, they cannot serve their own libraries to the best advantage if they limit their contacts, in reading or in action, to one line alone.

The publication notes in SPECIAL LIBRARIES give a short cut to a broad general knowledge. We have such varied interests in the Association that to approach these at all we must include ma-

terial of distinctly varied content. If readers, instead of looking solely for the books that belong in their own division, take the opportunity to get a brief glimpse of other lines, they will work all the better in their own field.

I find my patrons need help not in the use of their professional books, in which they are well skilled, but in finding their way about as the ramifications of their legal cases carry them into economics, finance, government and general information. Keeping up one's acquaintance with what is being published today helps in suggesting books to other people and may, incidentally, enable one to hold his own in general conversation.

May I draw a parallel between this sort of thing and my incoming mail basket? I am inclined to view with some measure of interest and respect almost any communication or piece of advertising that crosses my desk, even though it goes immediately to my waste basket. Much of it is inspired by commercial motives; some of it is propaganda; some of it has no relation whatever to my activities. Yet, with all its imperfections and inadequacies, this incoming mail represents a cross-section of what a large number of people think a law librarian ought to be interested in.

In somewhat the same way a collection of book reviews, and particularly a symposium prepared by various contributors, represents a cross-section of what some members of an association are recommending to other members. In other words, this number of SPECIAL LIBRARIES contains a pooling of the information of specialists for the benefit of all.

HOWARD L. STEBBINS,
President.

The Special Library Profession and What It Offers

12. Religious Libraries

Hollis W. Hering

LIBRARIAN, MISSIONARY RESEARCH LIBRARY, NEW YORK CITY

TO THOSE identified with religious libraries, an outstanding impression gained from the series of library surveys which have so far appeared in *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* is that of the astounding youth, with few exceptions, of the various "specials." Surely the religious library is the dean of all, with the roots of its genealogical tree embedded in those clay tablets of Hammurabi, which, in B.C. 2200, formed a collection of temple records absolutely qualifying as a "special library"! In the process of growth, by the way, that tree has put forth some fascinating branches: an enchanting little twig of B.C. 280, when we find a "book of records" chained to the door of Diana's temple at Ephesus; — a mighty limb in the great Vatican library at Rome which has historic origins in church records dating from the second century, and where problems in special cataloging became acute in 1295; — a leafy branch in that exquisite mediaeval library at the Cathedral of Hereford where all the books are still chained to their places (with the big tomes on the *upper* and the little ones on the *lower* shelves), and where the librarian must needs carry with him a huge key to unlock the bars when a book is to be removed.

History

This survey, however, is chiefly concerned with religious libraries on the North American continent. Even here we are of a goodly age, for that much overloaded "Mayflower" carried, along with the household pots and pans, a "special library" of theological books — rather grim ones to our way of thinking, but most inspiring to our Pilgrim Fathers. In 1638, John Harvard, a Puritan minister, bequeathed his library of three hundred books (chiefly theological) to the recently established institution at Cambridge. The labors of the Mather family, earnestly seeking for an educational

"colledge" of a stricter theology than Harvard, were influential in establishing Yale with its religious library in 1701. But the early American religious libraries suffered a temporary eclipse of individuality by being submerged in university libraries — where theological works formed merely one section responding to the theological courses in the curriculum. With the establishment of separate theological seminaries, they again came into their own as separate entities. In 1791, St. Mary's Seminary (Roman Catholic) was established in Baltimore; in 1794, the United Presbyterians founded their seminary in what is now Xenia, Ohio; in 1807, the Congregationalists founded Andover (largely to counteract the ungodly and horrifying tendencies of Harvard); and in 1812, the Presbyterians established Princeton (possibly to counteract the heresy of Congregational thought at Andover. Presbyterians have always dealt severely with heresy!). Religious libraries have thus in America been largely identified with seminaries; in response to denominational pressure, the numerical growth of such institutions has been steady, until, according to a recent estimate, there are now some 198 seminaries, Biblical institutes, or schools of religion in the United States, with library collections ranging in size from a low of 300 volumes to a high of approximately 194,400. At least seven in the United States have each a library of over 100,000 volumes. Growing out of seminary demands, but distinct from the seminary libraries, there is slowly developing a special type of extension collection, known as the Alumni Lending Library. The pioneer, and by far the finest example of this is connected with Union Theological Seminary in New York City — a very active and well-organized little library now in its tenth year, with a revolving collection of about 1,500 books, a circulation in 1934

of 3,038, free to Union Seminary graduates, but serving others on payment of \$5.00 annually.

With the expansion of church organization, needs for more specialized types of library service inevitably emerged. The various church boards (home and foreign missions in particular) had files of annual reports, conferences, and work records to be kept, and required accurate general information about the various fields occupied; denominational and interdenominational publishing enterprises (such as church or interdenominational periodicals, or boards issuing study textbooks) required office libraries for quick and accurate factual reference; coöperative, international planning in the world-wide outreach of Christianity inescapably led to libraries facilitating research, while organizations allied to but not connected with the Church (such as the Y. M. and Y. W. C. A.) faced special informational problems of their own. As a result of these varied demands, there has grown up a small but active non-seminary group of religious libraries. (Perhaps they might be classed as "extra-curricular activities"!)

Apparently, the first of these was established in Boston by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions about 1810. The American Bible Society (N. Y.) was founded in 1816, and early began to gather its outstanding collection of Bible translations. In 1840, the Foreign Missions Library was begun by the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., and it has long held a front-rank place in the service organizations of that church. Bit by bit other denominational boards followed suit. Gradually, also, there developed the idea of an interdenominational library to be devoted to missions and missionary literature. This was first set forth in 1893, by Dr. F. N. Noble, in a small pamphlet entitled, "Shall the Interior have a Great Library of Missions?" This idea began to take form in 1900, when a large number of books were collected as a library exhibit for the Ecumenical Missionary Conference. It is significant of its scope, and more than a bit unexpected, to find that "at the close of the Ecumenical Conference, the Directors of the Christian Missions Museum and Library . . . placed the material of the Exhibit in the care of the Anthropological Department of the Museum of Natural History (N. Y.)." The project

finally took definite shape, however, in 1914, with the founding of the Missionary Research Library in New York City. The total number of libraries to be classed in this non-seminary group, and the number of volumes involved, have never been accurately determined. Even the Special Libraries Directory and questionnaires give little help as to these statistics. At present, the largest member of the group approximates a collection of 65,000 volumes. There is no information as to the smallest — possibly it is affiliated with the aforementioned one at the Temple of Diana.

Scope

Historically, seminaries have been proverbially conservative as to curricula, and therefore as to materials given the entrée of the library. Nevertheless the new demands which the surge of modern life make on ministers and allied workers now bring into the purview of religious libraries, besides the standard subjects of church history, systematic theology, comparative religion, homiletics, theological propaedeutics (lovely and rhythmical name!), etc., a wide spread of topics. Religious educational method and ideals in the most up-to-date and scientific conception, the sociology of rural community organization or of urban housing conditions, the spiritual ministry of music, ethical implications of labor, class and race struggles, the tremendous outreach of the responsibility for world friendship, all these call for materials which would have been anathema in a religious library of our Puritan forefathers' ideals. (Just picture Cotton Mather poring over a file of *The Masses!*) Naturally, the theology and literature of a special denomination served by the seminary take primary place. For example, Crozer Theological Seminary, at Chester, Pa., has an outstanding collection of Baptist material. We heard of one graduate of a Presbyterian seminary so enamoured of her denominational literature that she took Calvin's Institutes from the library to read on her honeymoon! (As a well-merited punishment, she developed the mumps so severely that her eyes were swollen shut and she couldn't read anything!) Many of these libraries are also emphasizing special collections. The Divinity School of the University of Chicago is building up a missions and church

history section; the Pacific School of Religion, at Berkeley, Cal., has unique materials on Buddhism; and, among other specialties, the Hymnological Collection, and the McAlpin Collection of British History and Theology at Union Theological Seminary (N. Y.) are outstanding. Among the non-seminary specialties mention should be made of valuable historical Board records, diaries of early missionaries, preliminary papers and primary sources lying back of numerous conferences, both on the home fields and abroad. The library of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church (N. Y.) reports an unusual picture collection. In this group, more so than in the seminary libraries, pamphlet materials are important. In both groups, variety of resources is essential, for the readers no longer form a homogeneous clientele. Although in the seminary libraries the use of books is necessarily overwhelmingly by faculty, research workers, and the student body, in the special non-seminary collections a widely varied constituency is served by telephone and correspondence. From the Missionary Research Library, for instance, newspapers, insurance companies, moving picture concerns, medical research workers, economists, sociologists, from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific, from Maine to Florida, demand (and usually receive) data pertinent to phases of their investigations.

Organization and Administration

By far the most complete survey of libraries in the American seminaries was made in 1929 by Raymond P. Morris, assistant librarian of Yale Divinity School, published in summary by the Institute of Social and Religious Research in the study of "The Education of American Ministers" (1934, vol. III, pp. 149-191). According to this survey, many of the seminary libraries are laggards in up-to-date organization. In five of the seminaries surveyed, of the total institutional budget over 10 percent is spent on the library, at the other end, however, in five cases, the libraries receive less than one percent of the total funds. The average seems to be about four or five percent. Of the book budget, subscriptions to periodicals average at least 15 percent; they have been known to go as high as 43 percent. The librarian (usually a man) too often carries teaching

as his primary work, in some instances giving as little as barely one-third of his time to library oversight. His first assistant (frequently a woman) bears the brunt of the real library work, but must fight hard for recognition or status. As a rule, there are both circulating and cataloging departments; but reference work is frequently handled either by the librarian or by the various members of the faculty. In the non-seminary group, reference and, at times, even research work is expected from the librarian as a matter of course, although she may also have to turn her hand to cataloging, indexing, circulating, and general utility work. For the seminary group, there is usually a very active library committee, that part of seminary library administration concerned with budget making and book selection being, in the majority of cases, handled by a supervisory committee, with little general initiative allowed the librarian. Where the latter is also a member of the teaching staff, he qualifies for making recommendations as to purchases in his special field of knowledge by virtue of his standing as professor. In certain of the non-seminary libraries, this general situation is reversed, the committee limiting its supervision to deciding broad policies only, and the librarian (usually a woman) being given wide liberty of initiative.

Since the gospel of helping one's brother ranks with all religious workers as a primary obligation, inter-library loans and reference help by correspondence and telephone are freely indulged in, with only minor restrictions, by both groups.

Staff and Salaries

According to available records, size of staff varies at present from one general factotum to twelve regular appointees, supplemented in the case of seminary libraries, by student help. Where there are separate departments, the greater emphasis tends to be placed on the cataloging. One very serious and discouraging feature is the low educational and professional requirements for the staff. This refers particularly, but by no means exclusively, to those instances where the librarian ranks primarily as professor. For only the top rank (and then not invariably) is either a college degree or professional training automatically required. This is the more remarkable since the organi-

zation of materials is as a rule left in the hands of the staff, unsupervised or controlled by the library committee, and with only a perfunctory oversight by the professor-librarian. In the face of this, it is remarkable what skilful work has been put through. Clerical and incidental page functions are frequently carried by students earning their way, and this force, of course, changes each year. The regular full-time staff averages a schedule of 38 to 40 hours a week, with one month holiday, when the seminary is closed. Concomitant with low educational requirements are discouragingly low salaries, with marked discrimination against women — probably a hang-over from the fulminations against them thundered forth by the Church Fathers! As noted above, the seminary librarian is usually a member of the teaching faculty for whom the library oversight is an addendum; this inevitably pulls his salary away out of focus when compared with those of the rest of his staff. Insofar as can be judged, the salary of the librarian as such, if a man, averages \$2,321; if a woman, this average drops by an even \$1,000. The average salary of the full-time staff assistant in 1929 was \$1,360; owing to budget cuts, it has probably dropped since then. The chief assistant may, in rare cases, reach \$3,000.

In the organization of materials, there has lately been a fairly widespread movement for reclassifying the seminary libraries. For years, the "fixed location" of shelving was very firmly fixed indeed; but this system finally broke under its own weight. Among the earliest to abandon it for a relative location was the Case Memorial Library at Hartford Theological Seminary, about 1890, soon followed by the Rochester Theological Seminary, and the Lutheran Seminary at Mt. Airy. There are now three major schemes of relative classification operating — the D.C. (with or without modifications); the Union Theological Seminary (N. Y.) scheme brilliantly worked out by the head cataloger, Julia Pettee; and the Library of Congress scheme. According to the findings of Mr. Morris the trend seems to indicate an increasing importance of the last.

In the non-seminary group, the library staff is almost exclusively composed of women. Salaries here also are discouragingly low, the

privilege of working for the church apparently being considered the equivalent of additional cash on which to live. In 1933, an average salary for a one-woman library was about \$1,200. This is less than a good stenographer commands (at least in New York City). Educational and professional requirements, however, are generally higher in this group. These libraries frankly tend to use their own classifications, since in the majority of cases they have been evolved to answer the specific type of work demanded of the library. On the one hand, the steadily expanding pressure of research, and on the other, sharply reduced budgets, have greatly increased the analytical work done by both groups.

Publicity

On the whole, there is no special individuality in the publicity methods of the religious libraries. Besides mimeographed lists of recent acquisitions, those in the seminary group make use, wherever possible, of a seminary bulletin. The Union Theological Seminary of New York, and the Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Chicago have each an excellent *Alumni Bulletin* in which are listed not only recent acquisitions in the library, but more or less extended reviews by the various professors. Where the seminary sponsors a periodical (as the *Crozer Theological Review*, at Chester, Pa.) definite space is reserved for library notes. The Alumni Lending Library at Union Theological Seminary, New York, keeps its clientele fully alert to new acquisitions by periodic mimeographed lists, and has, furthermore, coöperated with the seminary book service by recently issuing a well chosen list of "Books for a Church Library." In the non-seminary group, use is made of periodical space, as in the *Bible Society Record* of the American Bible Society; for the past twelve years, the American Congregational Association of Boston has issued a most attractive little *Quarterly Bulletin*; the *Missionary Research Library* (N. Y.) holds an annual exhibit of the twelve months' publications at the Foreign Missions Conference, for which it provides a mimeographed list; this library is also responsible for the American entries in the quarterly journal, *The International Review of Missions*. Lack of space or poor physical surroundings hampers this group inso-

far as exhibit possibilities are concerned; although hopeful efforts in this direction are frequently put forth. Usually a lively and attractive bulletin board is to be found near the entrance, however, on which are placed recently issued promotional pamphlets, newspaper clippings of interest to the departments served, and striking book jackets of current acquisitions. It takes time and care to keep a bulletin-board "alive," but it usually is well worth the effort. One beautiful piece of exhibit publicity is to be found in the library of the American Bible Society, where a large map of the world is outfitted with tiny electric bulbs which light up the fields occupied by the various languages into which the American Bible Society has translated the Bible.

Opportunities

Certain of the other surveys in this series use as heading for this section the term "Future"; to which we of the religious libraries

are impelled automatically to add the word "Life." This is quite as it should be, since, although we may be hoary with age, we are very, very far from being moribund. The world of religious thought is in a state of seething upheaval, which is both fascinating and exhilarating. But this upheaval, however vividly reflected in teaching or professional output, has not as yet greatly affected seminary library administration. There is much hard work to be done here in the sphere of educational and professional qualifications, salary, and status of the staff, and in the range of initiative permitted in their work. In these respects, the libraries of the non-seminary group are somewhat in advance of their conservative coworkers. For anyone, however, who finds joy (and sometimes heart-break) in following the changes in world-wide manifestations of spiritual idealism in action, there is no field comparable in stimulating interest to that occupied by the religious libraries.

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Snips and Snipes

Question. . . . Will all the members of the reading circle who noticed the changed appearance of *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* in the November issue put up their hand (sic)? We thought so. Well, our opinion is that it's a great improvement: we like the rough paper, the cover layout, and particularly the looks of the first page. . . . And while we're on the sub-

ject of the November issue, we think the "Personnel Exchange Service" column is an interesting experiment. . . .

Ear-To-The-Ground Department. . . . Uncas back from a scouting trip brings us rumors but not verifications of exciting events to come. One concerns the T.B.-R.I. and its assured future. By the way,

we've just seen Numbers 1 and 2 and we're terribly impressed by its professional appearance and its usable cumulating subject index. . . . Rumor number two is a project instigated by Marian Manley and nursed along by Mary Louise Alexander which promises to be very important. It has something to do with a survey on the way business men use information and solve their problems. We give you our word when Uncas brings us the whole story, we'll let you have it. . . . Baltimore chapter has a scheme up its sleeve in regard to Elizabeth von Hohenhoff's patent bibliography. . . .

Changes and Chances. . . . Madeline Schneidewind, who has more letters in her name than anyone we can think of, is the new head of the library and research department of the Progressive Grocer. . . . Adeline M. Macrum, ace chapter starter, has come to New York from Albany to be with the H. W. Wilson Company. . . . Rosine K. Mohaupt is the new librarian of the new School of Public Affairs at Wayne University, Detroit. . . . Virginia H. Meredith went to the New York Stock Exchange on November 1 to be their librarian. . . . A. Elizabeth Beal and Rebecca Breskin have gone rural in a big way. The former is now librarian of the Agricultural Library at Penn State College, the latter librarian of the Rural Resettlement Division in Washington. . . . Special note to G. Peterkin, F. Bradley, R. Rankin, et al.: W. Atlee Burpee Seed Company of Philadelphia have started a library. Eileen Smythe is the librarian. . . .

Chapter Chat. . . . Pittsburgh Chapter's ingenuity bobs up again in its October bulletin. The Bulletin cover illustrates with appropriate symbolism the various types of special libraries within its fold. . . . The Illinois Chapter jaunted down to the University of Illinois on November

16 to visit the special libraries of the University. A thoughtful committee provided cars for the trip. Illinois is already profiting by its methods committee under Ruth G. Nichols. . . . Josephine Hollingsworth and the Southern California Chapter took an active part in the Institute for Librarians conducted by the University of Southern California School of Government at the annual meeting of the Sixth District of California Library Association. The theme of the Institute was "Public Relations" and three round tables simultaneously discussed phases of the subject. . . . New Jersey is our new King Charles' head. We can't keep it out of our column. Their November meeting was a tremendous success in spite of one of the season's worst fogs. The chapter had *printed* announcements; apparently it paid, for they, and the subject, "Information Service, how it may be developed," *and* the speakers drew a large crowd, company executives among them. When c.e. come, believe us, it's something! . . . What do you think New York did with the unprepossessing subject, "City, State and Federal Documents?" Drew a mere 235 people to hear Rebecca Rankin and Dr. James I. Wyer. Something snappy's in order, but why gild the lily? . . . We hope we'll hear the outcome of the panel discussion Boston held at its November meeting, "Professional Values of Library Conventions." It's a stirring subject and, please, we'd like to vote yes on point 3, "Should expenses of tending conventions be borne by the employer?" . . . Milwaukee Chapter did a swell job in getting space at the Milwaukee and Wisconsin Industrial Exposition in November. Their exhibit showed the workings of a special library and incidentally its value to business and industry. Secretary Clarke sent out a lot of material, as did Editor Manley from the John Cotton Dana exhibit. . . .

Snippets. . . . Mrs. Bevan tells us that subscriptions to the Insurance Book Review are coming in from outside the reservation: One two-year subscription hails from Japan. . . . Our institutional members are up and doing which is not news, but they are telling us about it, which is. The Board of Education Library of Newark is publishing an annotated list of new books for teachers called "School Library Notes." The boys in the school printing classes set it up and print it. . . . We hear from C. W. Sumner, librarian of the Youngstown Public Library, that he isn't going to take any chances with the coming generation's not being readers. He has instituted an unusual course, the purpose of which is to teach mothers to instil in their babies the love of books from *babyhood*. . . . The British Library of Information is issuing a monthly list of current publications of the British Government, which they distribute. We rather think they'll send you

a copy of the list if you'd like to see it and if you'll ask them to. . . . Apropos of the B.L.I., we hear that one still magnetic peripatetic Angus Fletcher has taken to the road again. This time it's to Iowa and Texas for lecturing purposes. . . . If you know anyone who's going to take the examination for prison librarian, send her off brickety brickety to get a copy of Abraham (New York Municipal Reference Library) Jacobs' selected list of books and articles, "Prison Libraries." . . .

So Gracious Is The Time. . . . The wind is whistling, snow whirls past the street lights, our river is a black streak between white banks, four icicles hang from the window. The bird of dawning seems to be singing and — Well, we've felt it coming all this wholesome night, and so with a warm heart for kindnesses received and duly noted, we say — MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Publications of Special Interest

Alexander, Franz and Healy, William. *Roots of crime*. Knopf, N. Y. 1935. 310 p. \$3.00.

Psychoanalytic studies of offenders, indicating the complicated elements that contribute to delinquency. It suggests, though in very general terms, possibilities for preventative work that, in time, may prove effective.

American Country Life Assoc. *National planning and rural life*. Univ. of Chicago Press. 1935. 156 p. \$2.00.

The Agricultural Adjustment program, population, and occupational shifts, and the international aspects of planning are discussed thoughtfully. The papers will prove helpful in understanding the fundamental relationship of agriculture and national welfare.

Baxter, A. B. *Strange street*. Appleton, N. Y. 1935. 296 p. \$3.00.

A newspaper editor's autobiography that, for action, humor, and tenderness, rivals a novel. England, since the war, is graphically depicted, many of its central political figures effectively characterized, and the relation of Canada to the Empire shown, in its underlying strength.

Beals, R. A. *Aspects of post-collegiate education*. Amer. Assoc. for Adult Education, N. Y. 1935. 137 p. \$1.25.

Discussion on the service of the college to its graduates

in their later years, with particular reference to reading courses maintained for the graduates. Some very pertinent comments included.

Benson, M. S. *Women in eighteenth century America*. Columbia Univ. Press, N. Y. 1935. 343 p. \$4.00.

A carefully prepared account of the activities, education, and interests of women based on wide study of contemporary writings. Carefully documented, and supplemented by an extensive bibliography. An excellent guide to the sources of information on this subject.

Bernheim, A. L. and Van Doren, Dorothy. *Labor and the government*. McGraw, N. Y. 1935. 413 p. \$2.75.

This investigation of the rôle of the government in labor relations under the auspices of the Twentieth Century Fund, Inc., is a straightforward presentation of the problems involved. It stresses particularly those affecting collective bargaining, and the part played by company, and by trade unions. A lucid, concise analysis. No bibliography, but many footnotes.

Broun, Heywood. *It seems to me*. Harcourt, Brace, N. Y. 1935. 335 p. \$2.50.

Major and minor impressions of a columnist who is a valiant fighter for the proletariat, as well as a discerning

observer of tender harmonies. High spots of the past ten years are presented with trenchant comment.

Chamberlain, J. A. *Commercial law; revised by Credit, R. V.* Amer. Technical Society, Chicago. 1935. 308 p. \$2.00.

A non-technical treatment of business and commercial law, excellent for the inexperienced.

Chase, Stuart. *Government in business.* Macmillan, N. Y. 1935. 296 p. \$2.00.

An analysis of the extent to which government is now controlling business, the reasons therefor, and the logical directions for extension of government activity. Suggests many interesting references for further reading. Effective presentation of theories of other economists given in one chapter. Provocative ideas are ably discussed throughout.

Cherington, P. T. *People's wants and how to satisfy them.* Harper, N. Y. 1935. 185 p. \$2.00.

Another mild contribution to the discussion of the means by which business is to go forward.

Dimock, M. E. *Developing America's waterways.* Univ. of Chicago Press. 1935. 123 p. \$1.50.

A penetrating survey of the effectiveness of the government-owned Inland Waterways Corporation with many suggestions for the improvement of service, and general management. Interesting, not only in its consideration of transportation, but also as an analysis of management that can be applied to other fields. Short bibliography is included.

Dipman, C. W. *Modern food stores. The Progressive Grocer.* N. Y. 1935. 100 p. \$2.00.

A practical volume with many effective illustrations of food stores, giving exteriors and interiors, as well as details. Floor plans are included. Concise, practical text.

Eaton, Jeanette. *Behind the show window.* Harcourt, Brace, N. Y. 1935. 325 p. \$2.50.

A story of the many processes behind the actual sale to the consumer, and the problems she faces in endeavoring to spend wisely. The section on textiles discusses weighting, number of threads in weaving, etc. Good photographic illustrations. Elementary, and rather superficial, but useful for background.

Eddington, Sir Arthur. *New Pathways of Science.* Macmillan, N. Y. 1935. 333 p. \$3.00.

Contains a brief summary of the field of atomic physics, the workings and implications of the statistical type of law and modern conceptions of astrophysics, particularly in regard to the philosophy of mathematical relationships in physics. Added to what he has already presented in his "Expanding Universe" and "Nature Of The Physical World" is his philosophy of science and experience. He comments that while man has reduced natural phenomena to formulae by the development of intricate sciences, he still tries to read the accumulated data in the light of experience which is unreliable and not to be trusted. Chapter XII is an enlightening exposition of how conceptions of logical form show themselves in pure mathematics.

Ellison, E. J. and Brock, F. W. *The run for your money.* Dodge, N. Y. 1935. 258 p. \$2.50.

Good reporting on the many ways of getting money from the gullible. The "puff-sheet," the fake directory, the shyster collection agency, and hosts of other forms of racketeering are described, and names, dates, and places freely used. A useful guide for the unwary. Not indexed. Many reproductions of clever cartoons on the subject.

Enslow, Ella and Harlow, A. F. *Schoolhouse in the foothills.* Simon & Schuster, N. Y. 1935. 239 p. \$2.00.

An understanding picture of southern mountaineers from the vantage point of a teacher in a struggling school. Definite problems, and personalities appear in the intensely sympathetic, and absorbing narrative. A courageous, and appealing book.

Ford, G. S., ed. *Dictatorship in the modern world.* Univ. of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis. 1935. 179 p. \$2.50.

An excellent, dispassionate study of dictatorship, its genesis and its present development in South America as well as in Europe. The several papers are notable for their scholarly, objective point of view. The closing one on "The Prospects for Democracy" is particularly helpful in the consideration of present problems.

Fougner, G. S. *Along the wine trail.* Stratford, Boston. 1935. \$2.50.

The popular column in the *New York Evening Sun* is expanded to form an excellent handbook of wines, and spirits. The variation of wine according to locality, its history, production methods, and notes on its use, together with extensive recipes, make an interesting little book.

Galloway, W. A. *Old Chillicothe.* Buckeye Press, Xenia, O. 1934. 336 p. \$3.00.

Shawnee, and pioneer history of the Northwest Territory, with many illustrations of historic markers, records of George Rogers Clark, Tecumseh, Daniel Boone, and other historical data. Appendix includes Shawnee vocabularies of 1818, 1854 and 1926, and lists authorities quoted.

Garrison, Myrtle. *Romance and history of California ranchos.* Harr Wagner Pub. Co., San Francisco, 1935. 206 p. \$2.50.

Old land records, and the related history of Spanish, Mexican and American land owners given in a volume that covers much of the early history of California. Delightful illustrations in black and white. A brief reading list included.

Gilfillan, S. C. *Sociology of invention.* Follett Pub. Co., Chicago. 1935. 185 p. \$2.00.

A stimulating, questioning discussion by a fertile thinker. Many citational notes are given, as well as bibliographies on the social causation of invention; the social effects of invention; psychology; method and histories of invention; as well as a science bibliography of the author.

Gilman, C. P. *The living of Charlotte Perkins Gilman.* Appleton, N. Y. 1935. 341 p. \$3.00.

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torian youth, a vallant life as a lecturer on women's progress, and preacher, contacts with creative workers here, and abroad all are combined to make a vivid record of broadening opportunities for women.

Green, H. W. *Real property inventory of the Cleveland Metropolitan District. Report No. 4.* 1900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland. 1935. 291 p. \$15.00.

A survey of population distribution, an analysis of dwelling types of census tracts, an inventory of industrial buildings, and number of employees, a record of mortgages filed and foreclosed, building and demolltion permits, altogether the sort of a market, and social analysis of Cleveland that will make students of other large metropolitan areas long for similar data for their own locality. An impressive job.

Hagedorn, Hermann. *The magnate, William Boyce Thompson and his time.* Reynal & Hitchcock, N. Y. 1935. 343 p. \$3.00.

The vivid, and engrossing story of a great financial gambler who was big enough to see tremendous possibilities in such diverse fields as copper promotion, Russia in transition, and plant physiology, and to whose generosity, and vision we owe the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research. Bibliography included.

Hoffmann, W. G. *Public speaker's scrapbook.* McGraw, N. Y. 1935. 269 p. \$2.50.

A useful volume comprising some simple, and direct suggestions for natural, easy speech making, and a number of useable anecdotes, epigrams, and illustrations of effective closings

Hoppé, E. O. *Image of London.* Sandwith, Francis. *London by Night.* Oxford Univ. Press, N. Y. 1935. Each 100 p. \$2.00.

These two volumes in the Life and Art in Photography Series are satisfying productions, both as art, and illustration. The plates are interestingly varied both in style, and setting. Other numbers in the series are The Italian Renaissance, The Polar Regions, Dogs, Sailing, and Wild Animals.

Horwill, H. W. *Dictionary of modern American usage.* Oxford Univ. Press, N. Y. 1935. 360 p. \$3.25.

An Englishman's explanation of American usage for the benefit of other Englishmen. His statements are supported by well chosen selections quoted from current writers. The wide variation between English and American usage is clearly brought out.

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This third edition of an excellent text will be useful both to novices and to those wishing to check their practices in the light of accepted authorities. Although not as stimulating as Opdycke, for example, the treatment is clear, pertinent and logical

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MacCullum, E. P. *Rivalries in Ethiopia*. World Peace Foundation, Boston. 1935. 64 p. 50 cents.

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Mack Gerstle. *Paul Cézanne*. Knopf, N. Y. 1935. 461 p. \$5.00.

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Mallett, D. T. *Mallett's index of artists*. Bowker, N. Y. 1935. 493 p. \$12.00.

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Meade, J. R. *I live in Virginia*. Longmans, Green, N. Y. 1935. 310 p. \$2.50.

An intensely interesting series of sketches of life as really lived in Virginia. The industrial conditions, the University, the schools and the literary lights all are observed and recorded from a personal, affectionate, but critical angle.

Mercer, F. A. and Gaunt, William. *Modern publicity*. Studio Publications, N. Y. 1935. 139 p. \$4.50.

An annual review of noteworthy advertising of various kinds, preceded by some constructive suggestions by critics of the different media. Indexed for advertisers, agent and artist. Beautiful reproductions.

Meredith, S. B. *What the figures mean*. Appleton-Century, N. Y. 1935. 72 p. \$1.00.

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Nyabongo, A. K. *Story of an African chief.* Scribners, N. Y. 1935. 312 p. \$3.00.

A naive, charming picture of life in an African tribe as it may be lived. The puzzling features of Christian as compared with tribal customs, brought out with insight and subtle humor. Delightful illustrations in black and white.

Opdycke, J. B. *Get it right!* Funk & Wagnalls, N. Y. 1935. 673 p. \$3.50.

A thoroughly satisfactory desk book for English usage. All the problems involved in correspondence are treated clearly, and with fresh and stimulating illustrations. Discussions of grammar, letterwriting, proof reading and punctuation, particularly useful. A valuable chapter on library self service is included. A more useful book of this type would be difficult to find.

Peattie, D. C. *Singing in the wilderness.* Putnam, N. Y. 1935. 245 p. \$2.50.

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Schweitzer, A. J. *More retail sales.* New York Store Methods Bureau, N. Y. 1935. 40 p. \$3.00.

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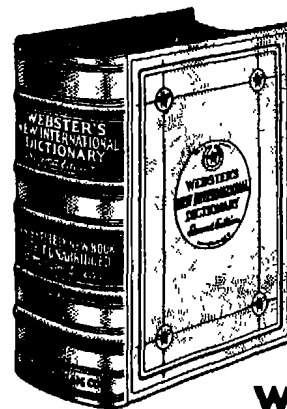
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