

THE JOHN RYLANDS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OF MANCHESTER

SESSION 1973-74

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

A university library is a barometer of university health. The record for the past year in Manchester reflects the pressures to which the University has been subjected. No-one could say in the context of recent reports that it had been a particularly good year. Yet, in comparison with university libraries at large, no one could say that it had been a truly bad one. Only the two copyright University Libraries will probably acquire more books during this year, and that as a result of the privilege they hold. This emphasises again how much the Library and University would benefit if its regional and national significance were recognised in official terms instead of simply unofficial user terms.

The report must begin, however, with what is undoubtedly still the most important piece of Library business. Last year the successful creation of the John Rylands University Library of Manchester was recorded. This year the consolidation of this enterprise has gone ahead at such a pace that it is unlikely to be referred to again in future *Reports*. The merger works in all respects and, as far as Library staff are concerned, is so far behind us already as to be of historical interest only. It is true that all the transfers of stock and integration of records will take several years to complete, but the library procedures are already fully built into our daily practices and, in any event, the problems associated with relocation of stock are part of the way of life of all large libraries. The benefits to users and staff have been repeatedly made manifest: for the former, by a considerable upsurge in use, especially of the Deansgate Special Collections, and for the latter by enhanced professional opportunities in a library of national standing. In this most important library development the outlook for the Library and University is bright.

The tremendous growth and sense of elation generated by the merger offset to a great extent the disappointments and frustrations of the year. Chief among these was the postponement of the commencement of the extension. Planned to begin in early 1974, this was among the major casualties in Government cuts in university capital expenditure. The project was virtually ready to be launched when the news was received, and the disappointment to the Library staff, labouring under exceptionally severe handicaps of accommodation, and to all those actually involved in planning, was and is acute. During the session three very successful meetings of the Library Extension Planning Committee were held under the chairmanship of Mr. G. N. C. Flint, in which a very satisfactory planning situation was achieved. Four staff from the Library and Planning Department made a short but most profitable visit to libraries in the northern United States under the guidance of the Library consultant, Mr. Keyes Metcalf, which provided much valuable information on detailed layouts and underlined the validity of our own planning. Both the University and the Architects continue to work on the project so that none of the impetus and enthusiasm, which has been generated in the past eighteen months, is lost. The undertaking is being held in a state of immediate readiness should money become available.

The long-standing problem of accommodation facing the Library takes on a much more serious and urgent form in the face of this building delay. The new policy of local storage on the campus, already introduced as an interim measure, now has the look of much more than short-term policy implications.

A further large store, capable of housing c. 150,000 volumes, is planned to open in October. This obviates any immediate need to close reading rooms, but such a possibility will remain until the new building becomes available, and unless further storage accommodation emerges in the near future. Such steps inevitably create great additional problems of administration for Library staff and add incalculably to the difficulty of using the Library. So much Library planning both in policy and services has hinged on the new building that much re-thinking of our present critical position is now necessary. Without the Deansgate building, which brought valuable relief in housing the large rare book and archival holdings of our overflowing collections, the picture would have looked even worse.

The Library Committee, chaired by Professor Geoffrey Gee, held a record number of six meetings. Accommodation and income were inevitably major topics. For the first time in many years it was necessary to control and even curtail expenditure on the stock of the Library, and in certain subject fields severe restrictions on book recommendations were imposed. No teaching or research was put in jeopardy by this action but clearly if it persisted for any length of time it undoubtedly would be. This situation arose as much from shortage of funds following national economies and the short-fall in University finance as it did from the continuing inflationary trends in the field of book production. Periodical subscriptions, an important part of our expenditure, have been particularly savagely affected by rising costs and were subjected to a very close and constant scrutiny. This resulted for the first time in many years in the cancellation of a number of existing subscriptions and a significant reduction in the number of subscriptions to new journals.

In purely Library terms this enforced economy, which will hardly be exclusive to Manchester, is unlikely to cause much regret. The time seems long overdue for some reappraisal of publishing practices in the field of periodical literature. In the post-war period journals have proliferated to a degree which is scarcely commensurate with either subject growth or scholarly discovery. The value of this to publishing houses, to the printing trade and even to academic promotion, is one thing. To library finances it is another. Periodicals form a constant commitment of library resources eating up both funds and space in a way which, to many librarians, is sometimes barely justifiable in terms of use. It is time that a cost analysis of the value to scholarship of this form of communication was made. Some bibliographical indexes of use suggest that a fair proportion of this huge field of publication is rarely consulted. If some academically acceptable means could be devised for storing this proportion in an easily retrievable manner, libraries and scholarship throughout the world would benefit. Shortage of funds may well precipitate such an enquiry.

Despite the various setbacks the Library must direct its sights to the future. The planning of the on-line issue system has continued unabated and a pilot scheme will be introduced into the existing main building next session. A combination of the continuing steep rise in issues and extreme difficulty of recruiting adequate quality and quantity of junior non-graduate staff makes this development essential now to contain the level of transactions. This was of such importance to the Library that an extraordinary committee meeting was held to consider its financial implications in terms of the central administrative computer capacity and the Library's urgent needs. Another such meeting dealt exclusively with the detailed workings of the new building and especially the proposals to distribute the literature vertically by major subject divisions and not horizontally as is traditional in libraries. This is still a matter of continuing discussion. In terms of committee work it was a busy

and profitable year, and the Library owes a particular debt of gratitude to the Chairman, Professor Geoffrey Gee, whose complete understanding of the Library's problems and unremitting efforts on its behalf are a great source of strength.

The outlook for higher education, and not least universities, seems hardly promising in the uncertain times of today. Libraries cannot, of course, be exempted from the problems facing their universities, nor would they wish to be so. In view of all the uncertainty it is a source of satisfaction and pride to record that the Library enters the coming session with its grant, temporarily reduced in recent time, fully restored. It is easy to demonstrate support for a library in years of plenty. In lean years this kind of action becomes a statement on the academic priority attached to this central service as well as a statement of confidence. It is in such times that the support of Senate, Council and the principal University Officers really counts, and it is appropriate to express the gratitude of the Library to those who see to it that the Library's needs are not overlooked.

Administration

The combination of steady growth and rapidly diminishing space leaves no choice in internal priorities of administration. The maintenance of Library stores, the need to keep current materials on open shelves, the constant review of stock with consequent transfer to storage, the extraordinary new problems for readers in such changing and shifting conditions—this dominates all other Library activity. It impinges on every aspect of administration. It affects expenditure by the need to fit out stores and provide staff to man them: it necessitates endless amendments to catalogues, shelf-lists and library guides. It imposes a formidable burden on the liaison with our clientele to whom the near chaotic conditions, which inevitably arise, seem to identify a new and unique measure of Library inefficiency. It means that even greater use will be made in the coming years of the Student User Sub-Committee and the Departmental/Faculty library committees, which provide established channels of communication with our University users. The valuable contribution of the Student User Sub-Committee was again demonstrated during the past year in the three meetings held with Professor Geoffrey Gee in the chair.

For the incoming students or new members of staff there is a further important facility. Our Library instruction courses, fortunately extensively developed, form nowadays a kind of Library life-line: Mrs. Parkinson's rôle, long identified as near indispensable, has become a cornerstone in Library use. It is at least possible to convey some of the reasons behind the impermanence of subject locations and at the same time point to the enquiry aids designed to overcome these obstacles. A large number of senior staff now assist Mrs. Parkinson in dealing with the various disciplines and a new style enquiry service is developing, which will shape the pattern of that in the new Library. However, good as these measures are, they bring unavoidably additional demands on limited manpower. Space problems of the kind now being encountered are prodigious consumers of staff resources: eventually there must come a point beyond which only considerable injections of extra staff can bring any relief, and clearly, in the present financial climate, that kind of expansion is out of the question. Order is the essence of librarianship. Manoeuvrability, the essential working space, guarantees that order and its absence demands huge staffing to preserve it.

The seriousness of the situation hits Library staff probably harder than it hits readers. A problem which is palpably capable of only one long-term solution is not a challenge when the solution is denied: it becomes simply an

oppressive and frustrating obsession. For the graduate staff it produces a complex burden of clerical activity which inhibits the prosecution of the main tasks. For other members of staff it presents a bewildering range of difficulties. Natural expansion consequent on increased Library use is prohibited in both the Bindery and Photographic Department, with all the limitations to services that this implies. In the essential counter and reading-room services, it is reflected by the extraordinary difficulties of recruitment and retention of staff in the Library Assistant grade. To confront school-leavers with some of the shelving problems now unavoidable in the main library is hardly an inducement to career librarianship. In fact the length of service among new recruits in this grade is so short that recruitment is becoming almost a full-time occupation for certain senior staff. The Library is becoming dependent on the short-term employment of school-leavers going on to university or college in the achievement of some continuity of employment.

Despite the conditions the use of our resources continues to rise. There can be few university libraries in this country, including the two copyright ones, with a registered readership in excess of thirty thousand. There is nothing cloistered nowadays about the library. In this situation the new laws relating to fire precautions and emergency evacuation took on particular significance although it was hardly welcomed by staff in the context of present problems. In the event the frequency of "bomb scares" in the Lent Term instituted a practice of fire drill which any librarian might have been reluctant to introduce in any but paper form. As a result procedures are known to work smoothly in emergency in all Library buildings since both Deansgate and campus buildings have been so affected.

This vortex of administrative effort tends to obscure the achievement of normal administrative routines and the generality of Library problems. There is an alertness or security consciousness among staff these days at times more reminiscent of institutional activities far removed from university libraries. Mutilation of books, losses of stock, the organised burglary and theft of the First Folio two years ago, the occasional outbreaks of stealing common in any large building, the small but irritating acts of vandalism from our boisterous city neighbours, bomb scares, all these create administrative conditions unknown to generations of librarians, and all become absorbed in the administrative pattern. Regular security patrols by porters are now as much part of their routine as manning cloakrooms. The achievements of the Library are to be seen against this background.

Finally, any administration which arises out of obvious preparation for the extensions is simply a labour of love to all staff. The adaptation of the main building to join the new continues. The immediate site around it is in an advanced state of preparedness. The main road over which the Library will spread stands barred and silent. Sewers are being diverted and similar public services rerouted. Structural alterations to the main building anticipate the event and even improve existing facilities. The relocation of drainage systems, for example, makes possible the introduction of improved toilet accommodation for the new session.

Additions to Stock

The reduction in funds has been reflected inevitably in a reduction of volumes purchased. Inflation, despite supplementary grants, made matters very much worse. A total of 53,116 items was accessioned, 47,449 by purchase, compared with the 65,771 and 61,548 items respectively of the previous year. The situation would appear even worse if a number of items

received had not been paid for in the year preceding. This is as stark a demonstration of the effect of University underprovision as can be found anywhere. The quality of essential support for University teaching and research was clearly less good than in the previous year without any visible change in student or staff numbers. Only the established strength of the Library allows the University to carry this kind of scholarly deficit. It does not need to be spelled out how quickly this strength could be eroded.

Manuscript acquisitions are excluded from these figures because of their different nature: they are described in later sections of the report. Such items as did appear on the market for sale, which were of interest, were purchased. So, too, with the aid of special funds established by our benefactors, were printed books for the special collections. The total accessioned stock now stands at 1,717,364 items, over 16,000 manuscripts, c. 300,000 deeds, charters etc., and over 350,000 titles in microform. Additional stock not included in accessions registers but available through indexes of various kinds is now estimated at over 300,000 items. Much of this has to be calculated in terms of thousands of square feet rather than volume numbers or even foot shelving. The total stock stands at between two and two-and-a-half million volumes.

The quality of the accessions, whether in respect of special collections or normal teaching and research materials, remains high. A very large proportion is purchased on the basis of University staff recommendations although naturally the high expertise of the Library graduate staff is also used to great advantage. The select list of accessions, which is appended, gives some idea of important purchases, but the weekly accessions lists, which enjoy a very wide local circulation, are the only comprehensive guide. The whole range of University interests is reflected regularly in these lists.

The holding of the Deaf Education library, a unique and famous collection, increased by sixty-two volumes, reaching a total of 10,033 volumes. This is heavily used by outside readers as well as by our own large Department. The Education and Social Science Faculty Libraries added 738 and 851 volumes to their stock, which total 21,960 and 25,931 volumes, respectively. Both showed a clear reduction in acquisitions on the figures of the previous year as in fact do all Departmental/Faculty libraries which purchase through the Main Library system. The Library's aim to administer ultimately all these libraries from the centre, that is binding, cataloguing and servicing them in addition to purchasing and controlling funds, is an important Library objective which the building delay postpones further.

Donations and Deposits

There were no less than 5,667 donated volumes entered in the main gifts register apart from others recorded elsewhere. Donations continue to represent a most important source of Library strength and often include items which it would be beyond the Library's budget to acquire. The names of many old friends of the Library feature again among the donors.

A number of these gifts were of outstanding importance. The personal papers of Hugh Hunt, now Emeritus Professor of Drama, contain correspondence with many of the leading dramatic and literary personalities. Mrs. M. C. Osborne, a former lecturer in the Department of Geography in this University and her daughter, Lady Dainton, presented an important collection of 250 volumes of geographic interest as well as a large number of maps. Miss Winifred A. Myers, a well-known dealer in manuscript material, donated a most valuable collection of autographed letters with University association, and Mr. C. E. Woodhurst gave a large collection of deeds relating to West

Derbyshire of the sixteenth to nineteenth century. Mrs. Alice Hay of Seaton presented a complete set of the very rare "*Prisoners of War News*", and Emeritus Professor J. W. Rees again added to earlier generous gifts a large number of rare modern-language books. The full lists of individual benefactors are published both in the *Bulletin* and in *Committee Minutes*.

Deposits, though not as extensive as in some recent years, were nevertheless impressive. The outstanding ones came from the Earl of Crawford, a member of the Library Committee and a former Trustee of the Rylands. He enlarged considerably his deposit of Family Muniments by transfer of material from both Wigan and Warrington. He also enriched our research collections in an extraordinary way by transferring to us his world-famous collection of English proclamations and broadsides. The Library's indebtedness to the present Earl cannot be overstated. The total archive of the United Society of Engravers was put on permanent loan by its successors. The papers of G. R. Sims were lodged in the Library through the good offices of the Drama Department. There were other deposits of varying kinds, all of significance. Generous acts of this kind play a most important rôle in Library acquisitions policies.

There were a number of donations of money. The most important was the bequest of Maud, Lady Sanderson. Under her will the Library will receive one-quarter of her estate. The final figure is not yet known but this will be invested to form a Lady Sanderson Endowment fund. Existing special endowment funds purchased 122 volumes as follows: Christie, 12; Farrar, 90; Marshall, 1; Robinson, 1; Whitworth, 18. These funds are restricted to certain kinds of purchase and the opportunity does not necessarily arise every year. Finally, in a year of such difficulty as we have experienced, it was appropriate to receive a donation of £100 from the Charities Aid Fund.

Departmental Use and Statistics

Cataloguing

The impact of additional administration has been especially marked in this Department. Literally thousands of records have to be amended or even radically changed by transfer to store. A total of 180,965 entries was made into catalogues, 136,108 into the author catalogues, 44,857 into the subject catalogues. The total number of volumes catalogued fell to 53,613 volumes, a reduction of *c.* 8,000 on last year, due almost entirely to the reduced intake. The fact that catalogue entries were much the same as last year reflects the amount of card revisions due to transfer to store. This task and the need to devote increasing efforts to assisting readers in tracing stock is bound to affect output adversely in future.

Manuscripts (Special Collections)

It is as difficult to quantify the output of this Department as it is for its sister Department of Printed Books. Both Departments provide direct assistance to scholars of a kind not normally offered in the general service departments of the Library. Postal scholarly enquiries on a world-wide scale are met as a normal part of daily routine. 120 university and other institutions made use of the Department, thirty-two of these from the United States, and manuscripts in twenty-three languages were consulted. 135 publications dealing with the manuscripts were reported. The national claims of the Library are summed up by the fact that staff and research students from forty-five British universities and institutions of higher education consulted manuscripts in the Department.

A number of collections were made available for use. The listing of the correspondence section of the Legh of Lyme muniments, covering the period 1541—1857 and numbering between four and five thousand items, was completed. A further 650 volumes of the Bromley-Davenport muniments, relating to their Cheshire, Staffordshire and Warwickshire estates, together with thirty-nine boxes and eight files of correspondence and accounts, were arranged and listed. The archives of the United Society of Engravers, ninety volumes and several boxes (1888—1972), were catalogued and the extensive additions to the Crawford muniments comprising business archives transferred from the British Steel Corporation at Warrington were recorded and installed in the new Crawford Charter room. A start was made on the incorporation of the extensive official archives of the University into the Manuscript Department by Mr. P. McNiven, who is also concerned with the detailed listing of the *Guardian* archives. Finally, it should be noted that Professor E. Bosworth's *Catalogue of supplementary Arabic manuscripts, 1934-73*, was published in the *Bulletin* during the year and will be available as a separate monograph.

Printed Books (Special Collections)

The pattern of visiting scholars, both national and international, is much the same for this Department as it is for Manuscripts. There is a noticeable increase in the prolonged and regular use of the Department by our own research students and staff and also by those of other British universities. At the same time there is a steady growth in the numbers of users visiting from overseas, especially from the United States, Canada and Australia. As with manuscripts, postal enquiries are received literally from all quarters of the world.

The Department purchased 1,760 volumes. In addition, 2,018 special collection items were transferred from the open shelves of the main Library as part of the continuing concentration of rare books in Deansgate. Although the large rare-book collections in Medicine and Science are still to be transferred, a great deal has already been achieved. In the field of printed books, the escalation of values creates in itself a huge problem. Books that only ten years ago were commonly accepted open-shelf material, can today be a liability.

The staff catalogued 5,769 volumes on 14,129 cards. Contributions to various international bibliographies were made, and reproductions of many of our famous printed books were supplied to publishers. Mr. D. Riley completed a handlist to *The Hobill Collection of Wesleyana* and also a *Supplementary hand-list to the Crawford Collection of English Newspapers, 1641-66*. The contact with the Main Library here is so intensive that a full-time member of staff from the Department is based there to deal with the daily enquiries on rare books and to supervise rare book use in the main building.

Bindery

The difficulties under which this Department operates and the results it achieves are a real testimony to the quality of staff and leadership of the Department. Despite storage on corridors and the overwhelming pressures from intakes of books far beyond the capacity of the staff, the Department contrived to meet all urgent service needs and even to introduce new methods of dealing with the so-called "perfect bindings". This countered a serious drop in production resulting from the difficulty in recruiting three girls for sewing. Miss Emily Holmes, in charge of book sewing, played a large part in introducing the new methods.

Output was as follows: full bindings, 9,205; cut-flush bindings, 8,230; pamphlet bindings, 712; press-marking/lettering, 2,906 (in addition to the bindings listed which are also so treated); repairs, 143; periodical article restoration, forty-six; newspaper bindings, twenty-three; maps edgebound, 122; card-cutting and drilling, 850,380. Between September and July items for 340 readers were produced from the Bindery in various states of binding for reference use. This is an important measure of the service value of the Bindery.

Photography

This Department covers all aspects of documentary reprography and, like the Bindery, is especially fortunate in its staff and leadership. The Deansgate work has now been fully incorporated into the Department, and, with the retirement of Mr. E. Bathe at the age of seventy, after twelve years' fine service, a technician recruited by the Department operates in Deansgate as part of general library photographic services.

The increase in output was maintained and statistics are as follows: Xerox copies, 369,498; Xerox lithography, 1,133,292 copies from 38,397 Xerox masters; lantern slides, 4,746 (2 in. by 2 in.) black and white/colour; microfilms, 87 (27,780 exposures); photographs, 11,000 (publication, research, archival, exhibition purposes). In addition 224 films were developed for Departments. One Pentax S.P. 500 camera, one Durst enlarger, and one M.E.C. microfilm reader, 16 mm, were added to equipment. The microfilm reader was purchased for Deansgate in order to use the microfilm copy of the Main Library catalogue which is now available there.

Of the work recorded, 1,500 photographs were made for Deansgate in response to research requests. The increase in Xerox copies reflects to some extent the introduction of a part-time operator to the Medical Faculty Library and a great improvement in that local service. It is worth noting that some 25,000 of the total Xerox-lithographic copies were provided for students in connection with course literature. It should also be noted that, in view of our overall problems of finance, this Department, which is in part self-financing, paid £966 in V.A.T.

Library Co-operation

There is little new to report in this area. The co-operative schemes described in past reports continue to flourish. Both the Precinct Working Party and SKeLLeM groups came together as often as possible. Their chief value is still the contact of staff afforded by the meetings and the freedom of movement between the libraries concerned. The new relationship being forged between the City Library and ourselves is especially important as far as staff contacts are concerned. This is likely to be of growing importance in the future.

Our main contribution remains our direct service to the scholarship of the region. With our presence now in Deansgate, this is bound to grow. The delay in the new building, which is designed in part to enhance this contribution, by which the University sets such great store, will be a cause of regret to very many of our regional users.

Restriction in direct inter-library loans activity is likely to be tightened rather than relaxed because of recent postal increases. The main Library (excluding Medicine) loaned 3,407 and borrowed 3,382 items; Medicine loaned 286 and borrowed, again as a result of Medical Society subsidies and OSTI support, 2,116 items, mostly from the National Lending Library for Science and Technology.

*Library and Staff Activities**Library Lectures*

The second Moses Tyson Memorial Lecture attracted a capacity audience. Dr. W. H. Chaloner, Reader in Economic History, spoke on "The literature of the Victorian underworld" and the occasion was a great success. Chaired by Professor Basil Hall, Professor of Ecclesiastical History, it was a truly Library Committee occasion, since both are members of the Committee. Three mid-day lectures took place in Deansgate. The first "Inside China" was delivered by Professor Peter Worsley, the second "The Shamrock and the Rose: Reminiscences of a theatre director" by Emeritus Professor Hugh Hunt, and the third "Medicine and the evolution of man" by Professor Alwyn Smith. The lectures were without exception successful although the audiences were not as large as hoped.

There was a full programme of evening lectures which are listed at the end of the report. These followed their long-established pattern and are published in their entirety in the *Bulletin*. They represent solid contributions to scholarship and underline the strong academic content of Library activities as well as of its tremendously rich resources.

Exhibitions, the Bulletin and visits

The programme of exhibitions is now firmly under way. They take place in the various Library buildings and with various objectives in mind. There were three displayed in the Main Library building on the campus, of which one, "Eighteenth Century France", was prepared by the Keeper of Printed Books and the French Department as a direct contribution to departmental teaching. The other two, "Skeletons in their Cases" and "The Cartoons of Hogarth, Gillray and Rowlandson", although popular in their approach, had a strong academic content. They attracted large numbers of visitors and emphasised how important exhibitions can be as teaching instruments. Two short-term exhibitions were mounted in the Medical Faculty Library in connection with the Third European Anatomical Congress and the Centenary of the Medical School. Both excited considerable interest from the numerous visitors. Our distinguished Honorary Medical Archivist, Dr. William Brockbank, played an important part in the programme of exhibitions.

In Deansgate the successful Open Day exhibition remained on display until March 28th. It was then replaced by "English Book Illustration, sixteenth century" and "Medieval Manuscripts and Administration Documents, eleventh to fifteenth century". This was followed on July 15th by "Greek and Latin Papyri, third century B.C. to sixth century A.D.", arranged in conjunction with the Fourteenth International Congress of Papyrologists being held at Oxford. Although primarily of interest to university research scholars, these exhibitions continue to draw in members of the general public, to whom all University exhibitions are open.

These exhibitions are often amplified by special ones for official visits. One of the highlights of the Library year was a reception for the U.G.C. on their visitation to the University, which was held in Deansgate, and a special exhibition was arranged for their benefit.

The mainstay of Library publishing activities is the internationally famous *Bulletin*. Despite the unavoidable step of a doubling in price to subscribers, the number of subscriptions increased. It is received by learned institutions in no less than forty-eight countries, and is a most important agent in securing

the Library's world-wide reputation. It continues to be edited by Dr. F. Taylor whose efforts in this direction are indefatigable.

Reference must be made to the important function of the Library in public relations terms in welcoming distinguished visitors to both city and University. This is such a normal part of Library life that it is taken for granted, but it represents in fact a contribution of real importance to the good relations between the University and the city and in the promotion of the University. This is not the place to record individual visitors except to note that they range across many nationalities and encompass virtually all ranks and professions in society.

Staff Activities

This account is restricted to what are specifically extra-curricular activities. It excludes any mention of courses or conferences attended unless a leading part is played in them. The Director served on various bodies including the Standing Committee on Libraries of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, the Manchester Cultural Committee, the Executive Committee of the Friends of the National Libraries, and County Records committees. He gave lectures as Honorary Lecturer in Historical Bibliography for research students coupled with practical instruction in hand-printing, addressed many extra-mural bodies on University Libraries or Historical Bibliography, published "Book Production and Cartography" in the *Bulletin of the Society of University Cartographers*, vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 32—37, and contributed to the University journal *Communication*. He visited German libraries for a fortnight as the guest of Inter Nationes, a German Government body, spent ten days in the United States with Mr. Kevin Cave and two members of the Planning Department examining United States libraries, and spent six weeks touring Nigeria under the auspices of the Inter-University Council advising on University Libraries and Librarianship. The visit to Nigeria involved reports of various kinds which were completed in the year, and discussions with a number of English library and university agencies.

The Deputy Directors were as busy as usual. Mr. Stanley Roberts, Deputy Director, Administration, continued to chair the Rare Books Group of the Library Association and the Board of Studies for Libraries of the School of Education, and acted as a member of the Executive Committee of the SCONUL Group of Orientalist Libraries. Dr. F. Taylor, Deputy Director and Principal Keeper, lectured to students from the Department of the History of Art, served on the SCONUL Sub-Committee on Manuscripts, on the Medieval Latin Dictionary Committee and as secretary of the Lancashire Parish Register Society. He acted as an Assessor for the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art, and discussed Library manuscripts on Radio Manchester. Most important, however, was his continued editorship of the *Bulletin*.

Mr. David Cook, Sub-Librarian in Medicine, had another active year in the development of local teaching hospital facilities. He remained as a member of the Division of Medical Education at the University Hospital of South Manchester, and of the Library Committee of St. Mary's Hospital. The Keepers of Printed Books and Manuscripts, Dr. M. M. Wright and Miss G. A. Matheson, remained as Secretary and Treasurer of the Manchester Bibliographical Society, respectively, under the chairmanship of Library Committee member Dr. W. H. Chaloner. Dr. Wright introduced a highly successful series of articles in *Communication* entitled "Library Treasures", which is now a regular feature of the publication.

Mr. J. T. D. Hall published "Ronsard et les fêtes de cour en 1570", *Bibliothèque d'Humanisme et Renaissance*, tome 35, pp. 73—77, and "Three letters of Primaticcio", *Burlington Magazine*, Jan 1973, pp. 35—37. Dr. Ian Lovecy successfully completed his Ph.D. at the University of Cambridge. Mr. A. D. Walker made a number of contributions to various music publications. There were also many internal Library publications produced by various members of staff as aids or guides to use of collections and exhibitions.

The furtherance of professional studies within the Library produced the usual crop of examination results. Mr. Charles Hulme successfully passed the final examinations for the A.L.A., Mrs. Joy Wassell Timms completed two parts of it, and Dr. Ian Lovecy took Part I of the syllabus. Miss I. Howarth and Miss E. Donoghue each acquired an "A" level, Mrs. S. Ibrahim obtained an "A" level with a number of "O" levels, and Miss A. Barker obtained a further "O" level. In the Bindery and Photographic Department Miss E. Emery, Keith Hardman, John Woodhouse, Colin Ogden and Paul Graham were all successful in their professional examinations, and Miss Gaylor Heelam of Photography completed the final examinations for her City and Guilds qualification.

Staff Changes

Mr. C. J. Hunt, Sub-Librarian in the Social Sciences, resigned after five years on the Library staff to take up the post of University Librarian of the James Cook University of North Queensland. His achievements on the staff during this period have been considerable, and he will be greatly missed among his colleagues both in the Library and in the Faculty. He has been succeeded by Mr. Thomas Kabdebo, Librarian of the City of London Polytechnic and the former Librarian of the University of Guyana.

Appointments

J. A. Henshall, M.A., Assistant Librarian (January 1st, 1974); Library trainees, three; Library Assistants, thirty; Administration, five; Order/Accounts, two; Photography, seven; Porters/Cleaners, three.

Resignations

J. G. Stephens, B.A., Assistant Librarian; Library trainees, three; Library Assistants, thirty-two; Administration, four; Order/Accounts, six; Photography, five; Bindery, two; Porters/Cleaners, three.

SELECT LIST OF SIGNIFICANT ACCESSIONS

REFERENCE AND GENERAL WORKS

- S. Ali and S. D. Ripley. *Handbook of the birds of India and Pakistan*. Vols. 1—3, 5, 7—9. Bombay, 1968—73.
- American Physiological Society. *Handbook of physiology: Section 8, renal physiology*. Washington, D.C., 1973.
- E. Battisti. *Piero della Francesca*. Milan, 1971. 2 volumes.
- S. A. Berson and R. S. Yalow. *Methods in investigative and diagnostic endocrinology: peptide hormones*. Vol. 2. Amsterdam, 1973. 2 volumes.
- T. Birch. *History of the Royal Society of London*. London, 1756—57. (Facsimile reprint, New York, 1968.) 4 volumes.

- A. Boinet. *Bibliothèque de Madame G. W. Hoff*. Paris, 1933. 2 volumes.
- W. Buecherl. *Venomous animals and their venoms*. New York, 1968–71. 3 volumes.
- R. F. Bunshah. *Techniques of metals research*. New York, 1968–73. 7 volumes.
- Byulleten Oppozitsii*. Paris, Berlin, Zürich and New York, 1929–41. (Photographic reprint, New York, 1973. 4 volumes.)
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Note: This select list does not attempt a full bibliographical statement of the items involved.

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- Moses Tyson Memorial Lecture*
Wednesday, March 6th, 1974.
 "The literature of the Victorian underworld" by Dr. W. H. Chaloner.
- The Seventy-second Series of Free Public Lectures*
Wednesday, October 10th, 1973.
 "The reform of the English language" by Professor G. L. Brook.
Wednesday, November 14th, 1973.
 "Paul and the historical Jesus" by Professor F. F. Bruce.

Wednesday, December 12th, 1973.

" The significance of Venice " by Professor B. S. Pullan.

Wednesday, January 16th, 1974.

" Henry Salt, Consul in Cairo (1816–27) and pioneer Egyptologist " by Professor C. E. Bosworth.

Wednesday, February 13th, 1974.

" Philo of Byblus and his *Phoenician History* " by Professor James Barr.

Wednesday, March 6th, 1974.

" The Spanish 1898 generation " by Professor Herbert Ramsden.

Mid-day Lectures

Wednesday, November 28th, 1973.

" Inside China " by Professor P. Worsley.

Wednesday, March 20th, 1974.

" The Shamrock and the Rose: Reminiscences of a theatre director " by Emeritus Professor Hugh Hunt.

Wednesday, July 19th, 1974.

" Medicine and the evolution of man " by Professor Alwyn Smith.

F. W. RATCLIFFE