

By ARTHUR T. HAMLIN

Annual Report of the ACRL Executive Secretary, 1951-52

Introduction

The principal business of the Association for the past year is made a matter of published record through the Briefs of the Meetings of the ACRL Board of Directors. In addition, I have reported on developments freely through the *ACRL Quarterly Newsletter*. For many topics this report is therefore limited to the barest summary.

Those who wish the full printed record of the Association's personnel and activities will find its officers listed in almost any issue of *College and Research Libraries*, and its committees and personnel, as well as other basic data, in the December 1951 *ALA Bulletin*. The *Summary Reports* of the Midwinter and Annual ALA Conferences record the programs and essential business handled, as do the published Proceedings. In addition, some of the sections issued newsletters.

My first annual report (1949/50) covered the Headquarters Office only and was printed in *C&RL*. The report for 1950/51 included committee and section reports, and was long and tedious in places. It was therefore mimeographed and distributed only to officers and to members who made a special request for it.

At the recent meeting of the Board of Directors your secretary was instructed to prepare a full report for publication in *College and Research Libraries* and was given wide latitude in handling reports from chairmen. In this I have sought only to do justice to their views. Many of these reports were largely or wholly written from file material in the Headquarters Office.

The past year will always be recognized as one of some decisive accomplishment. We began membership distribution of *College and Research Libraries* without encountering severe financial problems; in doubling the circulation of the journal its usefulness to librarianship was greatly increased and the Association strengthened. The Publications Committee began the *ACRL Monographs*, a new series of great promise. The Research Planning Committee got down to constructive work which gives expectation of future accomplishment. The annual statistics of college and university libraries were made available in the January issue of *C&RL*, and even earlier in proof form for those who needed to use the figures for budget work. The first ACRL chapters were established. The first ACRL Buildings Institute was held in Columbus, and went well. The Interlibrary

Loan Code was successfully revised and the principle of a unit form for general use was established. Although Association expenditures rose sharply over the previous year, income was proportionately increased. The growth of income from nonmembership sources is healthy. The new Pure and Applied Science Section made an excellent start with a useful program of investigation and publication. Several other sections may likewise look back on considerable accomplishment.

This list represents hardly a beginning on the problems which should be met. However, ACRL is on the right path. As it utilizes the services of more and more members, it will advance faster, and as members participate more widely, their professional needs will be better known and receive more attention.

Membership

During the current fiscal year approximately 4500 members joined ACRL. This small increase over last year (approximately 100) in spite of increased ALA dues is attributed directly to membership distribution of *College and Research Libraries*. The activity of the Committee on Membership under Chairman John E. Burke necessarily waned after the Midwinter Meeting when the decision was made to give up the committee in July. Its functions will be carried on by the new organization of state representatives with broader responsibilities.

The ACRL Office and Mr. Burke collaborated on a statement of the committee objectives and suggested procedures in membership drives. The chairman sent to the state chairmen a series of letters with useful information and suggestions.

Procedures used in building membership must, of course, vary widely. A technique suitable for Nevada isn't necessarily good for New York. The drive and resourcefulness of state chairmen also varies. Some sent out letters to hundreds of prospects, and others, quite possibly, did nothing.

As in previous years many colleges took institutional membership in ALA and did not request or get membership in any of the divisions. The new ALA membership card now indicates whether or not a divisional membership is included. The ACRL office checked through the ALA membership files for college libraries that belonged to no division and sent most of these a note suggesting "free" membership in ACRL.

During my several years at Headquarters there has been very little cooperation between ALA membership promotion (principally through its committee) and ACRL promotion or, so far as I know, promotion by other divisions. This work needs thorough review. A continued lack of cooperation would be tragic.

Finances

Since a Treasurer's Report will not be available for several months when all the books will be closed, I have prepared this informal review from available figures.

At the beginning of 1948-49 the Association had slightly more than \$6000. This grew to \$11,500.00 in three years, and remained practically stationary last year. In the summer of

1951 the Board budgeted for the year ahead expenditures of over \$21,000.00 against income of \$16,300.00. It did this in reasonable expectation that two or three thousands of budgeted expenditure would revert, as in previous years, and that income would undoubtedly be higher than estimated. A deficit was expected, however, and the only speculation was how large this would be. After the adoption of the budget a new ALA classification and pay scale increased ACRL salary commitments considerably. ALA charges for services to *College and Research Libraries* were not reduced as was hoped would be the case, and the new ALA dues scale met heavy criticism which threatened to reduce membership receipts to divisions and possibly even to the parent organization. The picture was very gloomy last winter.

All these fears were, happily, without foundation. Membership increased in number as well as in average paid per member, and dues will bring nearly \$3000.00 more than estimated. Various other sources of income were developed; these will produce more than \$2000.00. On the expenditure side rigid economy was cheerfully exercised by all concerned, and the net result is that the final Treasurer's Report is expected to show a substantial balance for the year.

The income realized from minor services and publications is significant. Many opportunities exist for a professional association to perform worthy services which produce income.

For example, there are library surveys. Likewise, there are publications. The *ACRL Monographs Series* is sold at extraordinarily low prices because nearly all the labor consists of the contributed services of talented and devoted ACRL members. This *Series* will grow in service to the library profession and may well be of substantial assistance to the Treasury. I believe that intelligent and aggressive leadership in ACRL will over the years develop a series of such projects which are eminently useful professionally speaking, which do not place heavy burdens on any individual or institutional member, and which together produce a modest stream of income to pay for additional membership services. I hope that in ten years income from such activities will nearly equal income from membership dues.

Any organization needs a cushion or backlog for current operations and for emergencies. The sum can be relatively small for ACRL, which has a parent body. It is as much a sign of poor management to go on building annual surpluses without plan, as to indulge in regular deficit spending. The amount of cushion, or stable bank account, desirable for ACRL is open to debate, but I personally doubt that current operations justify a sum much above \$15,000.

Divisional Support by ALA

The complicated, cloudy, and unsatisfactory financial relationship of ALA to its divisions continues more complicated, cloudy, and unsatisfactory than ever, but habituation dulls the sense. ALA Headquarters interpretations of divisional allotments from institutional dues under the new scale rendered certainly illegal the previous uncertain legality of the divisional support plan. The principal officers of ALA and the divisions have been in ignorance of aspects of the application of the formula by the ALA Accounting Office.

The recommendation of the ACRL Board of Directors for a simple across-the-board split of the membership dollar has been informally considered by ALA, but no reply has been received. Simplification is certainly long overdue as complexity breeds mistrust. Correction of gross error in the present formula should not be made to await a complete review several years hence.

There is no justification for a situation in which the division does not know what its full share of the membership dollar will be at the end of the current year, and so cannot budget with any certainty for the year ahead. The subject of divisional support is not being faced, and the lack of clarity on this most important point is weakening the whole ALA organization.

The formula was originally devised to relate divisional support directly to the ALA dues paid by the divisional members. This is certainly an excellent principle; only the application of the principle is faulty.

College and Research Libraries

In July a decisive step was taken as we began the distribution of *College and Research Libraries* to all ACRL members who

pay ALA dues of \$6.00 or more. This had long been an ACRL goal. The wider distribution means wider reading and, in turn, an inevitable increase in professional competence among the membership. The step is also an additional tangible membership service, and will indirectly tend to improve the present high quality of contributions to C&RL.

This desirable step was not taken years ago because of the obvious financial problem involved. The story of this has lessons for other Association projects, so a brief review and forecast seem desirable.

Members may recall that the decision of the Board of Directors to distribute C&RL was made final only after investigation and report by a committee chaired by Stanley Gwynn of the University of Chicago Library. This group estimated that a net annual income of \$3900 should be realized from advertising, or \$975 per issue. July 1952 receipts were only a few dollars short of that figure, and indications for October are that the sum will be exceeded. The present goal is a minimum of \$5000 annually from advertising in order to finance larger issues.

Mr. Gwynn's committee estimated that 500 new members would be attracted by the service, and produce \$1500 for *College and Research Libraries* use. We will never know how much influence journal distribution has on membership, of course, but ACRL has had a small but significant gain in numbers during the first year of increased dues. Probably 200 memberships have come from this source, and the number should rise sharply in 1953.

The report estimated an income of approximately \$3000 from nonmember subscriptions and extra copy sales. Approximately \$3100 was received from this source during the past year.

Other major committee estimates have to do with savings effected by distribution. The need for a newsletter is eliminated. The reduction in billing and subscription record keeping at once cuts \$1200 from the annual bill from ALA for these services. While paper and printing costs have increased sharply in the past two years, these are offset by the increase in dues.

In summary, *College and Research Libraries* will always require a subsidy of between three and five thousand dollars, but much of this can be charged off to the elimination of

other necessities such as the newsletter and the increased membership receipts. I believe that with careful management and wide membership cooperation in speaking for advertisements, this membership distribution will cost less than two thousand dollars (net) or less than fifty cents a member. At least, those figures are practical goals at this time.

Incomplete figures for the journal this year show an expected credit of more than \$7400 against a budgeted expenditure of \$10,245. This is a good showing for operations when subscriptions from members had practically ceased and only one issue could charge the higher advertising rates which go with wider distribution.

It would be gross error to let financial details overshadow the editorial quality of *C&RL*. The service of Dr. Tauber and his editorial staff is an example to all librarians. The very considerable reputation of our journal has been made entirely by these people. *College and Research Libraries* grows progressively more useful and sets a standard for journals of all professions. I am personally grateful to the editor for his unflinching kindness and cooperation, and every member should share this sense of gratitude. Were it not for the long hours regularly given by the editorial board, we would have no *College and Research Libraries* at all, on any distribution basis.

Much credit is also due the Committee on Financing *C&RL* chaired by Mary D. Herrick. This group helped to prepare advertising copy and two flyers to promote the journal. Six areas of possible advertising revenue were set up and divided among committee members (supplies; equipment; rare books; new scholarly books; microprint materials; related fields such as buildings and miscellaneous). A standard form reply card was drawn up for use in soliciting advertisements by mail. Individual members worked with the Headquarters Office in soliciting advertisements. This cooperation is principally responsible for the present bright picture.

Chapters

The first two *ACRL* chapters were established during the year. The Philadelphia chapter includes librarians in the metropolitan area, and the New Jersey state chapter includes college and reference librarians

throughout the state. The progress of these two units will be watched with interest, particularly by other potential chapters, now in the embryo stage.

Trips

During the year I visited at least forty different libraries in fifteen states, attended four state and regional library association meetings, several national educational conferences, and a number of smaller meetings of librarians and library school classes. Several visits were made at the special request of institutions with particular problems. This type of service is very much appreciated.

This represents somewhat less "getting around the country" than customary or desirable, but correspondence and essential Association business must come first.

Informational Services

Relatively little was done to build up the office collection of forms, policies, reports, etc., of American college libraries. Annual reports and staff newsletters come regularly, but statements of policies and programs, except as contained in these, are conspicuously and regrettably absent. Such materials all go into the general *ALA* Library, as they should. This collection and its able librarian, Miss Helen Geer, render invaluable help in answering the regular stream of inquiries which comes to Headquarters.

Surveys

The *Survey of the Library of the University of Notre Dame* was completed by Dr. Louis R. Wilson and Frank A. Lundy. Your secretary wrote one chapter of this and participated in much of the discussion and negotiation. The manuscript was prepared for publication in the *ACRL* Office. Wyllis E. Wright and I jointly prepared a detailed survey of the Army War College Library (unpublished).

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No accounting can be made now of my time spent in helping develop major projects for foundation financing. This activity will bear no regular fruit, but appears to be an important responsibility.

The *ACRL Quarterly Newsletter* was brought to an end with the issue for May 1952. Communications from the Headquarters Office will be continued in *C&RL*.

The annual ballot was incorporated successfully with the May issue. Results of this election are given with the list of officers printed elsewhere in this issue of *College and Research Libraries*.

As an ALA staff member your secretary participates in much general association business. It matters little whether a letter is addressed to ALA or ACRL, if the subject is the responsibility of the one office or the other, so is it sent. To the best of my knowledge the record for referral of correspondence is spotless on both sides.

The annual report for the last year covered the responsibilities of the ACRL Office to ALA, and little change has been noted. As previously reported, the classification and pay plan is unrealistic when applied to ACRL staff. It remains a real pleasure and source of strength to be close to other divisional executive secretaries, who have similar problems. We have held informal meetings at regular intervals for the solution of common problems. I am particularly grateful for the constant cooperation and help of the officers and particularly the two executive secretaries of the Public Libraries Division during the past year. I am likewise indebted to Mr. Clift for his unfailing attention to any ACRL problems brought to him, and to members of his staff for their cooperation. They have made ALA Headquarters a pleasant home for ACRL.

Administrative Procedures Committee
(Ralph W. Parker, Chairman)

This group was formerly known as the Committee on Budgets, Compensation, and Schemes of Service. It was renamed at the 1951 annual conference, and the chairman was instructed to prepare a redefinition of the statement of purpose. It is generally agreed that the principal responsibility of the group lies in the maintenance of library standards and budgets. The committee has been working on the relationships between ACRL and accrediting agencies. It seems fairly clear that ACRL cannot enter the accrediting field but should work with and through existing regional and professional accrediting associations. The group has had some contact with the National Commission on Accreditation.

The committee has collected some information on the participation of librarians in the

work of regional accrediting associations. It is clear that ALA or ACRL should be consulted more by accrediting organizations concerning standards for libraries, instructions for teams to visit libraries, and the selection of personnel to investigate libraries.

The problem facing this committee is extraordinarily difficult, and rapid progress cannot be expected. (ATH)

Committee on Audio-Visual Work
(Fleming Bennett, Chairman)

This committee was set up a year ago at the suggestion of the ALA Audio-Visual Board. Its work so far has been focused on gathering information, which will then be used in determining an intelligent program.

A carefully prepared questionnaire was sent to 1726 college and university libraries in March. Only about one third had been returned at the time of the New York Conference. The committee expects to publish a report of its findings during the year ahead and to formulate its program. College libraries have been backward in recognizing these new media. This committee therefore has a great opportunity for service.

Buildings Committee
(Robert H. Muller, Chairman)

In addition to the answering of many letters from librarians with building problems, the committee (1) sponsored an open meeting at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, (2) conducted an Institute on Library Building Plans on the campus of Ohio State University, April 25 and 26, 1952, and (3) continued its project of gathering, compiling, and publishing of data on college and university library buildings.

(1) At the open meeting on January 31, 1952, the recently constructed library buildings of M.I.T., University of Houston, and Woman's College of the University of North Carolina were critically reviewed by the librarians occupying those buildings. It is expected that the proceedings of this meeting will be published either in *College and Research Libraries* or as an *ACRL Monograph*.

(2) The Institute on Library Building Plans was attended by 45 librarians and architects from all parts of the United States and Canada. Reviewed at the Institute were the plans of Wisconsin State College at Milwaukee, Wabash College, Michigan State

College, Southern Illinois University, Lewis and Clark College, Idaho State College, Wisconsin State College at Stevens Point. This Institute was conceived as a continuation of the work of the Cooperative Committee on Library Building Plans, which had been dissolved early in 1952. . . . The proceedings will be edited by Mr. David Jolly and will probably be issued in the fall of 1952. The proceedings may come out as a number in the *ACRL Monographs*. The publishing activities of the committee also include a plan to publish a series of library building "programs." (RHM)

The above paragraphs taken from Chairman Muller's report do scant justice to the usefulness of this committee. Through it ACRL is filling an important professional need. The program is practical, and it is being pursued with vigor and ability. Great credit is due the responsible parties. (ATH)

Constitution and By-Laws
(Andrew J. Eaton, Chairman)

Work and recommendations of this committee are reported sufficiently in the Brief of Minutes of the ACRL Business Meeting (printed elsewhere in this issue).

Duplicates Exchange Union
(Wixie E. Parker, Chairman)

This union exists to facilitate the exchange of duplicate and unwanted materials. Its services are primarily for smaller libraries although great research institutions belong. The union ordinarily requires little or no help from the committee and most matters have been handled by the chairman alone. This past year Mr. George F. Jones evaluated the usefulness of the union through a questionnaire. It was concluded that:

- a. Most members are sending two lists per year to the complete membership roster.
- b. The small libraries are gaining most, the larger ones frequently losing.
- c. The likelihood of using the U. S. Book Exchange varies directly with the size of the library.
- d. Small libraries expressed gratitude for benefits received through the activities of the Union—larger libraries considered their losses a worthwhile contribution to the cause of libraries generally.
- e. Need is indicated for both the exchange and the union.

f. Suggestions for improvement were as follows:

1. That exchange be restricted to completely free items.
2. That the lists be frozen for periods of one year.
3. That lists sent out to libraries be more selective.

Libraries which may be interested in cooperating in the union are urged to contact the chairman.

Committee to Study Materials for Instruction in the Use of the Library
(Wyman W. Parker, Chairman)

A full report on the three years of work was submitted in December 1951 by Mr. de Lafayette Reid, the past chairman. This showed that instruction in the use of the library is quite individual at most institutions. Tabulations of the committee's questionnaire showed that different methods demanded divergent and original materials. The report is available on loan but will not be printed.

Mr. Wyman Parker recommended that the committee be dismissed, and the Board so voted at the annual meeting. (ATH)

Committee on Interlibrary Loans
(William A. Kozumplik, Chairman)

The original assignment of this committee reads as follows: "To make an objective study of what is actually being spent when a library lends a book by mail; this committee could look into techniques and practices and perhaps suggest points at which a saving could be made in these practices."

James G. Hodgson volunteered to make the study of costs. Elsewhere in this issue appears a preliminary report.

The committee proceeded on the assumption that any cost cutting was desirable. It designed a standard request form for interlibrary loans (with inserted carbons). It also prepared a list of standard abbreviations and a shipping label. Finally, it prepared a revision of the 1940 Code. This revision was approved by a number of library associations. The committee's assignment is therefore completed, and it has been discharged with thanks.

The new Interlibrary Loan Code and the articles on aspects of the interlibrary loan problem printed elsewhere in this issue give ample testimony of the activity of this com-

mittee. The code itself gives no evidence of the two years of labor which the new draft required. An early draft was mailed last fall to 123 librarians, and their extensive criticisms and suggestions were incorporated in a final draft dated March 10, 1952. This was multilithed, and 700 copies were distributed. A large part of the cost of this was borne by the California Library Association, to which thanks are due. The members of this committee have done their work with extraordinary devotion.

Other problems relating to interlibrary loans have yet to be solved. Other interlibrary loan committees will be established in the future. It was thought wise, however, to bring a new group into being after a year or two. The committee chairmaned by Dr. William A. Kozumplik has worked hard and accomplished much. Their labors reflect great credit on the Association. Your secretary acknowledges a sense of personal gratitude to each and every member of this group. (ATH)

Publications Committee
(Laurence S. Thompson, Chairman)

The principal function of this committee has been "to review, approve, and expedite publications." It has always worked closely with the ALA Publishing Department in an advisory capacity. In 1950 when the Research Planning Committee was established, doubt existed as to the further need for this committee. Any such fears have been put to rest by accomplishments the past year. In addition to performing its traditional function, this committee has launched a new publishing venture, the *ACRL Monographs*. The project has become very successful almost overnight in financial support and in quality of manuscripts available. Production and format problems have been successfully solved. The *Monographs* may lead us into a major publishing venture of great service to the library profession.

In short, the *Monographs Series* is now on a self-supporting basis and serving a useful function. The chairman and Mr. David Maxfield, the business manager for the *ACRL Monographs*, have done well. (ATH)

Committee on Preparation and Qualifications for Librarianship
(Jerrold Orne, Chairman)

An article on the educational qualifications for acquisition workers by William A. Kozumplik (*Library Journal*, volume 77, no. 4, page 291-4) was the chief product of the committee during the past year. Chairman Jerrold Orne reported that the committee has no further purpose or need in the ACRL organization and recommended dismissal. No action on this recommendation was taken. (ATH)

Recruiting Committee
(Edward A. Chapman, Chairman)

Little progress was reported by this group, and doubt exists as to the need for its continuance. The chairman reported in part:

"I have seriously studied the past work of the committee with the idea of programming its current work to complement the gains made and to avoid any duplication. In all honesty I cannot see wherein the committee has exercised any systematic, effective, or predictable influence in the solution of the recruiting problem.

". . . I reason that the objectives of the Committee can never be achieved in any appreciable part through Committee-type action anyway; that the execution of recruiting acts is not a committee function which, however, seems to have been attempted by the Committee to now; that the Committee should concern itself with programming . . . and leave execution to those directly concerned with and responsible for recruitment and/or advice in fields of work: high school counseling departments; college admissions officers; library school admissions officers."

The Board took no action to dissolve the committee because it felt that ACRL should be represented in, and help support, the Joint Committee on Library Work as a Career. The chairman of the ACRL Committee normally serves in this capacity. Other appointments to the committee can be allowed to lapse by the President. (ATH)

Research Planning Committee
(Louis Kaplan, Chairman)

A fairly complete report on this committee was included in the Brief of Minutes, the Board of Directors Meeting (printed elsewhere in this issue).

The committee was set up originally with an assignment to identify important problems, examine and consider them, to farm them out, as it could, for solution. While the full theoretical statement of duties is clear and precise, the Committee has had to feel its way.

During the past year the group has made small but significant contributions, and chances for its future usefulness look very bright. A great deal of credit is due the chairman and members. (ATH)

Safeguarding Library Materials

At its meeting in July 1951 the Board of Directors voted to establish a Committee on Safeguarding Library Materials. It also recommended that the Council of National Library Associations set up a joint committee on the same subject. The ACRL committee was never appointed because the joint committee seemed to have the subject well in hand.

Work on this subject began in the ACRL Office in the summer of 1950 at the suggestion of Mr. Cory. I investigated the subject a good deal over the course of many months and finally presented a report which was the basis of the action by the ACRL Board. The CNLA joint committee now includes representatives from archives and from museums and from national research councils.

The Committee for the Protection of Cultural and Scientific Resources already has a number of solid accomplishments to its credit. It will obviously grow in importance so long as the present international tensions continue. The ACRL representative Burton W. Adkinson of the Library of Congress is chairman of the committee, and his report will be issued through other channels.

Statistics Committee (G. Flint Purdy, Chairman)

This group continued to perform one of the most useful ACRL services in producing the annual college and university library statistics. For the first time these were printed in the January issue of *C&RL* instead of April. Preprints were available upon request very early in January. By this means the current data was available for use in the preparation of budgets, which is normally a late winter chore. Many librarians greatly appreciated this service, and the inclusion of current budget data in the questionnaire.

Approximately 500 questionnaires were sent out in August, and 272 replies were on hand by October 1. This represents no significant decline, and reports were nearly as complete as in previous years, except for data on total institutional expenditures. The same form,

with minor modifications, will be used in 1951/52 and must be returned by October 1. Mailing lists have been revised to include new libraries whose librarians have expressed interest in receiving questionnaires.

Haste in compilation and publication of the statistics militates against adequate checking, particularly through correspondence with librarians. Adequate analysis of reported data prior to publication is likewise impractical. The first of these two disadvantages is clearly more than offset by the advantages of prompt publication. Inaccuracies are seldom important from point of view of generalization. The second disadvantage could easily be overcome by subsequent publication of a more careful analysis than the one which appears with the published tables.

In the past few Catholic institutions were included in the mailing lists because the committee felt that the financial statistics were not comparable. In the future more Catholic institutions will be included, and comparability of salary statistics will be sought by the U. S. Office of Education method. Another change from previous practice concerns the statistics collected for consultation at ACRL Headquarters (not to be published). Collection and retention of these is not justified by actual use, and will not be continued.

During the past year several state organizations have undertaken the compilation of statistics on college libraries within their borders. This movement has had some leadership from the ACRL Office and the help of the chairman. In most instances ACRL forms have been used. (GFP and ATH)

Joint Committees

ACRL was represented on a number of joint committees during the past year. Reports on the work of these groups will presumably be issued by the chairmen or by parent organizations. The names and assignments of ACRL representatives on joint committees are given with other committee information in the *ALA Bulletin* for December 1951. Special mention should be made of the work of Phillips Temple as ACRL delegate to the American Council on Education. Mr. Temple acted as Washington representative for ACRL in a number of capacities, and

always with extraordinary fidelity and competence.

A committee was set up to "Implement Library of Congress Bibliographical Projects." The committee studied correspondence with LC officials which led to the appointment of the committee but was unable to determine an area of activity in which it might be especially helpful to LC. It therefore functioned only as a stand-by, in case of need.

Junior College Libraries Section
(Mary E. Kauffmann, Chairman)

Work on *Library Materials for Junior Colleges* proceeded during the year under Frank J. Bertalan. One hundred junior colleges had contributed about 50,000 cards, and many volunteers helped to prepare the preliminary lists. These were then sent to selected schools for review and cutting. Manuscript was completed in September, but final editing and manufacture are expected to delay publication until the second quarter of 1953.

The following served as regional chairmen: Far West, Eugene McKnight; Trans-Mississippi, Nellie M. Homes; Midwest, Maysie M. Pierce; New England, Barbara M. Smith; Middle Atlantic, Rachel F. Wood; Southeast, Elizabeth S. Reynolds; Southwest, Arda E. Frans.

The Midwinter and annual conference programs were of considerable value, not only because of the speakers, but because the size of the section permits considerable informal sharing of experience and opinion. Section membership has increased 15% during the year. (ATH)

Pure and Applied Science Section
(John H. Moriarty, Chairman)

The new Pure and Applied Science Section has now completed one year's operations. Three newsletters of considerable usefulness were issued.

A committee was appointed to prepare a *Recommended List of Basic Engineering Periodicals*. Special assignments for this publication were as follows: Roger F. Stanton, aeronautical; Cornelia Graham, agricultural; H. Dean Stallings, architectural; Harlan C. Brown, ceramic; George S. Bonn, chemical; Jeanette Poor, civil; Ruth McG. Lane, electrical; William S. Budington, industrial; Jane

Ganfield, mechanical; Earl J. Randolph, metallurgical and mining; Dale Barker, textile; Robert S. Bray, auxiliary sciences. Edward A. Chapman and Dorothy M. Crosland are assisting the Chairman William H. Hyde in editing and over-all work.

A permanent committee was established on relations with the U. S. Department of Agriculture Library. Members of this committee are Mrs. Margaret Bryant, Robert Havlik, Harald Ostvold, Louise B. Wheeler, and J. R. Blanchard, chairman. During the previous year the Agricultural Libraries Section had prepared a *Report on the Policies and Program of the U.S.D.A. Library*. A number of problems raised in this report remained unsolved. The assignment of the new committee is to work on these problems as well as on new developments.

Through the efforts of the Section the American Society for Engineering Education appointed a group of section members to serve as its Committee on Engineering School Libraries (George S. Bonn, Rice Institute, Chairman).

During the year news was received that the Russians had forbidden the export of a number of their scientific periodicals. A list of these was published and the means sought to avoid this science blackout. A number of these titles, it was later discovered, were being received currently in the Library of Congress where microfilms could be ordered. Chairman Moriarty reported, "It does seem then that by dint of much bibliographical enquiry and considerable added expense, we can maintain most of our Russian files." (ATH)

Reference Librarians Section
(Elizabeth Findly, Chairman)

This section has had an excellent record of committee activity for the year. Its programs at Midwinter and the annual conference have been practical and useful. One newsletter was issued for the membership.

The Joint Committee on Reproduction of Bibliographical and Reference Works was made a standing committee with Alton H. Keller as chairman. A list of books for possible reproduction was given wide distribution in June.

Considerable correspondence was had with the H. W. Wilson Company regarding the problem of the selection of periodicals to be indexed in the *Readers' Guide*. At the re-

quest of the H. W. Wilson Company a joint committee was established with the Public Libraries Division to work with the company on this problem. Morris Gelfand of Queens College Library was named chairman for this section.

Miss Florence Gifford served as chairman of the Committee on New Reference Tools. The group is cooperating in the revision of the *Street Directory of the Principal Cities of the United States*. The committee had helped to promote the new *College and Research Libraries* feature on new reference materials by Constance M. Winchell. The group is planning to prepare and submit to members a new list of current needs in the field of reference books. It will work with the ALA Board on Acquisition of Library Materials. (See its brief report in the 1952 *Annual Conference Summary Reports*, p. 43.)

The Committee on Referral of Reference Inquiries drafted a code for the handling of reference inquiries received by mail (for the text see elsewhere in this issue). The final version is based on the draft which was sent to more than one hundred librarians for comment. The final draft has had universal approval, but unfortunately no formal action was taken on its acceptance at the annual conference.

Libraries of Teacher Training Institutions Section (Wendell W. Smiley, Chairman)

At the New York Conference a committee was authorized to aid such organizations as are interested in publishing and continuing the work of compiling bibliographic data on dissertations and essays from teacher training institutions. A committee was likewise set up to establish evaluative criteria (for book selection as well as other functions) for libraries of teacher training institutions.

The new standards and policies for accreditation of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education were the subject of considerable discussion and section study.

Programs were prepared for the Midwinter Meeting and the annual conference. (ATH)

University Libraries Section (Raynard C. Swank, Chairman)

The section got off to an early start with the decision to attempt four studies during the year: undergraduate and underclass libraries; decentralization of cataloging; in-service training of nonprofessional library employees, and problems connected with monograph technical reports. These studies were described in the January issue of *College and Research Libraries* (13:61-64). Reports on these were given at the Midwinter Meeting.

The committee on decentralization of cataloging was discharged at the annual conference. Study of undergraduate libraries is proceeding and should have useful results. Little information on in-service training practices has been turned up, so that committee is preparing a reasoned analysis of the problem and constructive suggestions for operations. The work on technical reports is partially duplicated by the University of Chicago's 1952 Conference on the Communication of Specialized Information (Dr. Taube served as chairman of the section's committee and of the conference as well).

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This summary by the executive secretary does scant justice to the careful planning and work of the officers.

In closing I must express a personal debt to President Ellsworth for his constant cooperation, his sympathetic ear, and his wise counsel. Treasurer Shaw has been invariably cooperative as bursars and treasurers seldom are. Few members can appreciate the long hours which Tom Shaw has devoted to ACRL during the past three years, and particularly the last year, or the personal expenses involved. Such servants are rare in any organization. Lillian M. Shepherd continues, as most members know, to keep Headquarters in smooth operation, and our debt to her is a daily one.

Enlarged Library Building at North Carolina

"The Enlarged Library Building at Chapel Hill," a pamphlet issued by the University of North Carolina on the occasion of the opening of its new library addition, April 18, 1952, includes an interesting and informative summary of the history of the university library, a description of the building with floor plans and pictures, and some statistics on the size, cost, capacity and equipment of the enlarged library plant.