

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

To the President of the University:

SIR: I have the honor to present the report of the University Library for the academic year 1946-1947.

STAFF

The year 1946-1947 is marked by the retirement from the library staff of three of its members who have held key positions in the organization: E. R. B. Willis, Associate Librarian; Miss Elizabeth Ingersoll, Supervisor of Accessions; and George de Grassi, Supervisor of Classification and Stacks. Their combined period of service totals over one hundred years. They have rendered notable service to the Library and its users for more than a generation and they have seen the Library grow from a relatively small collection of high quality to its present position among the great research libraries in the country. Each of them has made his own significant contribution toward the development of the Library and has earned the respect and gratitude of the University for the services rendered.

Special note may well be taken of the services of Mr. E. R. B. Willis who joined the library staff as Superintendent of the Readers Division after receiving his Master's degree in Classics in 1914. Since that time, under varying titles, Mr. Willis has been concerned with the reference and circulation service of the Library and with the strengthening of its collections. Mr. Willis was advanced to the position of Assistant Librarian in 1923; he served as a member of the executive committee during the year 1929-1930 and in 1930 he was made Associate Librarian. From December 1945 until September 1946, Mr. Willis served as Acting Librarian and from that date until the time of his retirement, he has carried on his duties as Associate Librarian. Effective July 1, 1947, he has been given the title Associate Librarian, Emeritus. During this past year, Mr. Willis has been of inestimable value in introducing the new members of the staff to the activities and procedures of the Library, in assisting them in meeting the daily problems, and in formulating plans for the future.

In view of the retirement of these key staff members, it was apparent early in the year that much effort must be devoted to securing competent personnel to insure the continuation and development of the Library's program. An examination of the duties of these three positions and of the assignment of other tasks throughout the Library made it clear that it would be desirable to arrange for new allocations of duties in connection with the new appointments. Accordingly, after consideration with the Library Board, it was agreed that the position of Assistant Director should be defined in the future as an administrative position only instead of a combined administrative and service position. The responsibility for service to readers formerly carried by the Associate Librarian has accordingly been divided between the Circulation department and the Reference department, each of which is headed by an experienced professional librarian. The Acquisitions department instead of being solely a purchasing unit has had the scope of its activities enlarged to include all of the acquisition processes of the Library including gift and exchange work and responsibility for the duplicate collections. The care, order, and arrangement of the book stacks has been transferred from the Classification Librarian to the Circulation department and the cataloguing activities formerly carried on by the curators of the various special collections have been transferred to the Catalogue department, except where unusual language difficulties make this arrangement impracticable. Under the new arrangement, all the departments concerned with service to the public, that is Circulation, Reference, Periodicals, and Special Collections are placed under the immediate supervision of the Assistant Director. The three technical service departments, Acquisitions, Catalogue, and Classification report directly to the Director.

With this reorganization of the duties of the library approved, it was possible to define clearly the scope of each position which was to be filled and the search for the new staff members was begun. The outcome of that search has indeed been a happy one and we can record with satisfaction the following appointments:

G. F. Shepherd, Jr., Assistant Director; Felix Reichmann, Acquisitions Librarian; Wilfred L. Morin, Circulation Librarian; Dagney V. Anderson, Classification Librarian; and Josephine M. Tharpe, Reference Librarian.

At the very outset of the year, it was evident that some additional assistance must be provided immediately to carry the load at the public service desks and to advance the clerical work in the technical departments. Five new positions were provided through an emergency appropriation and the results have been highly gratifying.

The following staff members were appointed during the course of the year:

Anderson, Miss Dagney	Lauman, Miss Frances
Bailey, Mrs. Sarah J.	Nickels, Mrs. Bernice
Bawlf, Miss Ann	Paskow, Mrs. Joan
Bollinger, Mrs. Margaret	Reichmann, Felix
Drew, Mrs. Millicent	Roewer, Mrs. Dorothy
Dull, Miss Maxine	Rus, Mrs. Mary Jean
Emerson, Miss Mary	Sanford, Mrs. Irmgard
Holzman, Mrs. Elaine	Shepherd, G. F.
Hormats, Mrs. Arlene	Walker, Miss Frances

The following members of the staff have resigned during the past year:

Adams, Mrs. Dorothy	Holzman, Mrs. Elaine
Bailey, Mrs. Sarah J.	Paskow, Mrs. Joan
Beskin, Miss Hertha	Robinson, Mrs. Rosamund
Drew, Mrs. Millicent L.	Roewer, Mrs. Dorothy
Dull, Miss Maxine	Stickler, Carlyle R.
Emerson, Miss Mary	Taylor, Robert B.
Goldstein, Mrs. Edith	Timmerman, Miss Elizabeth

SPACE NEEDS OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Even a casual visitor to the University Library in recent years could not help but be impressed with the need of additional space for readers, for books, and for library staff members. The most serious need which developed immediately after the opening of the fall semester was for additional seating space for readers. Day after day during the busy hours of the morning and the afternoon, students were to be found sitting on the steps in the lobby and leaning against card catalogue cases and exhibit cases while they tried to read reserve books. It was imperative that additional space be found immediately. Fortunately, the center room on the second floor of McGraw Hall was not in use and through the cooperation of the School of Business and Public Administration and the Department of Sociology it was made available for library use. With the assistance of the Department of Buildings and Grounds, it was possible to have this room well-lighted and suitably, if somewhat shabbily, equipped by early November. A portion of the reserve book collection was transferred and the immediate seating problem was solved. New chairs have recently been acquired and they have reduced the noise and have added to the comfort of readers. During the summer the room is being further refurbished preparatory to its use in the coming year as a reserve book room and as a reading room for the School of Business and Public Administration.

Although the McGraw Hall reserve room gave us a temporary solution to one of our space problems, it did nothing to provide additional shelving space for books or work space for library staff members. In an attempt to solve these further problems, a study was made over a period of several weeks of the use of the various seminar rooms in the library building. This study disclosed the fact that, while several of the seminar rooms were rather heavily used by small groups of graduate students, there were other seminar rooms which received only very slight use on the part of anyone. Discussions were, therefore, entered into with the departments

to which these seminar rooms had been assigned to find other means of supplying their library needs. As a result, the former English seminar room has been transformed into the office of the Assistant Director and the three seminar rooms on the lower floor, formerly used by Greek and Latin and French and German, have been taken over for the Acquisitions and Catalogue departments. The European History seminar has been discontinued and the collection of classics material has been transferred to this room which now becomes the Classics Seminar.

The problem of additional shelving space for books could not be solved as readily, but with the assistance of the Administration and the cooperation of the Law School, arrangements were concluded whereby the basement stack floor in Myron Taylor Hall and a basement room in the new Administration Building were assigned to the University Library. Late in the year it was possible through a stroke of good luck to secure free-standing steel stacks for the room in the Administration Building. These two stack areas will provide shelving for upwards of 100,000 volumes of less frequently used publications which will be moved out of the University Library building. With these publications removed, it will be possible to reorganize and rearrange the stacks so that greater efficiency in shelving and delivery of books may be achieved.

It is obvious that all of these arrangements are merely temporary. They are in no sense a solution to the Library's space problems. With this realization in mind, the Library Board recommended to the Trustees that an architect be selected to develop plans for the expansion of the existing library building and also to prepare plans for a new library building. The architectural firm of O'Connor and Kilham has been selected and has been instructed to prepare plans and sketches for the expansion of the present building. In order that the architect might be provided with a comprehensive statement of the University's needs in a central library building, a special faculty committee was appointed by the Chairman of the Library Board to canvass faculty opinion, to study the problem and to submit a report. The members of this committee were Professors H. A. Wichelns, Chairman, Knight Biggerstaff, Morris G. Bishop, W. S. Cole, Herrell DeGraff, J. A. Hartell, and Paul H. Black. The Committee's report, submitted to the Library Board on June 10, was favorably received by the Board and, with only minor changes, was sent on to the architect to serve as a basis for his plans. When these plans are completed, if they appear to be a satisfactory solution of the University's problem of providing suitable and adequate quarters for its library, an intensive campaign must be undertaken to secure the funds necessary to execute the plans. If suitable plans for the expansion of the present library building cannot be developed, it is imperative that plans for an entirely new building be prepared and a determined and successful effort be made to secure the required funds. The reputation of the University will suffer seriously unless a vigorous attack on its library problems can be undertaken and carried through to a satisfactory conclusion at an early date.

SURVEY

Throughout the years of its growth and expansion, the University has been well aware of the need for library facilities. Over the years library facilities of various kinds and varying quality have been developed in individual departments, colleges, and schools of the University. The relationships of these different libraries to the University Library have also varied greatly. The result of this growth and development is that we now find ourselves in a difficult and at times an ambiguous situation. There is frequently duplication and multiplication of effort, of publications, and of services. At other points, there are serious gaps which are filled by none of the existing agencies. It is only in recent years, for example, that a determined effort to construct a union catalogue in the University Library has been undertaken. This catalogue is not yet complete but it is more nearly so than it was in the past. In the acquisition of materials there is no clear cut division of responsibility, nor is there at present any means by which one can ascertain readily and easily what library is buying what publications. Internally there are such problems as that created by the classification system which is, by general agreement, out of date and inadequate for a collection of this size.

In an effort to secure an objective appraisal of the libraries of the University, as

well as the most informed advice regarding our program for the future, it was considered desirable by the Library Board to recommend that a survey be made of the entire library situation of the University by men of national reputation in the university library field who have no present affiliation with Cornell University. It is a pleasure to report favorable action by the Board of Trustees on this proposal. Arrangements have, therefore, been made for a committee consisting of Dr. Louis R. Wilson, Dean Emeritus of the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago and formerly Librarian of the University of North Carolina; Robert B. Downs, Director of Libraries and of the Library School of the University of Illinois; and Dr. Maurice F. Tauber, Professor in the School of Library Service at Columbia University, to conduct such a survey. The surveyors will undertake a thorough study and examination of the libraries on the campus and of their policies, collections, records, and procedures and will prepare a report for publication which is designed to analyze the present situation and make recommendations for future development. The report of the survey should chart the way for the libraries of the University during the next generation.

BOOK FUNDS

The funds which have been appropriated annually for the purchase of books have been inadequate to maintain the acquisition program which is essential in order that the faculty and students may have available the publications required for teaching and research purposes. In recent years there has been far too great reliance on gifts and donations from friends and supporters of the Library in building up the book collection. The experience of research libraries generally makes it clear that, although gifts and bequests are of great importance to any library, nevertheless no library can safely try to substitute chance gifts and donations for a planned program of purchases. Such a program, of the scope necessary in an institution offering a broad and diversified program of teaching and research, requires the regular annual provision of substantial funds for the purchase of books, periodicals, documents, manuscripts, and other types of library materials. In view of the limited funds provided by the annual appropriation for books, it is a tribute to the energy and the efficiency of the library staff that such a fine collection has been built up. But no staff can do the impossible, and if the Library is to fill in the gaps developed in the past because of lack of funds and also to go forward on a broad front collecting new publications, it must be assured of substantial annual appropriations for the purchase of books.

During the war years, because of the unavailability of European publications, the Library's purchasing program was curtailed drastically. This has resulted in a surplus which has been carried forward for several years. By action of the Library Board, this war fund reserve has been made available for active purchasing during the year 1947-1948. The total funds available for books for the coming year, therefore, because of the reappropriations, will be rather substantial, but it must be clearly understood that this provides for one year only and that thereafter, beginning next year, a very considerable increase in the appropriations for the purchase of books will be essential.

ACQUISITIONS

The total amount expended for books, periodicals, and binding during the past year was \$45,678.62 as compared with \$36,596 for the year 1945-1946. The total number of items added to the University Library and its various collections was 19,162. Of the 11,385 items added to the general library, 4,065 were gifts and 7,320 were purchases.

The accompanying table shows the number of items added during the year and the present extent of all of the libraries of the University. The table includes for the first time the holdings of the libraries of the following units of the University located outside of Ithaca: The New York State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, N. Y., Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory at Buffalo, and Cornell Medical College in New York City.

GROWTH OF THE LIBRARIES, 1946-1947

	<i>Items Added</i>	<i>Present Extent</i>
General Library (including Wordsworth Collection).....	11,385	783,270
Dante Collection.....	39	10,953
Petrarch Collection.....	14	4,607
Icelandic Collection.....	128	22,786
Wason Chinese Collection.....	616	44,366
Cornell University Theses.....	480	17,616
Philological Seminary.....	2	1,193
Latin Seminary.....	...	326
Sage School of Philosophy.....	7	1,002
French Seminary.....	...	24
German Seminary.....	...	759
American History Seminary.....	...	671
Manuscripts.....	26	1,103
Maps.....	4,897	8,782
Cornell Univ. Maps and Plans.....	...	202
U. S. Coast Survey.....	...	950
U. S. Geological Survey Topographical Maps.....	234	6,880
British Geological Survey Maps.....	...	600
College of Architecture Library.....	333	6,711
Barnes Hall Library (Religion).....	49	4,516
Chemistry Library (Special).....	25	652
Comstock Memorial Library (Entomology).....	205	3,395
Economics Laboratory Collection.....	...	340
Forestry Library.....	...	1,181
Goldwin Smith Hall Library.....	102	5,029
Gray Memorial Library (Electrical Engineering).....	12	936
Kuichling Library (Civil Engineering).....	6	2,386
Rockefeller Hall Library (Physics).....	...	1,190
Van Cleef Library (Zoology).....	325	6,572
Flower Library (Veterinary).....	277	14,995
Total including MSS and Maps.....	19,162	953,993
New York State College of Agriculture Library.....	5,358	152,494
New York State College of Home Economics Library.....	1,235	14,978
Law Library.....	1,846	107,475
New York State Veterinary College Library.....	468	3,006
New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations Library.....	2,655	4,922
New York State Agricultural Experiment Station Library...	766	21,853
Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory Library.....	460	3,808
Cornell Medical College Library.....	779	37,269
Total in all Libraries.....	32,729	1,299,798

Among the important acquisitions of the year were the following: Acta Leidensia, 1925-date; Annals of the Finnish Academy of Science, 24 vols.; Archives Neerlandaise de Physiologie, 28 vols.; Composito Mathematica, 1934-date; Denkmaeler der Tonkunst in Oesterreich, 18 vols.; Fauna of British India, 22 vols.; Jaarboek van het Mijnwesen, 1872-1939; Journal of the Parliaments of the Empire, 1920-44, 25 vols.; Louisiana Historical Society, 23 vols.; Monumenta Musicae Byzantinae, 8 vols.; Neue Zuericher Zeitung (war years, 1939-1943); Ordonnançes des Roys de France, 23 vols.; Oregon Historical Society, 44 vols.; Petrarca. De Vita Solitaria, Paris, 1500; Wilson, Thomas. The Arte of Rhetorique. London, 1553.

CATALOGUING AND CLASSIFICATION

The records of the year's work in cataloguing and classification are given with other statistics under the heading Statistical Records near the end of this report. It is sufficient to note here that there has been a significant increase in the quantity of publications processed in almost all categories. In the chief category, "Volumes and Pamphlets Catalogued," it is especially noteworthy that an increase of approximately 1,400 items was made. Equally pleasing is the progress which has been made in dealing with the maps received from the Army Map Service. Over 5,000 of these maps have now been fully catalogued, classified, arranged in folders, and placed in map cases.

The problems which confront us in the technical departments are many and serious and the plans for improvement in this aspect of the Library's activity must be worked out very carefully on a long-term basis. One of our first problems is the organization of the work in such a way that a clear distinction is observed between the professional and the clerical tasks involved. Some progress in this respect has been made in the past year and the opportunity to appoint additional clerical personnel afforded by the new budget will enable us to initiate some significant changes.

Beyond this, we face the need for building up a card shelf-list of our entire collection because the loose-leaf shelf-list, in many of its parts, is no longer useful or usable. The classification system is not satisfactory and must be either adapted and revised or changed completely at an early date. The existing records of the Library's serial holdings are incomplete and in some respects inadequate, perhaps inaccurate. One reason for this is that the Library has not segregated its serial record work as fully as is generally considered desirable and has not provided a separate serial record. It seems probable that such a record will have to be compiled. For the use of several of its special collections, the Library has relied on the printed catalogues of these collections. This practice has proved confusing to many readers who expect to find all of the Library's holdings recorded in the public card catalogue. Means must be found to incorporate the records of these special collections in the card catalogue in the near future. Furthermore there are various collections and groups of books in the Library, some of which have been here for many years, which are incompletely catalogued or wholly uncatalogued. It is of obvious importance that these materials be promptly incorporated into the card catalogue. For many of the older books in the library, the catalogue record consists of hand written cards, some of which are difficult to decipher, which should be replaced by printed or type-written cards. It has been customary for some years to send one copy of the catalogue card with each book being catalogued for a department or college library. The department librarian then typed or purchased additional cards in order to have a complete set. This is obviously an uneconomical procedure for the University, even if it was economical for the Library. Plans have been made to change this practice just as soon as the clerical staff in the Catalogue Department has gained sufficient experience to carry the additional load. We will then send full sets of catalogue cards with each book for departmental or college libraries. The cataloguing job will be done once and once only.

It is apparent from this listing of work to be done that the staff of the Catalogue Department will have to be built up steadily to the point where it will be large enough to do the task assigned to it. There is no other way in which the goal can be achieved. The backlog of work is very great and it will require a considerably expanded staff for a number of years to clear it up; thereafter, a somewhat smaller staff should be able to keep abreast of the current volume of incoming publications.

PERIODICALS AND BINDING

The Periodical Department reports 167 new subscriptions entered during the year of which 101 are purchases and 66 are gifts or exchanges. Included in the new acquisitions are the following:

Acta anatomica
Biography Index
Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists

Erasmus
Experimentia
International Relations

Journal of Colloid Science
 Letteratura
 Mathematics Student
 Middle East Journal
 Motion Picture Herald
 Pacific Science

Royal Aeronautical Society, Journal
 Sinologica
 Soviet Literature
 Travel and Camera
 United Nations Weekly Bulletin

The following files of newspapers were acquired during the past year either by gift, through the agency of the Collection of Regional History, or by purchase: Batavia (N. Y.) Times 1825-1945 (with gaps); Connecticut Courrant (Hartford) 20 odd issues 1805-1807; Detroit Free Press 1879-1888; Dundee (N. Y.) Observer 1878-1933; Elmira Advertiser 1875-1933; Irish Citizen (N. Y.) 1867-1872; Izvestiia (Moscow) Jan. 1940-June 1946 (Microfilm); Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Nov. 1939-Dec. 1945, Sept. 1946 to date; Pravda (Moscow) Jan. 1941-Nov. 1946 (Microfilm).

The difficulty of securing good library binding with the work done neatly and promptly has been a source of annoyance and irritation to many users of the library. Binding materials have been difficult to obtain in recent years and the small local binders have not been in a favorable position to secure the allotment of supplies required to do our work. This bottleneck of supplies has been overcome within the past year but these binderies are still so understaffed as to be unable to do a large volume of work in a reasonable length of time. In order to overcome this difficulty arrangements have been made with a binder in Syracuse who has handled a considerable volume of materials for us within the past five months and who has not only given us excellent workmanship but has also made prompt delivery on all shipments. If the situation with regard to the local binderies does not improve, it seems clear that more and more of our work will have to be sent elsewhere in order to avoid the long delays of recent years.

USE OF LIBRARY MATERIAL

The Library was open for service to readers 310 days during the year. The increased enrollment is reflected in the registration and circulation records of the library. All categories of loans with the single exception of loans to "Laboratories and Departments" have shown a substantial increase in comparison with the preceding year. The total recorded use of the library, exclusive of inter-library loans, was greater by approximately one-third, totaling 226,896 volumes. Interestingly enough the most significant increase is in the category of home loans of books from the stacks. In this category the increase in use amounted to more than 50 per cent. Since this type of library use is counted the most significant by many educators and students of university library problems, the substantial increase is a source of deep satisfaction and at the same time an indication of the significant part which the Library plays in the instructional and research program of the University. In the course of the year the restriction on the number of books which an undergraduate may borrow was removed and this has undoubtedly contributed in some measure to the increased use of books. It is worthy of note that there has been no abuse of the more liberal borrowing privileges granted to undergraduates and there is evidence that the new loan privileges are greatly appreciated.

As in the past, the collections of this library have been drawn upon by the libraries of other universities, colleges, government departments, and business firms. During the year loans totaling 1,260 volumes were made to 206 libraries. Among the libraries borrowing books from us were the following:

Ansco.....	82	Columbia University.....	22
Wells College.....	48	Newberry Library.....	20
University of Rochester.....	38	Corning Glass Works.....	19
Eastman Kodak Company.....	32	E. I. duPont de Nemours and Co.....	19
Colgate University.....	31	University of Toronto.....	19
State University of Iowa.....	30	University of Chicago.....	16
New York State Library.....	28	Harvard University.....	16
Princeton University.....	28	University of Michigan.....	16
Syracuse University.....	27	University of California.....	15
Sampson College.....	23	Hobart College.....	14

Mary Washington College.....	14	Hamilton College.....	11
West Baden College.....	14	University of Kansas.....	11
Duke University.....	12	RCA Victor.....	11
General Electric Company.....	12	Rice Institute.....	11
Hartwick College.....	12	University of Pennsylvania.....	10
University of Buffalo.....	11		

For the use of faculty members and students we have borrowed in the course of the year 604 volumes from 100 different libraries. Among the libraries from whom loans were made were the following:

New York State Library.....	85	Brown University.....	16
Columbia University.....	59	University of Chicago.....	16
Library of Congress.....	55	Boston Public Library.....	15
Princeton University.....	41	University of Michigan.....	14
University of Rochester.....	31	Yale University.....	13
Harvard University.....	28	University of Illinois.....	10
University of Pennsylvania.....	19		

The increased use of inter-library loans both for books being loaned by this library and for books being borrowed from other libraries is almost exactly $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. The increase in off-campus activity is thus approximately the same as the increased use of the Library's facilities on the campus.

GIFTS

The collections of the Library as they exist today represent in very considerable part the generosity of the friends of the University and the Library. Without the steady flow of gifts from alumni, faculty members, students, and friends which has gone on year after year since the establishment of the Library, the collections could not be nearly so varied nor so rich as they are. This year we have again the pleasant opportunity to acknowledge the gifts of the Library's many friends. Selected for special mention in the following paragraphs are some of the more unusual and substantial gifts of the year. Space limitations alone prevent us from giving a more complete and detailed report on all the gifts which we have received.

Among our chief donors each year are the members of our own faculty. While gifts have come in this past year from many of them, the following have been among the most generous and thoughtful and their gifts are gratefully acknowledged: Professor A. L. Andrews, Emeritus, 15 volumes of German and Scandinavian literature; Professor S. A. Asdell, 40 pieces of British War literature; Professor Morris G. Bishop, 30 volumes of French literature and English and French poetry; Professor Leonard S. Cottrell, jr., 38 miscellaneous volumes; Professor Paul T. Homan, 150 volumes and pamphlets on economics; Professor Richard Robinson, 123 volumes and pamphlets on philosophical subjects; Professor Walter H. Stainton, a collection of newspapers, periodicals, and pamphlets on World War II; Professor and Mrs. Albert H. Wright, volumes on local history and genealogy and the 1946 files of several periodicals. From Professor Liberty Hyde Bailey we received Fascicle II, vol. 7 of his *Gentes Herbarum*; from Professor G. D. Harris, Nos. 116-121 of his *Bulletins of American Palaeontology*.

The royalties on President Day's book *Statistical Analysis* have again been credited to the Library book fund.

The Cornell University Press has continued its generous practice of making a gift to the Library of one copy of all of its publications. The Press also made available 700 volumes from its stock for use as exchange material.

The Collection of Regional History has been responsible for securing the files of various newspapers and has also served as the avenue through which the Charles J. Paterson collection of early city directories has come to the Library. This collection comprises many early nineteenth century directories of historical value.

Major William M. Leffingwell, class of 1917, General Staff, U. S. Army, presented over 500 medical books, and from Gordon Murray we received 38 volumes by and about Lafcadio Hearn.

The French government through its Consulate in New York presented fifty books and sample numbers of many periodicals as indicative of the new trends in French publishing.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Harold E. Haber the high school classmates of Captain Joseph E. Percy, class of 1934, who was killed in an airplane crash while on a military mission, contributed \$125 as a memorial fund for the purchase of books in Chemistry.

E. Vail Stebbins, class of 1893, brought us a copy of the first edition of the score of Wagner's *Tannhäuser*, autographed by the composer for presentation to Tichatschek, the tenor who sang the principal part in the first production of the opera.

An anonymous donor presented \$500 to be spent for books on India, and Mrs. Louise F. Peirce has contributed \$55 for the purchase of books.

Mrs. Mattie A. Dalaker and sons, Harold Cornell Dalaker and Erling Akre Dalaker, made a gift of \$500 in memory of Hans H. Dalaker, class of 1908, for the purchase of books in mathematics.

Each year we have the pleasure of acknowledging further gifts from Victor Emanuel to the Wordsworth Collection. This year we record three autograph letters, two of them written by Wordsworth.

Near the close of the year the Library received its most important single gift, a manuscript copy of Gervasius of Tilbury's *Otia Imperialia*. This interesting manuscript of a famous medieval encyclopedia was evidently copied in a Paris scriptorium early in the fourteenth century and remained in France until about 1940. So far as is known this is the only complete copy in America. The manuscript is the gift of Frederick S. Crofts, class of 1905.

The Library cheerfully records its deep appreciation and gratitude for these generous gifts, and at the same time wishes to acknowledge with sincere thanks all the gifts it has received from its many friends. In acknowledging these past kindnesses, it may not be inappropriate to bespeak similar gifts in the future.

STATISTICAL RECORDS

Not all of the activities of the Library are amenable to significant statistical description. The tables given below record those activities which can be readily counted and are commonly considered as representative of some of the Library's services. For purposes of comparison corresponding figures for the preceding year are given in the column at the extreme right.

Classification	1946-47	1945-46
Books.....	11,828	11,998
Documents.....	2,657	2,092
Maps.....	5,119	424
Manuscripts.....	19	8
Microfilms.....	69	20
Theses.....	383	298
Varia.....	3	...
Total.....	20,078	14,840
Cataloguing	1946-47	1945-46
Volumes and pamphlets catalogued.....	17,291	15,898
Maps catalogued.....	5,131	419
Mss. catalogued.....	15	7
Microfilms catalogued, 33 titles on.....	73 reels	20
Titles added to the catalogue.....	10,129	9,328
Typewritten cards added.....	18,624	15,767
Printed cards added.....	20,245	18,037
Cards added to Library of Congress depository catalogue.....	79,561	70,057
Additions to cards.....	8,414	8,811
Volumes recatalogued.....	393	224
Cards corrected or dated.....	3,548	2,445

<i>Periodicals and Binding</i>	<i>1946-47</i>	<i>1945-46</i>
Periodicals currently received:		
By subscription	1,310	1,205
By gift and exchange	1,420	1,380
Total	2,730	2,585
Binding:		
Vols. of periodicals bound	3,628	3,235
Volumes repaired	996	1,381
New books bound	1,705	...
Total	6,329	
<i>Registration and Circulation</i>	<i>1946-47</i>	<i>1945-46</i>
Registration:		
Officers	1,068	1,174
Students	5,401	4,460
Special cases	12	12
Circulation:		
Reading Room—Delivery Desk	37,994	58,469
Reading Room—Reserve Desk (McGraw—36,361)	105,008	55,783
Seminar Rooms	3,790	1,960
Stalls	5,085	3,135
Laboratories and Departments	4,550	4,756
Home use (7-Day—9,275)	70,469	46,330
Total recorded use	226,896	170,433

When I assumed the Directorship of the University Library in September, 1946, I was aware of some of its serious problems. As the months passed, it became ever clearer that the Library was under compulsion to make up lost ground on three fronts: quarters, staff, and book funds. In this first year, temporary solutions to the most pressing space problems have been found; a start toward building the staff up to the size and quality required has been made; and a relatively small increase in book funds has been provided. These developments are encouraging if they are recognized by all concerned for what they really are: merely the first steps toward the objective of an efficient university library system adequately housed, staffed, and supported.

In view of the serious nature of our problems it has appeared desirable to utilize the University Library Board to the fullest possible extent. The Board has met monthly throughout the year and has considered all library problems of importance. I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the members of the Board for their patience, courtesy, and support. It has been a pleasure to work with them.

Such agencies as the University Library can attain success in their undertakings only if they have a loyal and able staff. We are fortunate in having as devoted and hard-working a staff as one will find anywhere. It is a pleasure to acknowledge their genuine interest and their unfailing assistance and support. I wish finally to acknowledge with sincere thanks the understanding, the counsel, and the support which you have so generously given to me during my first year at Cornell. It has made the year an interesting one and it promises well for the future of the University Library.

S. A. MCCARTHY,
Director of the University Library.

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