

# Personnel

THE SUDDEN DEATH of Dr. John E. VanMale on January 15, following an emergency operation, terminated the career of a librarian who had contributed significantly to the advancement of librarianship.

The nature of this contribution may be summarized as follows: VanMale entered librarianship in 1927 from the ranks of American booksellers. For a number of years he had dealt in general literature, then shifting to Americana, especially of the Rocky Mountain and Southwest regions of the United States. In 1936 he received his A.B. from the Library School of the University of Denver, and in 1940 his master's degree from the university. He served as research librarian in the Western History Department, Denver Public Library 1935-37 and as acting director of the University of Denver Library 1939-40. He prepared indexes and bibliographies for the books published in the series "Overland to the Pacific" edited by Archer Butler Hulbert and published in cooperation with the Denver Public Library. In 1939 he was awarded a fellowship by the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, but relinquished it to accept the position in the library of the University of Denver. He entered the Graduate Library School as a fellow of the A.L.A. in 1940 and was awarded the Ph.D. in 1942.

Dr. VanMale's knowledge of the book trade, particularly of Western Americana, was of great value to him in helping organize the Denver Bibliographical Center, as was his knowledge of bibliography and the bibliographical apparatus essential in supplying information to the cooperating libraries concerning rare publications of importance to the region. His acquaintance with the book trade also made it possible for him to secure advantageous discounts for his clientele and contributed to his success in setting up a cooperative undertaking that now has a decade of successful operation behind it. He was also a student of the use of union catalogs and wrote concerning their value in bibliographical centers.

Dr. VanMale's next undertaking was a study of the library extension services of five

Wisconsin institutions, including the Free Library Commission (traveling libraries and legislative reference services), the department of debating and public discussion of the University Extension Division, the medical library service of the University of Wisconsin, Medical School Library, and the University of Wisconsin Library. In this study he described the services of each agency and showed how through cooperation they supplemented extensively the services of the local libraries of the state.

The publication, with VanMale as editor, of *Resources of Pacific Northwest Libraries* in 1943 marked the completion of one of the major cooperative undertakings of the Pacific Northwest Library Association. VanMale organized the bibliographical center of that region after the plan of the one in Denver but adapted to the conditions of the Northwest. The nature of the resources of the region was described and a program of upbuilding was suggested which would enable the libraries to serve their patrons more effectively, as well as support the movement of library cooperation and specialization promoted by the A.L.A. Board on Resources of American Libraries.

Since 1943, Dr. VanMale's activities have run along the lines of promoting cooperative efforts in building up resources of libraries. He served as a member and as chairman of the A.L.A. Board on Resources of American Libraries (1942-44) and as librarian of Madison College (1943-45) and as director and assistant director respectively of the libraries of the University of South Carolina (1945-46) and the University of Denver (1946-48). In the latter positions he was instrumental in having the libraries surveyed and in inaugurating programs of extensive reorganization and improvement. He was particularly successful at Denver in building up a strong professional staff, in greatly increasing the budget of the library, and in coordinating the different parts of the university library system. He was also successful in integrating library service with instruction by having different staff members assigned to work in cooperation with staff members of

the various departments of the university. He was also largely responsible for a new library law passed by the Colorado legislature which changed the policy and program of the state library and which stimulated the organization of libraries in Colorado on the basis of a unit appropriate to the geographical conditions.

Quiet in manner, clear in his understanding of the objectives he sought, and with an unusual capacity for winning friends and securing cooperation, Dr. VanMale is lost to the profession just when he was giving evidence of unusually effective service to librarianship and scholarship.—*Louis R. Wilson.*

OF INTEREST to all investigators in the field of Shakespearean literature is the appointment of Dr. Louis B. Wright to the directorship of the Folger Shakespeare Memorial Library, effective July 1. The appointment brings to that institution a scholar who is widely known both personally and



*Louis B. Wright*

through his numerous publications in various phases of the English Renaissance and colonial American civilization. Over the past sixteen years Dr. Wright has been a member of the permanent research group at the Huntington Library in San Marino, Calif. He was, in fact, among the first selections made by the late Dr. Max Farrand, then

director of research at the Huntington, in the organization of that library as a locus for research along lines suggested by the literary and historical materials available there. Prior to his Huntington appointment and during his tenure as, successively, instructor, assistant professor, and associate professor in English at the University of North Carolina, Dr. Wright has served as Johnston Research Scholar at Johns Hopkins University (1927-28), Guggenheim Fellow in England and on the Continent (1928-29), visiting professor at Emory University (1930), and visiting scholar at the Huntington Library (1931-32).

Dr. Wright has been for several years a familiar participant in the activities of such professional bodies as the Modern Language Association of America, the American Historical Association, and the American Antiquarian Society. Significantly, he has served on the advisory boards of both the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation and the Institute of Early American Civilization and Culture. Currently he is vice chairman of the Pacific Coast Committee for the Humanities. These activities, in conjunction with his important responsibility at the Huntington for suggesting candidates for the research fellowships offered there, have kept Dr. Wright closely in touch with projects and personalities the nation over. The fact that he is not only a productive scholar in his own right, but has in addition such wide administrative experience with foundations, associations, and research libraries, makes his selection for the Folger post an exceptionally happy one.—*Roland Baughman.*

DOROTHY W. CURTISS became librarian of Wells College, Aurora, N.Y., on February 1, succeeding Mrs. Jane (Hawkins) Hall. Miss Curtiss is leaving the School of Library Service, Columbia University, where she has served for nearly twelve years as assistant professor in charge of the comprehensive examination program. In addition she has occasionally taught courses in cataloging in the school.

She brings to her new position a variety of experience. Graduating from the University of Rochester in 1918 she began her professional career as librarian of the Bergen, N.Y., High School, combining it with the



*Dorothy W. Curtiss*

teaching of English. In 1921 she went to Albany and, while serving as first assistant in the order section of the New York State Library, attended courses in the library school. Graduating in 1924, Miss Curtiss again led a dual life, this time at the State Normal School in Geneseo, directing its cataloging department and teaching in the library science department. Her success in this position led to her appointment as teacher of cataloging in the American Library School at Paris, where she remained for two years. After her return to this country (1929) she alternated actual cataloging (Public Library, Westerly, R.I.) with teaching (Library School, Western Reserve University) and study (M. S., School of Library Service, Columbia University, 1932). Following an administrative position as assistant supervisor of school libraries with the New York State Education Department (1932-36) she came to Columbia to set up the comprehensive examination program to be used in connection with the new curriculum, then in process of formation under Dean Charles C. Williamson's guidance. Pioneering in this field, she and Dr. Alice I. Bryan developed a series of objective examinations designed to evaluate students' achievements in a much more scientific way than had been possible hitherto.

The variety of Miss Curtiss' interests is

reflected in her memberships and offices, ranging from Faculty Marshal to membership on the board of directors of the New York State Library School Association, from A.L.A. interviewer for Foreign Library Service to membership on the board of directors of the Association of American Library Schools, from activity in the New York City League of Women Voters to the presidency of the New York Regional Catalog Group. With this rich background of administrative, professional, teaching, and community experience Miss Curtiss, while assuming the position as librarian of Wells College, will no doubt soon be serving not only in her customary dual role, but even in a triple capacity—*Bertha M. Frick.*

**T**HE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION can take credit for depositing yet another of its information specialists on the doorstep of librarianship. Frederick W. Stewart, who organized and administered the O.W.I. Library in Paris during the war years 1944 and 1945, has accepted appointment as librarian of the Hunter College Library in New York City.

Although Mr. Stewart's library experience is of comparatively recent vintage, he has long been concerned with scholarship and higher education. From 1938 to 1944, he served first as editor of the American Council of Learned Societies and then as liaison for the council with the Department of State and the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. When the work of the O.W.I. Library in Paris was completed, Mr. Stewart stayed on for two years as librarian of the American Library in Paris, a responsibility which he discharged with vigor and distinction.

Mr. Stewart holds both the A.B. and M.A. degrees from George Washington University. Since his return to America he has been pursuing the completion of his doctorate in Romance languages and his professional education, both at Columbia University.

His appointment marks the fourth and last of recent changes in the librarianships of the city colleges of New York. With Jerome K. Wilcox, Humphrey G. Bousfield, and Morris A. Gelfand, Mr. Stewart is now joined in seeking new levels of cooperation in the library service given to the municipal colleges



*Frederick W. Stewart*

of New York City. His scholarship, keenness of intellect, and personal charm have received a hearty welcome from the entire circle of college and university librarians in the metropolitan area.—*B.C.H.*

**R**OBERT W. CHRIST assumed his duties as assistant librarian at Duke University, on February 15.

Mr. Christ brings to Duke an extensive and varied experience in library and business fields. He has had teaching experience at Wooster School for Boys, and business experience at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Corporation. His library career started at Mount Holyoke where he worked as an assistant in the summers of 1928-30. Later he became assistant to the librarian and remained in this position from 1936 to 1943. Further library experience followed at Columbia University and the Grosvenor Library in Buffalo. He left his position as head of the reference department at the latter library to become chief of the information section in the reference division of the Office of Intelligence Collection and Dissemination at the State Department. Here his responsibilities were as large as the impressive title indicates. Mr. Christ's contributions in this position were in building up staff morale and in setting up an efficient service organization.

At present Mr. Christ is completing the

work on his M.S. degree in the School of Library Service, Columbia University. His prior library school training was also taken at Columbia. His academic B.A. was received from Amherst College where he graduated *cum laude* in 1930.

A glance at Mr. Christ's publications shows a range of interests from librarianship



*Robert W. Christ*

through French literature to bibliographic studies. His articles have appeared not only in library publications, but also in business magazines.

In addition to all of this, he seems to find time for his choral, theatrical, and gardening interests. Duke University will soon appreciate the variety of gifts and talents which Mr. Christ brings to his new position.—*Foster E. Mohrhardt.*

**D**R. FELIX REICHMANN has been promoted to the newly-created position of assistant director in charge of technical services in the Cornell University Library. Dr. Reichmann came to Cornell in March 1947, as acquisition librarian.

As the assistant director for technical services, Dr. Reichmann will be responsible for the administration of the acquisition department, the combined catalog and classification department, and the binding work of the periodical department. He will continue as ac-

quisition librarian until July 1, when a new appointment to that position is expected.

This new position carries one step further the administrative organization of the Cornell University Library which was begun in July 1947. There are now two assistant directors, whose activities and responsibilities are at the administrative rather than the service level, and under whom are grouped the readers' service and technical service departments.

During the present year Dr. Reichmann has been in charge of the expanded acquisition program of the library. Under his direction the staff of the department has been increased, and the department has assumed much greater responsibility for book collecting, particularly in the humanities and the social sciences. Dr. Reichmann has also undertaken this year to coordinate the work of the technical service departments and has developed and introduced new procedures which have eliminated duplication of effort. The work of the searching staff in the acquisition department has been so organized that it includes most of the work commonly regarded as preliminary cataloging.

Dr. Reichmann was recently on the staff of the Library of Congress. In 1945-46 he served as publications officer with the U.S. Army of Occupation in Germany, and in earlier years served as librarian of the Carl



*Felix Reichmann*

Schurz Foundation at Philadelphia and the Landis Valley Museum at Lancaster, Pa. Before coming to this country in 1939, Dr. Reichmann had extensive experience as a book seller in Vienna. He holds the Ph.D. degree from the University of Vienna and the M.A. degree from the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago.—*Stephen A. McCarthy.*

## Appointments

Frederick A. Meigs, reference librarian of Cooper Union, New York City, has been appointed librarian of Washington College, Chesterton, Md.

Cedric R. Flagg, librarian, Squier Signal Laboratory, Fort Monmouth, N.J., is now chief of the library section of the Research and Development Board, Washington, D.C.

L. Grace Proffitt is now circulation librarian in the Vassar College Library, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Edwin B. Colburn, first assistant in the preparations division of the Reference Department of the New York Public Library, has become chief of technical processes, Northwestern University Library, Evanston, Ill.

John B. Stratton, assistant circulation librarian, Ohio State University, is now head

acquisitions librarian of Oklahoma A and M College, Stillwater.

David C. Libbey has been appointed acting reference librarian of the State College of Washington at Pullman.

Kurt Schwerin, head cataloger, University of Virginia Law Library, is now in charge of the foreign and international law collections of the Northwestern University Law Library in Chicago.

The Louisiana State University Library announces the appointment of Jane St. Clair as serials cataloger, Jean Morford Howard as senior circulation librarian, and Mary Elizabeth Garst as librarian of the Social Welfare and Government Library.

James W. Dyson, formerly on the staff of the union catalog of the Library of Congress,

is now librarian, Loyola University of the South in New Orleans.

Myron B. Smith, secretary, committee on Near Eastern Studies of the American Council of Learned Societies, has been appointed fellow of the Library of Congress in Islamic Archeology and Near Eastern History.

Filomena Martemucci, formerly cataloger at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, N.Y., has been appointed head cataloger at the Hunter College Library, New York City.

Josephine Savaro, cataloger of the Manhattanville College Library, New York, is now librarian of the University of Scranton, Scranton, Pa.

Lillian R. Sanger has been appointed law librarian of John Marshall College, Jersey City, N.J.

William C. Dawson has been appointed librarian of Arnold College, Milford, Conn.

Michael Von Krenitsky is now librarian of the Texas Military College at Terrell.

Elizabeth Frances Adkins is now medical

librarian of the University of Virginia at Charlottesville.

Mary L. Richmond has returned to Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., as acting custodian of the Chapin Library of Rare Books.

Mary Vie Cramblitt is now head cataloger of the Middlebury College Library, Middlebury, Vt.

Elizabeth O. Cullen, reference librarian of the Bureau of Railway Economics Library, Washington, D. C., has been appointed librarian of the bureau, succeeding Richard H. Johnston.

Laurence J. Kipp, executive director of the American Book Center for War Devastated Libraries, has become assistant to the director of the Harvard University Libraries at Cambridge, Mass.

Katherine S. Diehl is now librarian at Central China College, Wuchong, China.

Dorothy Harmer has been appointed head of the catalog department of the University of Georgia Library, Athens.

## Retirements

Lydia May McCutchen retired from the staff of the University of Washington Library at Seattle on Sept. 1, 1947. A member of the first class to be graduated from the University of Washington Library School, she has been on the staff of the library since 1913. For the past twenty-three years she has been

senior librarian in the acquisitions division in charge of binding.

Willia K. Garver, assistant librarian in charge of acquisitions of the University of Illinois Library at Urbana, retired on Sept. 1, 1947. Miss Garver had been head of acquisitions at Illinois since 1920.

## Necrology

Dr. Gwladys Spencer, assistant professor of library science, University of Illinois Library School, died on November 21 following an illness of several months. Dr. Spencer came to Illinois in 1940 after holding positions previously at the University of Chicago, Graduate Library School, Ohio Wesleyan University,

and Denison University.

Pelham Barr, for the last twelve years director of the Library Binding Institute, died suddenly on January 11 after a prolonged illness. A close friend of librarians, he worked consistently for the establishment of standards for library binding.

## Graduate Studies in College and Research Librarianship

Among theses completed at the University of Illinois, Library School, during 1947 which may be of interest to college, university, and research librarians are the following:

- Bartolini, Renato Paul. Position Classification in University Libraries.  
Blum, Eleanor Jane. Reading Resources in Rural Areas of Champaign County.  
Pearce, Catherine Ann. The Development of Special Libraries in Montreal and Toronto.  
Stanley, Ellen Lenora. The History of the Earlham College Library.

The following theses were completed at the School of Library Service, Columbia University, in 1947:

- Fry, Mary Edith. An Investigation of the Letters N and O of Appleton's *Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, to Ascertain the Inclusion of Fictitious Articles.  
Hort, Margaret Janvier. Three Areas of Student Use of Russell Sage College Library, 1940-44.  
Sister Mary Winifred (Grass). The Administration, Organization, and Distribution of Educational Films and Recordings in College Libraries.

The following Columbia theses were completed in February 1948:

- Blodgett, Catherine C. Duplication in Original Cataloging among Research Libraries in the New York Area.  
Copeland, Emily A. Academic Status of

- Librarians in Institutions of Higher Learning for Negroes.  
Engle, Virginia. Implications of a Special Collection on the Southern Appalachian Mountain Region at Berea College Library.  
Hotaling, Donald O. Reading Patterns of College and University Librarians.  
Morisset, Auguste M. Differences in Entry in the Catalogs of the Library of Congress, the British Museum, the Bibliothèque Nationale, and the Deutscher Gesamtkatalog.

- Simonton, Wesley. Duplication of Entries in the Subject Catalog of a University Library and Subject Bibliographies in English Literature.  
Snider, Winifred. Extramural Library Service in Libraries and Extension Departments of Canadian Universities.  
Snodgrass, Isabelle S. American Music Periodicals of New England and New York, 1786-1850.  
Williams, C. Opal. Adequacy of Collection in Two Areas of History for a Fifth Year of Work in Six Teachers Colleges of Texas.

The following studies were completed in 1947 at the University of Michigan, Department of Library Science:

- Connor, E. Faye. Reading Interests of Huntington College Students.  
Mattlin, A. Homer, S.J. Proposed Reorganization of the Loyola University Libraries.

## Fiftieth Anniversary

The Medical Library Association celebrates this year the fiftieth anniversary of its founding. The Annual meeting will be held in Philadelphia, May 28th-30th; the headquarters will be the Hotel Warwick. The commemoration of the association's founding in Philadelphia in 1898 has a prominent place on the program with an address on "The History of the Association" by Dr. Archibald Malloch, New York Academy of Medicine; "The Medical Library Association and Medicine" by Dr. Chauncey D. Leake, University of Texas; and "The Medical Library Association faces the future" by the president, Mrs. Eileen R. Cunningham, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine Library. The speaker at the Annual dinner on May 29 will be Dr. O. H. Perry Pepper of the University of Pennsylvania. Group meetings will be held to discuss practical library problems.

## News from

The Board of Regents of the *General* University of Utah have approved a policy whereby library staff members, with the rank of instructor or above, may be granted one full quarter for study out of each eight quarters served at the university. Pay is to be granted as provided under the four-quarter plan. The leave and the program of study must have the approval of the librarian and the president of the university.

During the final weeks of 1947 the Virginia State Library prepared a special exhibit "of rare manuscript and printed materials to commemorate the one hundred and fifty-sixth anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights and the visit of the Freedom Train." The exhibit, arranged by J. Van Schreevan, head archivist, traced the origin and enactment of both the Virginia Declaration of Rights and the federal Bill of Rights.

*Acquisitions, Gifts, and Collections* Several months ago James T. Babb, librarian, Yale University, announced receipt of a gift of sixty rare books of 16th and 17th century English. The donor was Louis M. Rabinowitz of New York City. The collection includes many early and several first editions of works in various fields: drama, poetry, history, religion, prose, fiction, law, geography, politics, and pedagogy. One of the rarest items in the group is a first issue of the first edition of Lovelace's *Lucasta* and a first edition of Daniel's *Musophilus*. Books on religion are in the majority. One of these is a copy of *The King's Book*, drawn up by order of Henry VIII in 1543 and considered a foundation stone of the church of England. Other titles are Bunyan's *Holy Life* and Calvin's *Certain Homilies*. Several items of particular interest to historians are included. Mr. Rabinowitz has made other gifts of rare books to Yale and has also endowed a research project at the Yale Graduate School for the translation of Hebrew literature.

Robert Henry Thurston, engineer, and one of the fathers of engineering education in

America died in 1903. During his lifetime he taught at Annapolis, Stevens Institute of Technology, and ultimately at Cornell. A prolific writer and adviser on engineering problems, he was the originator of a four-year course in mechanical engineering and in 1875 established the first mechanical testing laboratory in the country at Stevens Institute. In 1885 he accepted a call to Cornell and there he undertook, as director, to reorganize Sibley College and was instrumental in developing it into a first-rate college of mechanical engineering. At Cornell he established the finest materials laboratory of the day and under his able administration enrollment in the college rose from 63 in 1885 to 885 at the time of his death in 1903. Recently Cornell became the recipient of the correspondence, books, and miscellany of Thurston. This interesting collection came as a gift from Arthur H. Dean of New York, a Cornell trustee. Among other items are letters from Carnegie, Edison, Maxim, Alexander G. Bell, Lord Kelvin, Nikola Tesla, and other famous inventors and scientific figures.

During November President Edmund E. Day, of Cornell, announced that the university had received a grant of \$180,000 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to investigate the impact of modern agriculture, science, and industry on such areas as the Far East, India, and Latin America. The fund will be used, over a period of years, in a program of research and instruction in which cultural anthropologists and other scientists will study contemporary social problems in relation to technological change.

In December George Matthew Adams of New York presented a collection of Ambrose Bierce's works to Dartmouth College. The collection boasts first editions and all titles contain inscriptions by the author, either to his brother or to Richard Harding Davis. Thirty-one titles are represented in the collection.

During the autumn of 1947 the Library of the Bureau of Public Administration, University of Virginia, was transferred to the



# the Field

Alderman Library. The library system at the University of Virginia now includes the Alderman Library (the general library of the university); three departmental libraries (Engineering, Law, and Medicine); and nine school libraries and special collections.

The E. Trinkle Lee Library of Mary Washington College (the women's college of the University of Virginia) has been concentrating on completing its files of the more important 19th and 20th century periodicals.

Reverend Eugene F. Bigler, rector, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Beacon, N.Y., recently gave Kenyon College Library a collection of book and folios on art and archaeology valued at more than \$10,000. Wyman W. Parker, librarian of Kenyon, reports that the collection includes works on Persian art, Oriental jades and ceramics, rugs and tapestries. The collection is particularly rich in material relating to the archaeology of North America, Mexico, and the American Indian.

Northwestern University Library recently acquired two valuable railroad collections. The first, primarily of historical interest, consists of some 750 pamphlets and 250 pictures relating to early American railroads. This collection was originally assembled by the late Frank F. Fowle, a member of the Western Society of Engineers in Chicago. It is said to cover the key phases of the early history of roadways, canals, and railways. The second collection, a gift from the Association of American Railroads, contains a complete set of the reports of the Railroad Committee for the Study of Transportation that was organized by the Association of American Railroads. These reports offer technical and financial data relating to railroad problems of today.

In December the library of the University of West Virginia purchased a collection of approximately 600 volumes of Civil War history and biography from Dr. W. E. Brooks, formerly pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Morgantown. First editions of Hawthorne, Longfellow, Bret Harte, Whittier, and Bryant were included in the purchase.

Last spring the West Virginia University Library began the microfilming of newspapers published in the state. Ultimately it is hoped that all, or nearly all, the dailies and weeklies will be available on film. In connection with this project a checklist of West Virginia newspapers is planned as a means of locating copies missing from the university files.

A recent grant from the General Education Board of New York City has made it possible for West Virginia Wesleyan College, Buckhannon, to add to its library holdings. The collection in the social sciences has been particularly enriched with the help of the grant.

*Buildings* The plans for the new library building at Hampden-Sydney College are progressing and it is hoped that actual construction can begin in 1948. A plan to place the student near the books he uses was inaugurated in a temporary library annex and study hall at Union College, Schenectady, N.Y. The new seating arrangement will enable a student to choose a study desk in the vicinity of the specific reference works covering the material he is studying. This new building, financed by the Federal Works Agency as a veterans educational facility, will augment existing study facilities in Union's unique round-house library, and will provide shelf space for about 40,000 volumes.

The West Virginia University Library has opened a supplementary reading room in a building formerly used as a cafeteria. The reserve collection has been transferred to this new location, and space for 170 students has been provided. In an effort to afford study space for the large number of commuting students, the former reserve book room has been turned into a newspaper, periodical, and study room for those students interested in using their own books.

New York state has appropriated \$1,529,000 for a joint library building for the New York State Colleges of Agriculture and Home Economics.

*Committees,  
Conferences,  
Curricula*

Devereaux Josephs, president of Carnegie Corporation of New York, stated in his annual report that the urgent need for supplying our government with trained men constituted a growing challenge to higher education. "Enlargement of the nation's understanding of its international responsibilities" is the other major interest of the corporation. In 1946-47 grants in this latter field tripled, amounting to \$1,828,700. Mr. Josephs' report stressed the need for experts in government at all levels: ". . . the most critical problems of the day relate at every point to the urgent need for better organization of what we know, for better programs of training and for more extensive use of trained men in high places. . . ." The report further stated that the corporation may also be able to assist universities trying to adapt their curricula to new national needs.

More than forty representatives of public and private libraries in the Kansas City area organized a Kansas City chapter of the Special Libraries Association, January 17, at a meeting at the Linda Hall Library. Martha Hershey, technical librarian for the Midwest Research Institute, was elected president of the chapter.

An organization known as Audio-Visual Instruction Directors has been formed in Indiana. Purposes of this organization are: (1) to provide directors of audio-visual education in schools, colleges and universities an opportunity to become acquainted and to cooperate on mutual problems, (2) to act as a clearing house for ideas and projects of statewide concern, (3) to provide direction and coordination of audio-visual programs throughout the state, and (4) to develop projects of assistance to directors of audio-visual education.

Dr. J. Periam Danton, dean of the School of Librarianship, University of California, has announced that a group of San Francisco Bay Area libraries have indicated their willingness to employ some of the students accepted for the second-year program in the school. Positions, paying approximately \$1,200 a year for half-time work, are available in both the public and university library fields. Prospective students for the master's degree, interested in work opportunities, should indicate that

fact when making application for admission to the school.

Establishment of a "Curriculum in Pre-librarianship" has recently been announced by the University of California at Los Angeles. The new curriculum, one of a number of recently outlined "organized fields of concentration" in the College of Letters and Science, permits an interdepartmental major. It is designed to meet the needs of students planning to take a general course in a graduate school of librarianship. Students intending to specialize in scientific, industrial, or other technical fields of librarianship, are advised to complete a major in an appropriate subject field, rather than the prelibrarianship curriculum. The student desiring to pursue the prelibrarianship curriculum must file a "Prelibrarianship Plan" which has been approved by an authorized library adviser, and which meets the general requirements stated in the catalogs. Advisers will be appointed by the librarian from the library staff. Provisions and requirements of the curriculum are described in the supplement to the general catalog of the university.

The Conference of College and University Librarians of Southern California met on the campus of the University of California at Los Angeles on November 22. "Recruitment and Trends in Education for Librarianship" served as the topic. Dr. J. Periam Danton, dean of the School of Librarianship at the University of California, and Dr. Lewis F. Stieg, director of the Graduate School of Library Science, University of Southern California, were the speakers.

On November 15, eighty Ohio librarians gathered at Kenyon College for a fall meeting of the College and University Division of the Ohio Library Association. N. Orwin Rush, executive secretary, A.C.R.L., spoke on the work of his office at A.L.A. Headquarters and Dr. Paul Leedy, librarian, Bowling Green State University Library, spoke on "Opportunity for Cooperation among College Librarians in Ohio."

The University of Minnesota, Division of Library Instruction, announces the John C. Hutchinson Scholarship of \$250 for the academic year 1948-49 to be awarded for study in library science. Application blanks may be secured from the Bureau of Loans and Scholarships, University of Minnesota, Minne-

apolis 14. Applications received after June 1, 1948, cannot be considered for the year 1948-49.

A center for scientific aids to learning has been established at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under a grant of \$100,000 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. It will concern itself with research and experimentation in the fields of printing, documentary reproduction, visual education, sound recording, and mechanical selection systems. Technicians, librarians, and persons in other allied fields will be trained in theories and practices of scientific aids to learning.

Dr. B. Lamar Johnson, librarian and dean of instruction at Stephens College, Columbia, Mo., will give a course on "The Utilization of the Library in the Instructional Program" at the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, this summer. Since this course is being offered for professors, as well as librarians, Dr. Johnson is eager to obtain descriptions of teaching activities of professors who are particularly successful in making effective use of library materials in their teaching. Librarians can be helpful if they will send to Dr. Johnson descriptions of any relevant courses or course units, or anecdotal accounts.

Columbia University Press recently published *College Retirement and Insurance Plans* by William C. Greenough. The book reviews the various retirement plans now operative in colleges and universities throughout the nation and finds that most of them are not adequate. The author stresses the importance of sound plans in attracting good teachers. This is an interesting study of an important problem.

The World Peace Foundation has begun publication of *Documents of International Organizations: A Selected Bibliography*. This quarterly, prepared by the staff of World Peace Foundation, has an advisory committee consisting of Verner W. Clapp, Philip C. Jessup, Ruth Savord, Walter R. Sharp, and Harry N. M. Winton. Included in vol. 1, no. 1 (November 1947) were materials relating to United Nations, the specialized agencies, the League of Nations, the regional organizations, war and transitional organiza-

tions, and other functional organizations.

Half a century of progress in bibliographic publishing is being rounded out this year as Halsey W. Wilson observes his fiftieth anniversary of publishing the *Cumulative Book Index* in the company which bears his name.

J. F. Vanderheyden is the author of *Die nieuwe Bibliotheekbouw in de Verenigde Staten* (Antwerp, 1947), in which he describes his reactions to various library buildings and their internal organizations during his recent trip to America.

Donald Coney, secretary, has issued the 1946-47 report of "The Library Council of the University of California." Among the topics discussed in the report are the development of a job classification and salary scale study; the furtherance of the Moody survey; the Fussler survey of photographic facilities; the annual report on library size; discontinuance of the interlibrary loan service charge to other libraries; questions on the acceptance and reporting of gifts; and policy agreement on transfer of personnel.

Margaret Freeman, Brooklyn Public Library, recently issued a mimeographed report on the use of paper-backed books in the Brooklyn Public Library. Methods of handling these books and their usefulness are stressed.

The John K. Mullin Library, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., has published its first issue of an informal library bulletin titled "So Now You Know." No regular publication schedule is planned, but issues will appear as items arise that require explanation or staff-wide publicity.

The Alderman Library has published, as number seven of the *University of Virginia Bibliographical Series*, the "Catalogue of the Adolph Lomb Optical Library" at the University of Virginia. James P. C. Southall, professor emeritus of physics, Columbia University, wrote the introduction. The volume is folio size and was lithographed by Edwards Brothers, Inc., Ann Arbor, Mich.

The first issue of the "UCLA Librarian" appeared on Oct. 6, 1947. A bi-monthly bulletin for the staff at the University of California, Los Angeles, it is edited by Everett Moore, reference librarian and issued by the librarian's office in mimeographed form. It contains news notes and other items.