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LIBRARIAN'S REPORT 1917-1918

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CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT*

1917-1918

To the President of the University:

SIR: I beg to submit herewith the annual report of the University Library from July 1, 1917 to June 30, 1918.

No additions to the library shelving have been made during the year, but, by re-arranging some divisions of the stacks, the additions to the library have been shelved in the logical order of the classification, but this cannot be done many years more without additional shelving. The recent gift to the library of the Wason collection of books about China numbering some five thousand volumes will necessitate additional book stacks before the collection can be properly classified for use. The most economical plan for making additions at this time is to add two floors to the present stacks, one floor on the top of the South stack and one on the top of the West stack, and additional shelving in the corridor leading to the periodical room. This will provide accommodation for several years' additions and thus defer the time when it will be necessary to enlarge the library building.

The larger use made of the lower floors of the library in connection with the periodicals and newspapers has justified the changes made last year. Large volumes of newspapers are now all used on the periodical room floor; not in the general reading room. The removal of the reference books from the large reading room not only gives a more accessible and convenient place to use this material, but also eliminates the disturbance that accompanies the use of such material.

Two courses of lectures, one covering the development of writing, printing, and book making, and the other dealing with the principles of classification, cataloguing, indexing, etc., of books, have been given during the year to about thirty-five students.

ACCESSION DIVISION

The acquisitions to the library have been curtailed, as in all American libraries, by the continued failure to receive books and periodicals from Germany and Austria. German periodicals, in order to keep the sets unbroken, were subscribed for and are being held for future shipment up to and including 1917. The 1918 periodicals are now being negotiated for through a committee of the American Library Association, to whom has been granted the right to import these materials by the United States War Trade Board.

The library has received during the year some three hundred and fifty volumes from the estate of H. B. Lord; eighty volumes from the estate of Professor Charles Babcock; one hundred and eighty volumes left by the will of George W. Harris, Librarian emeritus, which include some rare and valuable incunabula; and one hundred and fifteen volumes from Professor S. H. Gage. The library has also received from the Widener family of Philadelphia an additional volume of the

*The Librarian's Report for 1916-1917 was not printed.

sumptuous catalogue of the B. A. Widener collection of pictures. Also from Vernon Watney, of Cornbury Park, Oxfordshire, England, the beautiful volume dealing with Cornbury, and from the Hon. Seymour Van Santvoord, a copy of his *House of Caesar*. From yourself and President A. D. White the library has received a large number of gifts that add value to the collection. A list of donors is given in the appendix.

The library has added largely to its collection of books on music during the year, receiving about one hundred and twenty volumes of vocal and orchestral scores. To the collection of books on fine arts about one hundred and twenty-five volumes have been added, and some one hundred and fifty volumes to the books on zoology.

Through the kindness of James I. Clarke, '12, of the Liberty Loan Committee of New York, the library has received a collection of War posters which now number some three hundred pieces, to be added to during the war.

Important additions to the Library:

- Grosart. Occasional issues of unique or very rare books. 17 vols.
 Cohen. Description historique des monnaies frappées sous l'Empire romain. 8 vols.
 Gillieron. Atlas linguistique de la France. 8 vols.
 Grueber. Coins of the Roman Republic. 3 vols.
 Hooke. Micrographia, 1665.
 Drayton. Poems, 1630 and 1619.
 Heywood. Love's mistress, 1640.
 Annalia Dubrensis, 1636.
 Donne. Letters to several persons, 1651.
 Simons. Zeno and Mercia, 1648.
 Fayrer. Thanatophidia of India.
 Gesner. Historiae animalium. 5 vols. 1617-21.
 Gray. Illustrations of Indian zoology. 2 vols.
 Cuvier, Baron. Animal Kingdom, 16 vols.

Sets of periodicals added to the library:

- Burlington magazine. 29 vols.
 Australasian Institute of Mining Engineers. Transactions. 16 vols.
 Sussex archaeological collections. 53 vols.
 Observatory, a monthly review of astronomy. 29 vols.
 Gaelic Society of Inverness. Transactions. 27 vols.
 Print collector's quarterly. 7 vols.
 Societa Toscana de Scienze Naturali. Atti. 35 vols.
 Comision del Mapa Geologica de España. Boletin. 37 vols.
 Schulthess. Europäische Geschichtskalender. 47 vols.
 Le Radium. 11 vols.
 Royal Microscopical Society. Transactions. 3 vols.
 Real Academia de la Historia. Memorias. 1-14.

During the year the scattered autographs of the library have been brought together into a collection, alphabetically arranged. Where autographs are inseparably connected with books, or documents that belong with a collection, an index sheet is made and added to the main collection, so that it is possible to locate autographs and examples of handwriting throughout the library.

The present size of the library is shown by the following summary. Attention is called to the large increase over the figures of last year due not to unusual growth, since the actual additions, owing to the war conditions, have been smaller

than usual, but to a changed method of counting. It was found that practically all university libraries either bind their pamphlets singly and thus count them as volumes, or if they are bound collectively they count them as if they were bound singly. Cornell University Library has until recent years bound pamphlets collectively and counted them as bound. In this year's count an attempt has been made to conform to the practice of other libraries in order that any comparative statement as to size may be in accord with the facts. One other point needs to be noted in this connection. All large libraries are constantly receiving pamphlets many of which are not regarded of sufficient worth to bind, shelf list, and catalogue. Such materials are usually put into cases and placed on the shelves for any use that may be made of them until such time as they are deemed worth binding and cataloguing. Some libraries count these also, but we have ruled that unless a pamphlet has been bound and catalogued it should not be counted. Such materials are therefore not included.

BOOKS, BOUND PAMPHLETS, MAPS, MSS., ETC.

	Vols.	
General library, exclusive of the following collections	377,367	
Anthon Collection, purchased 1868	6770	
Bopp Collection, purchased 1868	2014	
Sparks Collection, purchased 1872	5717	
White Historical Library, gift 1891	23177	
Zarncke Collection, gift 1893	13000	
British Patent Specifications, 1868-90, gift	3108	
Fiske Dante Collection, gift 1893	8194	
Fiske Petrarch Collection, 1905	4063	
Fiske Icelandic Collection, 1905	15021	
Volumes of C. U. Theses (deposited)	6421	
Philological Seminary Collection	1076	
Philosophical Seminary Collection	785	
German Seminary Collection	766	
French Seminary Collection	375	
Latin Seminary Collection	329	
American History Seminary Collection	597	
Economic Laboratory Collection	196	
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General Law Library, gifts and purchases	38615	
Moak Law Library, gift 1893	12500	
Flower Veterinary Library, gift	5295	
Barnes Reference Library, gift	2277	
Goldwin Smith Hall Library	2427	
Stimson Hall Library	1420	
Evans Mathematical Library	417	
Comstock Memorial Collection	103	
Architectural College Library	734	
Miscellaneous Department Collections	4490	
	<hr/>	
		37,823
N. Y. State Agricultural College Library	11345	
N. Y. State Forestry Library	1180	
N. Y. State Plant Pathology Collection	383	
N. Y. State Entomological Collection	2241	
	<hr/>	
		68,278
Maps in the Library	884	
C. U. Plans deposited in the Library	195	
U. S. Coast Survey Charts	960	
U. S. Geological Survey Topographical Sheets	2071	
	<hr/>	
		15,149

U. S. Geological Survey Folios.....	207	
British Geological Survey Maps.....	600	
		4,917
Manuscripts		611
		557,931
Total books, maps, mss., etc.....		

CATALOGUE DIVISION

Besides the regular work of classifying and cataloguing the materials as currently received, the work of reclassifying the Spanish and Portuguese language and literature in accordance with the Library of Congress system of classification (modified) has been completed.

During the year the work of changing the catalogue of the books in the Library of Congress from the old galley slips to the printed cards has been completed and the revised cards that had accumulated during the past two years filed, so that this indispensable bibliographical help, numbering some seven hundred and fifty thousand cards, is now up to date.

The list of serials in the library, to be mimeographed for use in the several departments of the University, has been brought up to date and awaits the necessary stencil cutting for final printing.

The Catalogue division has prepared the copy for the list of annual publications of the University and its officers, which forms an appendix to the President's Report, setting forth the results of research and investigations of the year. A list of all such publications from the beginning of the University down to date is also in preparation for printing, thus giving a complete bibliography of such materials during the first fifty years of the University life.

Number of volumes and pamphlets catalogued.....	9715
Number of maps catalogued.....	34
Number of Mss. catalogued.....	6
Number of titles added to catalogue.....	6502
Number of written cards added.....	12866
Number of printed cards added.....	6888
Number of cards added to the L. C. catalogue.....	57669

READERS DIVISION

The library has been open for use during the year 306 days. On instruction days the open hours are from 8 A. M. to 10:45 P. M.

The number of registered borrowers is 1446; of these 616 are University officers.

The number of books held in reserve for special use and other reasons during the year is 21,739 volumes.

The number of current periodicals kept on file in the periodical room is 758, and the number of bound volumes of sets kept there for reference use is 1530.

The recorded use made of the library shows a falling off from that of last year, as was to be expected. The decrease in the size of the student body and in the amount of instruction given made this inevitable. The recorded use is also kept down by the facilities made for the use of books without any record being made, such as open shelves, department collections, and laboratory use. Such records can therefore never be more than an indication of the use made of the library.

The recorded use for the year is as follows:

Reading Room use.....	77550
Seminary Room use.....	2813
Departments and Laboratories.....	5859
Home use.....	29018
Foreign loans.....	365
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Total recorded use.....	115,605
Borrowed from other libraries....	114

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Dante collection now numbers 8194 volumes and the Petrarch collection has 4063 volumes. Regarding the Dante catalogue the curator says: "The catalogue of the Dante Collection printed 1898-1900 has already become a far from complete showing of the materials acquired, more than 1200 volumes having been added since its issue. Copy for a supplement to this work is in preparation. The year 1921 will be the sixth centenary of the death of Dante, which occurred September 14, 1321. Italians, in spite of the war pressure, have for four years and more been preparing for the appropriate commemoration of the anniversary. Unless a more suitable offering can be made by the University, the issue during 1921 of this supplement is suggested as one which would be serviceable and would show that the occasion is not forgotten in this place so especially privileged."

The total number of volumes and pamphlets now in the Icelandic collection is 15021. The annual volume of *Islandica* this year published was an edition of Gisli Oddsson's *Annalium in Islandia Farrago* and *De Mirabilibus Islandiae*. The Runic catalogue, a supplement to the Icelandic catalogue, whose fate in crossing the ocean was for some time in doubt, finally arrived safely and the exchange copies have been distributed.

STACKS DIVISION

The work of caring for the books in the stacks, so essential in any much-used library, has been curtailed by the absence of the superintendent on leave for Y. M. C. A. war work since March 1. Before this date, however, the duplicate materials had been entirely rearranged and grouped into Books, Periodicals, Documents, Pamphlets, etc., to facilitate quick access without cataloguing them.

The annual inventory of books by the shelf division was also interrupted for a time but has since been completed by the employment of special assistants.

The displacement of books in the stacks is always large, depending on the number of users of books there. Such displacement always means a lost book, until found and replaced, and every library carries a number of books that are for the time being lost. Many of these are found later by the inventory and by the return of such volumes as have been carried away without any record being made.

DEPARTMENT LIBRARIES

The relation between department libraries and the general library forms one of the most difficult problems that the American university library has to deal

with. The tendency is to draw away from the general collection materials that are of use to several departments and to keep away from the main library materials seldom used. The fact that research requiring the literature of the subject cannot be done, away from the sets of general periodical literature kept in the main library, in other words cannot be carried on in any department library, indicates that department collections should be limited to books constantly needed in connection with work being done in the several laboratories of the college or department. This is the aim now in nearly all universities where the question has arisen. Experience has shown that the best way to bring about such a relation is to place all department libraries under the supervision of the main library with librarians trained in the general library and appointed in the same way as the assistants in the general library. This would enable the general library at all times to keep in touch with the use made of materials deposited in department libraries and facilitate the flow back and forth of books, as special needs develop in the several departments. This is becoming the practice in large university libraries having several outlying branches.

Volumes deposited in Department Libraries

1. Architecture	2117
2. Chemistry	4858
3. Sibley College.....	2578
4. Civil Engineering.....	4929
5. Agriculture	7785
6. Goldwin Smith Hall.....	2427
7. Medical College.....	785
8. Veterinary College.....	5247
9. Entomology	3832
10. Morrill Hall (Hart Library)	2250

The war conditions have affected the library as little, probably, as any department of the university. The character of the work may have changed somewhat, but the amount remains practically the same. Several places on the library staff have been vacant for some portions of the year, but special assistants have been employed that the work might not fall into arrears, as a library that is not completely classified, catalogued, and shelved, is less efficient.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLARD AUSTEN,
Librarian.

APPENDIX
TO THE
REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN
1917-1918

LIST OF DONORS OF BOOKS TO THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

- | | |
|--|--|
| Actuarial Society of America | Babcock, Charles, Estate |
| Adams, J. Q. | Bailey, E. J. |
| Allbutt, G. C. | Baker, W. C. |
| Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity | Balch, E. S. |
| American Academy in Rome | Balch, T. W. |
| American Anti-Vivisection Society | Baldwin, C. C. |
| American Association for International Conciliation | Bancroft, H. H. |
| American Berkshire Association | Bancroft, W. D. |
| American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions | Barbour, L. |
| American Federation of Labor | Belgian Legation |
| American Game Protective and Propagation Association | Benedict, A. L. |
| American Guernsey Cattle Club | Berger-Levrault et Cie |
| American Historical Society | Beta Theta Pi Fraternity |
| American Humane Association | Bettens, E. D. |
| American Institute of Accountants | Better Fruit Publishing Company |
| American Institute of Mining Engineers. | Beyer, H. O. |
| American Irish Historical Society | Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze |
| American Medical Publishing Company | Bingham, L. J. |
| American Mining Congress | Blessing, A. R. |
| American Protective Tariff League | Bohemian National Alliance |
| American Shorthorn Breeders' Association | Bohemian Review Company |
| American Society of Civil Engineers | Boot and Shoe Workers' Union |
| American Water Works Association | Borghezio, Gino |
| American Wood-Preservers' Association | Boston — City Offices |
| Andrews, C. T. | Bristol, G. P. |
| Apcar, Mrs. Diana A. | British Berkshire Society |
| Arizona State Engineer | Buenos Aires — Museo Nacional |
| Arkansas History Commission | Buenos Aires — Museo Social Argentino |
| Armstrong, W. D. | Buffalo — City Offices |
| Asociacion de Ingenieros Industriales | Buisson, M. B. |
| Association de la Paix par le Droit | Burr, G. L. |
| Association of Civil Engineers of Cornell University | Byrne, James |
| Association of Collegiate Alumnae | California — State Departments |
| Associations chrétiennes d'étudiants de France | Canada — Government Offices |
| Atlantic Deeper Waterways Association | Canadian Society of Civil Engineers |
| Austen, Mrs. Willard | Carnegie Endowment for International Peace |
| Austen, Willard | Carnegie Institute |
| Australia — Government Offices | Carnegie Museum |
| | Chamberlain, Mrs. G. R. |
| | Cheney, W. A. |
| | Chicago — City Offices |
| | Christian Register Association |
| | Christie, Manson & Woods |
| | Christ's Mission |

- Cleveland — City Offices
 Cloud, F. D.
 Clydesdale Horse Society of Great Britain and Ireland
 Cook, A. S.
 Colombian Legation
 Colorado State Engineer
 Comision Editora de las obras de la Avellaneda
 Connecticut Factory Inspection Department
 Cooper, Lane
 Cornell Alumni News
 Cornell Annuals, Inc.
 Cornell Countryman
 Cornell Era
 Cornell Menorah Society
 Cornell Review
 Cornell University — Colleges and Departments
 Coville, Luzerne
 Creighton, J. E.
 Cuba — Secretaría de Sanidad 7 Beneficencia
 Cudworth, W. H.
 Curtiss Aeroplane & Motor Corporation

 Dann, H. E.
 Davis, E. G.
 DeBenneville, J. S.
 DeForest, H. P.
 Devon Cattle Breeders' Society
 Dixon, W. M.
 Drury, A. G.
 Doran, G. H. Company
 Dutton, E. P. & Company

 Edwards, H. T.
 Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society
 Elmer, H. C.
 Engineers' Club of Baltimore
 Engeln, O. D. von
 Evans, P. D.

 Fisher, A. W.
 Formosa — Bureau of Productive Industries
 Fosbery, A. F.
 Franklin County Farm Bureau Association
 Friedel, J. H.
 Friends' Intelligencer Association

 Gage, S. H.
 Gamio, D. M.
 Gamma Alpha Fraternity
 Geographical Society of Philadelphia
 Georgia — State Departments
 Glass, Eugene
 Gloucester — City Offices

 Goewey, J. M.
 Gonden, H. J.
 Governors' Conference
 Gridley, A. L.
 Griffis, W. E.

 Harper & Brothers
 Harris, Mrs. G. W.
 Harvey Publishing Company
 Haskell, E. E.
 Hermance, W. E.
 Hewett, W. T.
 Hoadly, G. W.
 Holstein-Friesian Association of America
 Holt Manufacturing Company
 Hoover Steel Ball Company
 Houghton Mifflin Company
 Hoy, D. F.
 Hull, C. H.
 Hyde, W. W.

 Illinois — State Departments
 Illuminating Engineering Publishing Company
 India Imperial Department of Agriculture
 Indian Rights Association
 Indiana State Board of Health
 Indicator Publishing Company
 Institution of Mechanical Engineers
 Inter-America
 International Correspondence Schools
 International Joint Commission
 Iowa State Horticultural Society
 Ithaca Daily Journal
 Ithaca Daily News

 Japan — Department of Agriculture
 Johnson, Rossiter
 Judaeans, The

 Kellogg, R. W.
 Kerr, A. T.
 Klein, H. H.
 Kleiser, Grenville

 Landrum, R. D.
 Lansing, Mrs. Abraham
 Lauman, G. N.
 Laut, A. C.
 Law, James
 Légation De Grèce aux États Unis
 Lentz, M.
 Lepper, G. H.
 Litchfield County University Club
 Little, Brown and Company
 London, Ontario — Public Library
 Lusk, Graham
 Luten, D. B.

- McBride, R. M. & Co.
 McRoy, G. T.
 Maine State Library
 Martens, R. & Co.
 Maryland State Board of Labor and
 Statistics
 Mason, J. F.
 Massachusetts — State Departments
 Massachusetts Society for the Preven-
 tion of Cruelty to Animals
 Maynard, Winifred, Representatives
 Medical Times Company
 Mexican Embassy
 Mexico — Official Mayor
 Michigan Board of Health
 Michigan University Library
 Military Hospitals Commission
 Monroe, B. S.
 Moody Manual Company
 Moore, V. A.
 Morton, L. P.
 Musée Océanographique

 National Association for Constitutional
 Government
 National Association of Corporation
 Schools
 National Association of Wool Manu-
 facturers
 National City Bank of New York
 National Civil Service Reform League
 National Duroc-Jersey Record Asso-
 ciation
 National Foreign Trade Council
 National Iron and Steel Publishing
 Company
 National Nurseryman Publishing Com-
 pany
 National Security League
 National Tube Company
 Nebraska — Board of Commissioners
 of State Institutions
 New Church Messenger
 New Jersey — State Departments
 New Jersey Historical Society
 New York — City Offices
 New York — State Departments
 New York Chamber of Commerce
 New York City Conference of Char-
 ities and Corrections
 New York Edison Company
 New York Historical Society
 New York Produce Exchange
 New Zealand Patent Office
 Nimmo, D. C.
 Northwestern University Library

 O'Hagan, Thomas
 Ohio — State Departments
 Ontario Bureau of Archives

 Osma, D. G. J. de
 Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Asso-
 ciation

 Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Com-
 pany of California
 Pan American Union
 Pennsylvania — State Departments
 Percheron Society of America
 Periodicals Publishing Company
 Phi Beta Kappa
 Place, I. A.
 Poole, M. E.
 Priest, G. E.
 Prince Edward Island Legislative
 Library
 Progressive Age Publishing Company
 Purdy, Mrs. Mark
 Putnam, Harrington
 Putnam's Sons, G. P.

 Raymond, G. L.
 Remey, C. M.
 Rhode Island School of Design
 Robinson, Ray
 Rome Chamber of Commerce
 Royal Jersey Agricultural & Horti-
 cultural Society

 St. Louis Public Library
 San Francisco Board of Supervisors
 Sarkar, B. K.
 Schurman, J. G.
 Schutt, Miss Kate M.
 Schwarz, Mrs. Anna
 Sea Power Publishing Company
 Sherman, Miss Belle
 Single Tax Review
 Smith, W. D.
 Smithsonian Institution
 Social Service Review Publishing Com-
 pany
 Sociedad Geográfica de Lima
 Society of American Foresters
 Society of American Indians
 Society of Constructors of Federal
 Buildings
 Spencer, Miss Caroline
 Spencer, J. W.
 Spingarn, J. E.
 Stanton, Theodore
 Steel and Iron Publishing Company
 Stephenson, Jean
 Stern, Daniel
 Stowell, W. H. H.
 Straus, Mrs. Lina G.
 Suffolk Horse Society
 Suffolk Sheep Society
 Swedenborg Scientific Association

Tansey, G. J.
 Technical Publishing Company
 Tennessee State Geological Survey
 Theosophical Society
 Todd Protectograph
 Tompkins County Board of Supervisors
 Toomey, T. N.
 Treman, C. E.
 Treman, R. H.
 Twesten, T. H.

Udall, D. H.
 Union League Club
 United States — Government Offices
 United States Mortgage & Trust
 Company
 University Club of New York City
 University of Nebraska
 University of Toronto

Van Deman, Miss Ruth
 Van Santvoord, Seymour
 Vedanta Centre
 Vernon, W. W.
 Viol, C. H. and Cameron, W. H.

Walker, Mrs. Cyrus
 Warren Academy of Sciences
 Watney, V. J.
 Watt & Company
 Welcker, Adam
 West Virginia Commissioner of Bank-
 ing
 Western Australia — Government
 Offices
 White, A. C.
 White, A. D.
 Whitehead, R. F.
 Widener, Joseph
 Widow (The Cornell)
 Willcox, W. F.
 Williams, C. D.
 Wilson, Dr. May G.
 Wisconsin Superintendent of Public
 Property
 Women's Educational & Industrial
 Union
 Woodruff, E. H.
 Wright, A. A.

Yale Forest School
 Young, A. A.