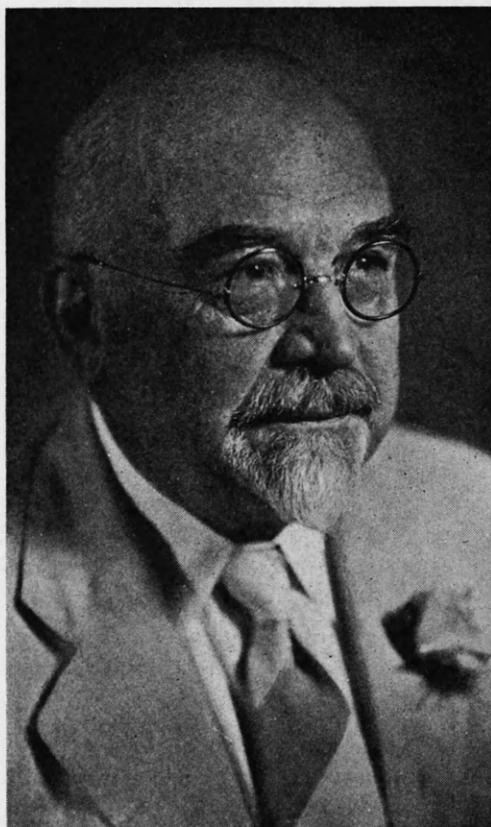


Asa Don Dickinson

WITH THE RETIREMENT on August 31 of Asa Don Dickinson, librarian of Brooklyn College, the profession loses from active service one of its most genial and cultivated numbers. To the circle of friends who are privileged to know him, his act of laying down the burdens of administering one of our busiest college libraries means not a sigh of relief but a step toward more gracious living, more time for friends, and, we hope, more time to employ his charming and witty pen.

It was typical of him to describe his work at Brooklyn College, where he built up a circulation of some six hundred thirty thousand a year on a collection of ninety thousand books, as "sitting on the lid." But few men can hold down a boiling cauldron with such aplomb, and few men can bring about in a decade the changes that marked the transformation of the Brooklyn College Library from a handful of books scattered in downtown loft buildings to the highly useful book collection and building on the new college campus.

He was born in Detroit in 1876 and educated in the Brooklyn Latin School, Columbia Law School, and the New York State Library School at Albany. His first professional service began in 1903 in the famous old Montague Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library, whither he came fresh from Albany, overflowing with the enthusiasm of his own buoyant nature and the contagious missionary zeal of Melvil Dewey and Mrs. Mary Salome Fairchild but above all with a saving sense of humor. This last is documented by his first contribution to a professional journal: "Mis-



Photograph by Dr. T. W. Kilmer

MR. DICKINSON

takes of the Bureau of Information. By Asia."¹

After three years in Brooklyn he served a year as librarian of Union College, three at the Leavenworth, Kan., Public Library, and two at Washington State College. From 1912 to 1918 he followed his bent for writing as a member of the editorial staff of Doubleday Page and Co. For that period he has nearly a dozen substantial titles to his credit, including several collections of children's stories and

¹ *Library Journal* 30: 341, June 1905.

The Kaiser; a Book about the Most Interesting Man in Europe. This work was interrupted in 1915-16, when he went to India to organize the Punjab library system and to write the *Punjab Library Primer*.

A.L.A. War Service

In 1918 he entered the A.L.A. War Service, first as dispatch agent in Hoboken and later in Paris. There are many tall tales about the prodigious job he did at Hoboken in sorting and shipping out tons of books but none better than his own version to be found in the *Library Journal* of August 1918.

In 1918 he became the first trained librarian to be put in charge of the University of Pennsylvania Library. What that required in administrative organization and increase of usefulness needs no elaboration. His years of service were years of upbuilding, broadening, and expanding, so far as available funds made possible. His efforts to stimulate interest in books are still remembered with gratitude by many who were then students. His continued literary interests were marked by contributions on a wide range of subjects, ranging from *Wild Flowers* to *Booth Tarkington*, *Doubleday's Encyclopedia*, and *Best Books of Our Time*.

He returned to Brooklyn in 1931 to assume the task of organizing the Brooklyn College Library. The college had been founded a year before, from a marriage of the Brooklyn extensions of City College and Hunter College. Its library comprised a few hundred volumes gathered from these two agencies, which were scattered in several office buildings in downtown Brooklyn. Under his administration the growth of the library in books and their use was immediate and rapid,

constrained only by the bounds of rented floor space.

In 1937 the college library assumed its place at the head of the main quadrangle on the new campus in a building which he designed. In his own words:

The new library building has been planned to house this small collection of very busy books—the annual circulation is nearly half a million volumes—serving a large number of especially hard-working, earnest young men and women, none of whom live upon the campus. The bookstack, accordingly, is small; the public rooms large. The capacity of the former is 88,000 volumes; that of the latter, 1100 readers.

His democratic administration of this busy library has made him beloved of staff, students, and faculty alike. His habit of applying "pet" names to his closest friends and associates is not a means of making barbed gibes but an expression of recognition, understanding, and acceptance into his own inner circle. Along his daily path he is ever strewing countless acts of friendly kindness. He is never too busy to interview a student and to put his signature on a card of introduction for those who want to go beyond local resources to the New York Public Library.

He regarded opening packages of new books as a supreme pleasure and as the librarian's special prerogative; the acquisitions routine at Brooklyn was planned accordingly, so that all incoming mail was routed to his office. A well-thumbed copy of the Decimal Classification was always on his desk, and each new book passed on to the cataloging department with its classmark written in his own hand.

He seldom joined the pitched battles that mark faculty life in a large and rapidly expanding institution. But once he was certain that the fate of his library

(Continued on page 367)

eight years of administrative work in the Reference Department of the New York Public Library. Upon completing his library school course at Columbia he entered the New York Public Library's Economics Division, long known to have one of the outstanding economics and documents collections in the country. Advancing rapidly, he took over within four years the pivotal job of general assistant in charge of the director's office. It was a position which required particular attention to personnel and general administrative problems, as well as the correspondence and official records of the library. He managed this difficult job with great tact and intelligence, and in 1941 was assigned to the duty of unifying the local history and genealogy and American history divisions, of which he became chief. The combined research collections under his direction

there numbered about 170,000 books and pamphlets. His main objectives in this position were to coordinate the personnel and administration of the former divisions, to strengthen the collections, and to improve the service to readers. While still engaged in this work an emergency in the acquisition division made it necessary for him to take over the division's administrative duties. During the succeeding two and a half years he directed the expenditure of more than three hundred thousand dollars for books and for the thirty-seven thousand serials currently received by the reference department. He reorganized the acquisition division and placed it on a business basis. In addition to his regular administrative duties he was active on committees formulating acquisition policies and classifying the staff of the reference department.

Asa Don Dickinson

(Continued from page 358)

was at stake, he was ready. He held his devastating fire to the last and always emerged the victor.

He does not care for mechanical devices and will never ride when his destination is within walking distance. His family and home, with garden, good books, and a dog, are the real center of his life. He is moving back to his old home in Swarthmore to enjoy them all to the fullest.

President Harry D. Gideonse, of Brooklyn College, speaking at a tea in honor of Professor Dickinson given by his

colleagues, said:

Professor Dickinson was not only a good builder in the original development of our library in our new buildings here in Flatbush. but he brought to the campus an urbane and broad viewpoint and he became one of the human pillars on which a young college and a young faculty could rely for strength and for perspective. Every inch a gentleman and a scholar in the best traditional sense of the term, he was an influence in the building of the type of tradition that should be the unique contribution of a large liberal arts college.

CHARLES F. GOSNELL

Mary E. Baker

MARY E. BAKER retired from active library service on Aug. 1, 1943, after twenty years as librarian of the University of Tennessee. As one who has been her student, staff member, and friend, I am proud to have an opportunity to pay tribute to her contributions as a librarian and to her influence on her associates.

My outstanding impression of Miss Baker is of her deep concern and warm sympathy for both the professional and personal problems of her staff and friends. My first year out of library school I joined her staff. It was Miss Baker herself who instructed me in my duties. No matter how occupied she was with more important matters, she was never too busy to listen to my minor troubles nor impatient with my greenness. I hope my own attitude toward beginners has reflected some of the gratitude I feel for her understanding treatment at that stage of my career. Ever anxious for the professional advancement of her staff, she gave me—as she gave others—every opportunity to test my ability by sampling a variety of library duties. After I left the University of Tennessee Library I was still conscious of her interest in my accomplishments. I am sure all who have worked for her have been aware of this concern for their welfare.

Like so many of the older leaders in our profession, it was by accident rather than intent that Miss Baker became a librarian. Following her graduation from Lincoln University (now Lincoln College) in Illinois in 1900, she went as instructor in Latin and Greek to Missouri Valley College at Marshall. When she found that



MISS BAKER

the school had an unorganized collection of books, she offered to catalog them. Soon her duties as librarian took up so much of her time that she had to give up the teaching of classical languages.

By 1906 she was convinced that library work rather than teaching was to be her career and that for that work she needed further training. She went first to the library school at the University of Illinois and then to New York State Library School, from which she received the B.L.S. degree in 1908.

Her knowledge of languages was put to

good use when she served as head cataloger at Bryn Mawr College from 1908 to 1912, at the University of Missouri from 1912 to 1919, and at the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, from 1919 to 1923. While in this last position, she also taught cataloging in the Carnegie Library School.

It was May 3, 1923, that Miss Baker came to the University of Tennessee as head of a library of less than fifty thousand volumes housed in a small building and serviced by a staff of six. She brought to her job a deep conviction of the importance of the college library as a tool for research and she concentrated first on building up the book and periodical collections. In twenty years the book stock was increased to approximately 195,000 volumes.

More books required more space. In 1930 a handsome new building was erected, embodying many of Miss Baker's ideas of efficient and logical arrangement. Before she left that building too was taxed to capacity and the additions provided for in the original plans are badly needed. Meanwhile, the convenience of faculty and students, as well as the need for space, had been met by the establishment of departmental libraries in the colleges of law, engineering, agriculture, and education.

In all the details of library administration, Miss Baker has shown herself to be a meticulous and constructive housekeeper. Without taking from her staff (increased to twenty-two by the time she left) any of the responsibility and authority which was due their positions, she kept a close contact with the details of the library's operation. Her aim was always to build a good foundation for the growth which she hoped for, for her institution.

With the adoption by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary

Schools of standards for high school libraries, Miss Baker saw an opportunity for the University of Tennessee to serve the state by training school librarians. In 1928 a department of library science was established, with her as its head.

Professional Activities

Outside her own library Miss Baker was an active participant in every movement for the advancement of libraries on a local, state, and national scale. Her qualities as a leader and organizer were demonstrated as president of the Tennessee Library Association, chairman of the College Section of the Southeastern Library Association, and chairman of the Agricultural Libraries Section of the American Library Association. She worked with the state department of education in every effort to improve library conditions in Tennessee. She was chairman of the committee which tried to get a certification law for librarians, and she was influential in securing the appointment of a state school library supervisor.

In 1937 she published a *List of Tennessee Serials, Together with the Holdings of Tennessee Libraries.*

Though born in Macon County, Ill., Miss Baker was at home in Tennessee. Her ancestors once lived here and her two Confederate grandfathers are buried near Smyrna. Her hobby of investigating family history enriched her leisure hours and added to the university library many choice items on early Tennessee history. She was an active member of the East Tennessee Historical Society.

Since her retirement, Miss Baker has returned to her native state and makes her home in Decatur with her sister, who is also a librarian.

MARTHA L. ELLISON

Appointments to College and University Library Positions

WITH THIS ISSUE *College and Research Libraries* continues to report in full, changes in some of the more responsible positions. The editors are gratified at the interest shown by readers in this new feature, which seems to be all the more welcome in view of the fact that regular meetings are temporarily suspended. They also wish to acknowledge the assistance given by numerous colleagues with a passion for anonymity, who have contributed information, sometimes even the language, which appears below.

Reorganization at Columbia

A new division in the library organization at Columbia was created July 1, embracing various departments, libraries, and reading rooms offering service directly to those who use the libraries. Thomas P. Fleming, who heads up the new division with the title, assistant director, readers' services, has received diversified preparation for these newly-assumed responsibilities. His first experience with organizing, coordinating, and supervising library services came at Western Reserve, where in 1930-32 he was in charge of departmental libraries. Since 1937 he has been medical librarian at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia, where he has met library needs of a large and active body of scholars and their students with understanding and imagination. In so doing he has tied in the services of the medical library with the services of the library system of the university as a whole and has met other problems of daily library

administration with a brand of energy and vision which are among the marks of library statesmanship.

He has devoted considerable thought to the development of library resources to support instruction and research. His experience as head of the order and binding department at the University of Minnesota Library, 1932-37, supplemented by later experience at the College of Physicians and Surgeons and as chairman of A.L.A. committees concerned with library resources, made his selection in 1941 as chairman of the Joint Committee on Importations as logical as it has proved wise. He is currently assisting with the republication program of the Alien Property Custodian. Other professional activities have included teaching, in the area of bibliography and reference, at Minnesota and Columbia; writings on professional subjects; and membership on the survey staff of the Army Medical Library, which completed its work early in 1944. This spring he was elected to membership on the A.L.A. Executive Board.

Maurice F. Tauber was appointed to the position of assistant director, technical services, Columbia University Libraries, as of Sept. 1, 1944. He comes from the University of Chicago Libraries, where he advanced from head of the catalog division in 1941 to chief of a newly-organized preparations department in 1942. At Chicago he contributed to the reorganization of cataloging procedures, simplification of cataloging practices, and coordination of routines among the various

EDWARD G. FREEHAFFER
Assistant Librarian
Brown University



JOHN H. MORIARTY
Director of Libraries
Purdue University

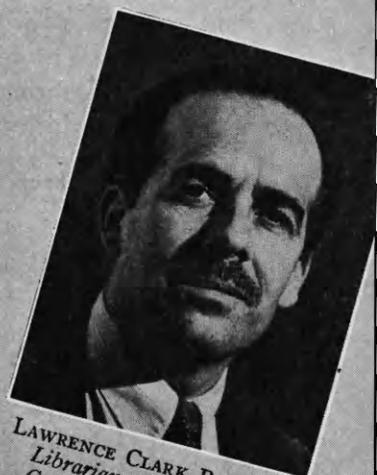
MAURICE F. T...
Assistant Di...
Technical Se...
Columbia Un...
Libraries



WILLIAM H. JESSE
Librarian and Professor
of Bibliography
University of Tennessee



LYDIA M. GOODING
Acting Librarian
Mount Holyoke College



LAWRENCE CLARK POWELL
Librarian, University of
California at Los Angeles

THOMAS P. FLEMING
Assistant Director:
Readers' Services
Columbia University
Libraries



ESTHER GREENE
Librarian
Barnard College
Columbia University



H. G. BOUSFIELD
Librarian
Brooklyn College

W. STANLEY HODGKINS
Director of Lib...
University of A...



technical units. At the same time he was instructor in the graduate library school, being promoted to assistant professor in 1944. While in charge of graduate research in the area of technical operations, he sponsored a series of studies relating to subject headings in various types of libraries and to the field of centralized and cooperative cataloging. His earlier experience was as research assistant in the graduate library school, 1939-41, during which time he worked on a manuscript, "The University Library," in collaboration with Louis R. Wilson, dean emeritus. The manuscript has been accepted for publication by the University of Chicago Press. In order to get data for the volume, he visited forty-four university libraries in the United States.

Before going to Chicago, Dr. Tauber held various positions from 1927-38 in Temple University Library, organizing and serving as head of the catalog department and superintendent of binding from 1935 until 1938, when he was awarded an American Library Association fellowship to the graduate library school. His contributions have been primarily in the area of cataloging and classification, but he has been interested in all aspects of college and university library service, with special emphasis on administration and organization, bibliography, bookbinding, cooperative cataloging, personnel problems, union catalogs, and uses of microphotography. He has been active in local, regional, and national library organizations.

Purdue

John H. Moriarty goes to Purdue as director of university libraries with a rich background of teaching experience, seven years of experience in business, public re-

lations, and supervisory positions, and library experience reaching back through the Engineering Societies Library in New York and the Technology Division of the Queens Borough Public Library to grammar school days. As librarian at Cooper Union (1935-39), he built up a professionally trained staff and unified the library's services, at the same time teaching in the social philosophy department there and also in the School of Library Service, Columbia University, where he carried courses in government publications and in reference and bibliographical method. As assistant to the director of libraries at Columbia (1939-41), he was concerned particularly with adjusting acquisition processes to central responsibility, with improved accounting methods, and with achieving consistency and codification of cataloging practices. At the Library of Congress (1941-44), first as chief of the Accessions Division and, following the reorganization, as assistant director of the Acquisitions Department, he was responsible for improving and expediting the normal acquisition and recording procedures, centralizing the receipt of all materials, and establishing a new serial record division. In addition, he shared in the unusual and exacting task of securing foreign, including enemy, publications at their source and assuring their safe and speedy arrival in this country. By modifying conventional procedures and ingeniously devising new measures, a committee of which he was a member has been able to maintain a continued flow, from all parts of the world and in surprising volume, of material which is of inestimable value to government agencies in wartime.

To his new post Mr. Moriarty will take an interest and advanced preparation in

history and social studies, experience with scientific and technical material, knowledge of organization and of library techniques, versatility in meeting new situations, and success in the acquisition and effective use of books and personnel.

Tennessee

Upon leaving Columbia's School of Library Service William H. Jesse went to Brown University to assist Henry B. Van Hoesen, librarian, and President Wriston in a concentrated effort to make the Brown library a more integral part of the student program. The form of service utilized was the divisional plan, also being inaugurated at the University of Colorado at the same time. He left Brown University to accept the position of assistant director of libraries at the University of Nebraska during the period of building construction and service planning for the new library. In January 1943 he accepted a war service appointment at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Library to organize the reference services along lines adequate to meet the great increase in reference and bibliographical demands made upon that library due to the department's war program. His most absorbing interest has been in divisional organization of university library services. In addition to having assisted in organizing divisional planning in the libraries already mentioned, he has for several years been chairman of an A.C.R.L. subcommittee appointed to study the educational aspects of this type of service.

Alabama

W. Stanley Hoole, born and reared in South Carolina, pursued his education at four institutions. From Wafford College he received his A.B. and A.M. degrees, as

well as honorary Phi Beta Kappa distinction. From North Texas State Teachers College he received his library degree and from Duke University his Ph.D. in American literature in 1934. To this preparation he has added a year's study in the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago as a General Education Board fellow.

As librarian he has held three positions: Birmingham-Southern College, 1935-37; Baylor University, 1937-39; and North Texas State Teachers College, 1939-44.

Dr. Hoole has published numerous articles in library and education journals. To these should be added the monograph on *Charleston Periodicals* (Duke University Press, 1936) and the editing of *North Texas Regional Union List of Serials*, 1944. At present he is preparing a volume on *The Ante-Bellum Charleston Theatre*. This is a project undertaken on a Rockefeller Foundation grant.

At North Texas State Teachers College Dr. Hoole distinguished himself during the past five years: in building up its library resources from 88,000 to 145,000 volumes; in seeing the library budget increase from \$15,000 to close to \$28,000; in reorganizing the internal administration of the library; in installing an effective book bindery, microphotographic department, and separate music library; and in aiding in the survey of the north Texas regional libraries.

The newly appointed librarian of the University of Alabama is, in brief, a man with sound academic and technical training, who is alert, progressive, an efficient administrator, and an able writer.

Mt. Holyoke

Lydia M. Gooding became acting librarian of Mount Holyoke College on

August 1. Her broad professional experience has included positions in several college and university libraries and in three library schools. She has served as cataloger and chief classifier at Princeton University, librarian of Dickinson College, and librarian of the medical school of Syracuse University. As a teacher she has been associated with the library schools of Emory University, where she was acting dean in 1935-36, Syracuse University, and Columbia University. During the two years before she assumed her present position she served as assistant to the dean of the School of Library Service, Columbia University, in charge of the school's placement program. She also taught courses in college and university library service and in bibliography and reference. Miss Gooding's versatility and adaptability are evidenced by the wide variety of positions she has held. One of her outstanding qualities as director of placement and as a teacher has been her sympathetic understanding of the personal and professional interests of her students. As a college librarian she has been particularly alert to the library's opportunities and responsibilities for the stimulation and promotion of the general reading of college students. With her firsthand acquaintance with the role of the library in instruction, with the thorough study she has made of college libraries and with an ample fund of actual administrative experience to draw upon, Mount Holyoke can expect the same high quality of library service it has come to accept as standard through the energetic leadership of Flora B. Ludington, who is on leave.

Barnard College

Esther Greene has been appointed librarian of Barnard College, Columbia

University. She is a graduate of Grinnell College, Iowa, and of Simmons College, Boston, and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She has also studied at the University of Chicago, Western Reserve, and Columbia. She has specialized professionally in work with children and young people. She has been notably successful in developing, with the cooperation of teachers and parents, the educational functions and possibilities of librarianship. She has been children's librarian in the public library system of Cleveland and organized the library of the Park School, Cleveland Heights, a progressive school for children from pre-school through ninth grade. Until recently she was head of the Children's Department of the New Rochelle, N.Y., Public Library. On two occasions she has served as a member of the Newbery Award Committee for the best children's book of the year. In 1941-42 she acted as secretary of the Public Library Section for Work with Children and Young People of the A.L.A. Division of Libraries for Children and Young People. Since 1943 she has been assistant director, field service, of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, organizing membership campaigns and reading and lecture programs for women's groups throughout the United States.

Brooklyn College

After holding responsible positions in a large urban university and a large state university library, Humphrey G. Bousfield becomes chief librarian on Sept. 1, 1944, of Brooklyn College, New York City. Professionally Mr. Bousfield grew up in the New York University Library system, starting as a student assistant in 1923 and by successive steps becoming assistant librarian of the Washington

Square Library, largest of the six libraries in the organization. Working under adverse building conditions, he set up an efficient lending and reference service for one of the largest university student bodies in the country, with an annual circulation of three quarters of a million volumes. In his fourteen years in this position Mr. Bousfield dealt ably with perhaps the most diverse group of students and faculty members to be found in any American university and was noted for his excellent personal relations with the library's clientele.

This background of experience was ideal preparation for Mr. Bousfield's next position when he became associate librarian at the University of Illinois in 1943. There, again, his primary responsibility has been to direct public services—general circulation and reference and about two dozen departmental libraries. Among his outstanding accomplishments for the past year has been a revision of the system of faculty loans, diplomatically solving a problem troubling many college and university libraries by submitting a plan for definite instead of indefinite loan periods to faculty members. Other achievements were guidance of the establishment of departmental libraries for maps and music, beginning a campus delivery system of books for faculty members, preparation of a handbook of the library's public service divisions, and a general coordination of the departmental library organization.

With Charles H. Brown, Mr. Bousfield is coauthor of *Circulation Work in College and University Libraries*, the standard book in this field and a work which expresses the philosophy of wide reading held by both writers.

U.C.L.A.

Lawrence Clark Powell became li-

brarian of the University Library at the University of California in Los Angeles on July 1. He will continue as director of the William Andrews Clark Library, to which he was appointed Jan. 1, 1944. Dr. Powell brings to his new post a varied background of training and experience. After working as a professional musician while securing his A.B. at Occidental College, he worked at Vroman's Bookstore in Pasadena, then crossed the Atlantic to take his doctorate in the field of Anglo-American literature at the University of Dijon. Returning to this country, he spent two years as cataloger for Jake Zeitlin's Bookstore, also doing editorial and promotional work for western publishers, and studied for the library certificate at the University of California before entering the library profession as an assistant in accessions and branches at the Los Angeles Public Library. In 1938 he went to the University of California as assistant in accessions and in charge of exhibitions, a position which involved considerable responsibility for public relations. His point of view is that a university library is properly "the dynamic heart of a great democratic institution," but that nevertheless the responsibility of the university library is not bounded by the four walls of the local campus. He possesses an active pen, as his writings in the fields of literature, history, and bibliography bear witness. His formal library training is thus supplemented by personal experiences which supply useful insight into the library problems of the scholar and the writer.

Brown

Edward Geier Freehafer returns to his alma mater, Brown University, as assistant librarian after twelve years of varied and distinguished service, including

eight years of administrative work in the Reference Department of the New York Public Library. Upon completing his library school course at Columbia he entered the New York Public Library's Economics Division, long known to have one of the outstanding economics and documents collections in the country. Advancing rapidly, he took over within four years the pivotal job of general assistant in charge of the director's office. It was a position which required particular attention to personnel and general administrative problems, as well as the correspondence and official records of the library. He managed this difficult job with great tact and intelligence, and in 1941 was assigned to the duty of unifying the local history and genealogy and American history divisions, of which he became chief. The combined research collections under his direction

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(Continued from page 358)

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CHARLES F. GOSNELL