

The ACRL Annual Report, 1952-53

I. CENTRAL ACTIVITIES

ACRL'S FIRST HEADQUARTERS office was opened late in April, 1947, by N. Orwin Rush, the first executive secretary. Only three months previously, *College and Research Libraries* had been mailed out to its 1400 subscribers with an article by Charles Harvey Brown entitled, "What Do the Members of ACRL Want?"¹ No man could write more appropriately on this subject than Mr. Brown, who has done as much or more than anyone else to launch ACRL. His findings were presented not on the basis of his own conviction, but on very careful measurement of the wishes of the whole membership.

Much of the accomplishment of this organization dates from the spring of 1947. Mr. Rush served as executive secretary for two and one-half years, and I have held the office for nearly four. This is an appropriate time to re-examine the objectives of six years ago and see how the members have been served. The Association might well consider another survey in the near future, a 1954 edition of "What Do the Members of ACRL Want?"

This report reviews what the members wanted (listed in order of priority) and summarizes what they have been getting. It does not attempt to detail all accomplishment since 1947, and the emphasis throughout is on accomplishment during the past year. Now and again a brief forecast into the future is attempted.

Here are the affairs of the Association as seen from headquarters alone and the opinions do not reflect consultation with officers and directors. Reports on section and committee activity were prepared by the respective chairmen, except as indicated.

Those who seek a full report of the ACRL year must consult the "Brief of Minutes" of both general sessions and meetings of the Board of Directors as printed in the April and October issues of *C&RL*. These numbers also list all officers of the Association. The December, 1952, *ALA Bulletin* (organization issue) lists committees and their members and some vital statistics. The *Summary Reports* of the Midwinter and Annual ALA Conferences record the programs and business handled by ACRL sections and committees.

The Brown article of 1947 is also the report of the Committee on the Relations of the ACRL to the ALA, which had been instructed to prepare a list of "activities which might well be performed by a national library association." These were submitted to the membership in a questionnaire and are here listed and discussed in the order of 1947 membership preference.

1. Publications directly and chiefly con-

¹ *College and Research Libraries*, 8:3-10. For another important article on this same subject, see Wilson, Eugene H., "Goals of the ACRL," *College and Research Libraries*, 9:100-105, April, 1948.

cerning college and university libraries.

ACRL has always had a Publications Committee (see below for the chairman's report) which has worked closely with the ALA Publishing Department. The committee's principal project, the *ACRL Monographs*, has been a spontaneous success, largely because of the work of its managing editor, David K. Maxfield, who brought to this project a tremendous enthusiasm, a Yankee talent for promotion and business detail, and a sound professional knowledge. At present, there are approximately 450 standing orders and as many as 1200 copies have been sold of a single

issue. The *Monographs* are financially self-sustaining in every respect and yet very modestly priced. They make a considerable contribution to the advancement of professional knowledge.

Unlike the *ACRL Monographs*, the newsletters of the several sections have been very modest and only in the past several years have these achieved much status. The old Engineering Libraries Section and Agricultural Libraries Section both put out fairly substantial newsletters and this tradition was continued when these two sections merged into PASS in 1951. Mr. Moriarty, the first chairman, issued three communications that were at once substantial in information and fresh and vigorous in style. His successor, Mr. Betts, has maintained scope and usefulness. The Reference Section and the Junior College Libraries Section have both had very useful newsletters—sometimes chiefly about the work of the section and sometimes on subjects of special interest such as needed reference tools.

Newsletters make a modest but steady contribution to the publication program. This instrument of communication has proved especially useful with the smaller sections.

2. Research studies on the functions of college and university libraries, on college library personnel, etc.

For nearly three years ACRL has had a Research Planning Committee (for its report, see below), which has recently recommended its own dissolution.

Research on problems related to college and reference libraries has not been systematically organized, although some efforts have been made in this direction through ACRL and ARL. Lists of studies made in library schools and in libraries have appeared in *C&RL*, while reports have been published in both *C&RL* and *ACRL Monographs*. Various conference programs of ACRL sections have been designed to isolate problem areas which require investigation. It would seem desirable that the sections concentrate on these and seek to gain the interest of faculty members and research students in library schools. The publications of ACRL are available to both schools and libraries for presentation of results of interest to the division as a whole or to its several sections. Funds should be available for promising projects.

3. Development of relations with educational associations in the field of higher education and development of contacts with college presidents, library committees, and professors.

Mr. Rush made a major point of "establishing and maintaining cordial relations with and presenting the library point of view to, educators and educational associations in the field of higher education." His report for 1947-48 mentions correspondence with the six leading national educational associations and attendance at a number of conferences and other gatherings of leaders in the field. I have likewise attended several of the larger conferences in higher education every year (usually the American Council on Education and the NEA's Department of Higher Education) and a few presidential inaugurations or university anniversary celebrations. We have had delegates of ACRL or ALA at most important gatherings of this sort. I have regularly made contacts with new, important educational groups, such as the American Council on Education's Commission on the Education of Women and the Educational Television and Radio Center. The NEA's report to President Eisenhower on the educational use of the mails will contain a recommendation for removal of manuscripts of dissertations from the first-class category, as suggested by the ACRL office. These are only a few examples of regular contacts with educational and governmental leaders.

The Committee on Administrative Procedures has the responsibility of working with and through existing regional accrediting associations to advance library standards. This committee has needed clarification of objectives and has been inactive for some time. At least two of the sections have maintained regular contact with national associations (American Association of Junior Colleges and American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education).

While ACRL has had other contacts with educational associations and leaders in higher education, it is quite apparent that progress has not been great during the past six years. For the immediate future, one can at least hope that the Committee on Administrative Procedures will have aggressive leadership and establish cordial relations useful to the regional accrediting associations in formulating

their practices and yardsticks for the measurement of college libraries.

A plan presented at Midwinter, 1950, by the executive secretary to the Board of Directors, suggested the use of senior librarians with specific subject interests to represent ACRL and librarians generally at meetings of specific learned societies and education associations. If possible, the individual selected for such a post should be widely known and respected in the society or association, and the assignment should be of long duration.

In recent correspondence with the executive secretary on this point, Mr. Brown emphasized that the person to be present at the meetings of a learned society should be someone,

who could both give and receive, who could bring back to the Association any discussions of the need by scientists and scholars of better library facilities, bibliographies, etc. The various societies are all engaged at times in certain bibliographic efforts concerning which librarians need more information. The representatives could also explain to the scientists, for example, the need of improved services by the libraries and could obtain their cooperation.

Mr. Brown's letter of October 5th lists a number of specific assignments which need to be done by a librarian working with the American Chemical Society, and another for our representative with the American Mathematical Society. His letter concludes:

I know that chemists and mathematicians are greatly interested in problems such as these and I am sure that far more important problems can be discussed by subject specialists and librarians who have done work in these subject fields. Our university and college libraries, as well as scientists, could benefit greatly if qualified representatives of ACRL could attend the meetings of these scientific organizations.

It is important to the library world to have one of its own to whom it can turn in regard to important problems in each major field. ALA headquarters gets numerous requests for sponsorship of conferences and cooperation with 57 varieties of associations and societies. The advice of a representative would be extremely useful in such instances.

The 1950 proposal mentioned above was lost in the pressure of other business and was

not redrafted. It should be reconsidered in 1954.

4. Compilation of statistics on college, university, and reference libraries.

Statistics were published in early issues of *C&RL*, then dropped for the years 1943-45. They were continued in the issue for July, 1947 by G. Flint Purdy, who has been responsible for them ever since. As all members must realize, Dr. Purdy and his committee have increased coverage greatly, and findings are now published very promptly. They are available from the ACRL office in proof form for a small charge late in December.

ACRL has been responsible for stimulating interest in the collection of statewide college library statistics by state associations. The aim here is, of course, to include all institutions in the state. We have investigated the possibilities of doubling the coverage of institutions (500 or more instead of the present 250) and publishing the results in an *ACRL Monograph*. Some statistics of junior college libraries will be published in a 1953 section newsletter; if all goes well, the junior college libraries will become a regular feature of the *C&RL* statistics.

Many avenues of approach might be used to extend statistics coverage. The full figures on all institutions that wished to be included could be published in *Monograph* form, and a selective listing, or only an interpretation of the statistics, appear in a later issue of *C&RL*. Another possibility is the coverage of a large number of libraries once every three or four years through an *ACRL Monograph*, to supplement the annual data in *C&RL*. Other plans will occur to members; expressions of opinion are particularly invited on this subject.

5. Studies in the field of professional education for college library personnel.

ACRL has cooperated with the ALA Office of Education for Librarianship, headed by Miss Anita Hostetter, and with the Board of Education for Librarianship, currently chairmanned by our own Jack Dalton. Reports were prepared on the preparation and qualifications of professional personnel in technology and science college libraries (by Edward A. Chapman) and on librarians in acquisitions work (William A. Kozumplik). Principal responsibility for this activity seems

to rest elsewhere, but ACRL should cooperate closely to make sure that the needs of college libraries are met.

6. Placement of college and university library personnel.

Placement has always ranked high in membership interest. Mr. Brown recently expressed the verbal opinion that this subject would have been placed much higher on the list had the questionnaire returns not been so much heavier from library administrators than from assistants.

An ACRL placement experiment was run in several southeastern states in 1950 and 1951. Once started, there was no standing still: we had to either go back and abandon the experiment or go ahead and extend it; time and money were then lacking for any extension and ALA was seriously considering a placement service. The experiment was, therefore, allowed to die. I believe the ACRL plan was a worthy plan which would have had modest success under the guidance of a resourceful, full-time staff member. ALA has just completed its study of possible placement programs and should make a decision soon as to whether it will enter the field. If ALA does not go ahead with a placement program, ACRL should carefully reconsider the experiment.

During the past year, other demands on the headquarters office meant that less time could be devoted to members seeking new positions. Success in this line requires infinite care as well as judgment. I have regretted this omission very much, but see no solution except by adding to the staff. In previous years, this office has been of service to a fair number of members who wanted to move.

7. Build up membership of ACRL by a publicity campaign and by work with ACRL Membership Committee.

Prior to 1947, the arrangements for joining the divisions were poor and a great many memberships were lost simply because the procedure was not clearly understood. At the time Mr. Brown wrote his article, ACRL had less than 1700 members.

Under Mr. Rush, the arrangements for joining ACRL were clarified. Membership committees headed by Wayne Yenawine and Robert Severance did excellent work; in a little over two years ACRL nearly doubled in size.

The membership count stood at 4649 on January 1, 1950 (including all 1949 and early 1950 joiners). It slacked off very slightly in 1950-51. The following year ACRL had a 2 per cent increase in the face of a slight overall drop of ALA membership because of the new dues scale.

During the fiscal year of 1952-53, 4779 members joined ACRL; life memberships bring the year's figure slightly above 4800. The January 1, 1954 count, on which representation in ALA Council is based, will, therefore, be in excess of 5000. This increase has taken place in a year when we as a division have done no membership promotion work.

ACRL membership would not be more than 4400 today were it not for the distribution of *C&RL* to the membership. The proportion of professional librarians in college and reference work to ACRL members is distressingly low. We may expect that the inevitable growth of college enrollments during the next ten years will increase library staffs and that slow membership growth will be a normal condition for ACRL. Meanwhile we should cooperate in every way possible with the ALA Membership Committee in its program. A really aggressive membership drive ought to be delayed a little longer until the system of state representatives is firmly on its feet, but it certainly should bring in an additional 500 librarians. Our membership may be expected to top 6000 in another two or three years.

8. Work with and stimulate committees of ACRL and ALA, insofar as college activities are concerned, and with section leaders of ACRL to increase their functioning. Coordinate the work of such committees.

I can advance no statistics on this important activity; suffice it to say that the executive secretaries at headquarters have given the subject of committee coordination a great deal of thought and, to the best of my knowledge, have always cooperated.

The ACRL executive secretary has always been in regular correspondence with all section chairmen. I have given assistance to section officers priority over almost all other claims on my time. Both Mr. Rush and I have prepared detailed suggestions and recommendations for chairmen of committees and sections.

9. Expand C&RL and issue the periodical monthly instead of quarterly.

The 1947 *C&RL* went only to subscribers. A principal goal of the Association since its birth has been membership distribution of *C&RL*, but this was always discussed on the assumption that it was either the *Bulletin* or *C&RL* and that obviously both could not be furnished to members. (Thank goodness both can, and are.) Mr. Brown reported 4 to 1 in favor of *C&RL* in place of the *Bulletin* as a membership perquisite in 1947.

Membership distribution, which began with the July, 1952 issue, has had unqualified success. Advertising income has been far higher than anticipated; non-member subscriptions have brought in substantial funds; the journal has certainly been the chief factor in membership increases which, of course, mean more income from dues. While *C&RL* has taken a great deal of my time this past year, the cost in dollars and cents has been no greater than in previous years and size has been substantially increased. There were naturally a few problems in distribution but the switch from subscription basis went through with very little friction.

As a result of this change, some fifteen hundred members are relieved of the three dollar subscription fee which they used to pay. The journal has more than doubled its circulation in one year and is, therefore, of proportionally greater usefulness to the profession. Approximately 5900 subscribers and members now receive it regularly.

The Board of Directors has authorized extra help at headquarters for the year ahead to handle the volume of advertising and the many distribution problems. This help will mean further advances with *C&RL*. Six issues a year—or perhaps twelve? Special supplements? There are many possibilities. We have a tool of enormous usefulness. It can be made even more so.

Chief credit for the success of *C&RL* goes of course to the nonsalaried editor, Dr. Maurice F. Tauber, and his editorial board.

10. Arrange for the executive secretary of ACRL to attend as many state and regional meetings as reasonable and attempt to build up strong state and regional associations.

Mr. Rush set a standard for travel which

has been maintained. I believe that ACRL has influenced the whole ALA organization in the emphasis placed on travel, both to keep in touch with needs, developments, and criticism, and just to meet people and become personally known by members.

During the past year I was away from home on ACRL business a good deal more than any normal family man would wish to be. Approximately 70 libraries or library meetings in twenty-five states were visited. Included were the Mountain Plains, Pacific Northwest and Southeastern regional meetings, as well as a number of state associations. I spoke on seven different occasions at state and regional meetings. Articles were prepared for *The Library Quarterly* (23:3) and *The Southeastern Librarian* (3:2), as well as contributions to *College and Research Libraries*.

The increase in headquarters work sometimes made these visits to libraries rather hurried; a brief call on the head librarian and avoidance of the staff can be a tempting short cut. I realize the extreme importance of talking to and knowing those who are not administrators, and believe this is best done at the state and regional meetings. The opportunity to meet subordinates or to get more than the briefest word with them is often lacking when visiting on a campus.

Contacts are partly for public relations purposes and partly to keep informed on practical professional problems; they are as pleasant a part of the work as the considerable travel is fatiguing. I have gone for months on a round of being in the office just long enough to catch up on correspondence and then off on another tight travel schedule. Under such circumstances many matters are not given adequate attention.

Related to the question of travel and building up strong state and regional organizations is the establishment of ACRL chapters. In the past two years, three state chapters (New Jersey, Illinois and Missouri) and two regional chapters (Philadelphia area and Pittsburgh) have been established or authorized. These may be very useful in promoting a closer relationship between chapter members and the national organization, and cooperation in projects.

FINANCES

Outside the scope of the Brown report but essential to any organization is its financial

stability. At the beginning of 1947, the ACRL treasury had \$3,325.95. This grew to over six thousand dollars by September, 1948; to \$11,500 two years later; and to nearly \$14,000 by September, 1952. The treasurer's report, printed elsewhere in this issue, shows a total credit of \$16,799.87 on August 31, 1953.

ACRL has almost always operated in the black and thereby accumulated a good deal of money. This matter was emphasized in the last annual report, and has been carefully discussed in meetings of the directors at Mid-winter and at the Annual Conference. The Board feels that it is wise to have reserves, but that the Association is not operated for profit and it could go too far in hoarding funds that ought rather to be used for projects. The Brief of Minutes printed in the October issue of *C&RL* (13:431) reports the discussion in full and the policy adopted. It was obvious to all that ACRL could undertake much more of a program; the Board therefore voted an important increase in the headquarters staff for the coming year.

During its first two years, the ACRL headquarters office was supported by an ALA lump sum appropriation of \$10,000 annually, plus 20 per cent (as provided by the ALA Bylaws) of all dues paid by ALA members who elect ACRL. This practice was slightly modified in the fall of 1949, and a year later ACRL began the much discussed new arrangement for divisional support whereby all funds for the division were directly controlled by membership support.

It is widely recognized that the present provisions for divisional support are faulty, not because of the amounts provided, but because of the complexities of the arrangements. The new Committee on Divisional Relationships has this problem under study and improvement may be expected before long. This principle of divisional support seems very sound and in line with the ALA constitutional provision that "each division shall have complete autonomy over and responsibility for the conduct of its own affairs and the expenditures of its funds. . . . The Executive Board and Council shall have no responsibility for such activities or expenditures" (IV, 1, c).

Your secretary has always believed that a large share of ACRL income should come from services, publications, and sources other than the membership fee. A good beginning has been made by the development of adver-

tising income for the journal and sales of the *ACRL Monographs* which, with *C&RL* subscriptions, now total well over \$10,000. Advertising plus non-member subscriptions pay three-quarters of the cost of the journal. The *Monographs* are not "profit-making" as anyone can tell by looking at their prices, but they perform a service, help to pay salaries at headquarters, and add greatly to the financial stability of the Association. In the winter of 1953, the responsibility for the publication program will be turned over to a new member of the ACRL staff. This should mean rapid advances in the publication program. The executive secretary will be freed to develop programs in other areas.

With almost inevitable membership increases and an expanding program of self-sustaining services, a very considerable increase in income may be expected in the next five years without increase in dues.

REFERENCE FUNCTION

Since 1947, the headquarters office has attempted to collect documentation on current library practice. Shortly after leaving ACRL, Mr. Rush published an appeal for many types of reports, newsletters, staff bulletins, etc.²

The need for material illustrating current practices in college libraries cannot be over-emphasized. These data are kept in the ALA headquarters library and loaned on request. The advisory and loan service available through the ACRL headquarters office and the ALA library can be of great usefulness, provided members are thoughtful in sending in annual reports, policy statements, bulletins, building plans, and the host of other things listed in Mr. Rush's article.

The ownership of this material leads in turn to a considerable correspondence with librarians seeking help with professional problems. Both Mr. Rush and I have done a great deal along this line; we both have found this service brings to ACRL a fair measure of goodwill and appreciation.

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The ACRL record for accomplishment during the past six years is solid and should be a source of satisfaction to the many hundreds of members who have contributed to it. In many ways this division has served as a guide to other library organizations.

² Rush, N. Orwin, "Documents Reflecting Current Practices in Library Administration," *College and Research Libraries*, 11:332-336, October, 1950.

We have grown up as a division. We have money in the bank, a growing membership, an expanding publication program, and a modest record for accomplishment on a number of professional problems. Our constitution is excellent, our organization sound. While adjustments are inevitable, no major faults cry for correction. The headquarters staff will be increased considerably during 1953-54 and this provides more help for the total program. Of the ten goals set in 1947, seven have been either substantially completed, or have had great progress. In only three cases is the record weak. I believe this is better progress than our founding fathers expected.

ACRL will deteriorate rapidly if we linger in happy reverie over this progress. There is much work to be done. The Association needs a new program. It is stronger, and in a position to do more. The goals must be clear and they can be fairly ambitious.

II. COMMITTEES AND SECTIONS

Audio-Visual Work Committee

(Fleming Bennett, Chairman)

The principal activity during the year has been to complete the survey of audio-visual services in United States colleges and universities. A twenty-one page typewritten report was sent to ACRL in May, 1953 and is expected to be the lead article in an *ACRL Monograph* to which leaders in the audio-visual field will contribute papers.

The committee took an active part in promoting the passage of the bill (now Public Law 141) to extend favorable postal rates to educational films and certain other audio-visual materials. (FB)

Buildings Committee

(Howard Rovelstad, Chairman)

The main activities of the committee included: 1. sponsoring the Second Building Plans Institute, 2. sponsoring open meetings at ALA conferences, 3. answering letter inquiries, 4. publishing, and 5. cooperating with ALA headquarters on building matters. These activities are explained below.

1. The Second Library Building Plans Institute was held in Chicago on February 1 and 2 as a preconference activity of the Midwinter Meeting. Ninety-five librarians, architects,

university administrators, and equipment people from all over the United States and Canada attended; others who wished to register had to be turned down because of the desirability of limiting the attendance at this type of meeting. Reviewed were plans of the following libraries: Memorial University of Newfoundland, Brooklyn College, University of Maryland, University of Oklahoma, University of Saskatchewan, University of Omaha, Theological Seminary (Princeton, N.J.), and Rutgers University. One meeting was devoted to a review of new furniture and equipment. Registration fees totalling \$396 were credited to ACRL. The present committee chairman served as chairman of the institute.

2. An open program meeting on libraries recently completed was planned by H. Dean Stallings for the Midwinter Meeting. This program was cancelled because of the ruling that Midwinter meetings should not include any program meetings. Thus, this program was presented at the Los Angeles Conference.

3. A very considerable amount of correspondence was handled by the committee in answering inquiries about buildings and in planning the institute.

4. During the year, activities related to publishing constituted important work of the committee. David Jolly prepared and edited the manuscript of the "Proceedings of the First Library Building Plans Institute," published as *ACRL Monograph No. 4*. Robert H. Muller edited and wrote an introduction to "Three Appraisals of Recently Constructed Library Buildings," which was published in the April issue of *C&RL*. Donald C. Davidson prepared and edited the manuscript of the "Proceedings of the Second Library Building Plans Institute," which is to be published as an *ACRL Monograph*.

5. The committee worked with Arthur T. Hamlin and Helen T. Geer on building problems, exhibits and programs.

For the future work of the committee, various publishing activities are under consideration. Statements have been published in *C&RL* and the *ALA Bulletin* inquiring about interest in a fall and/or winter building institute.

Robert H. Muller served as chairman of the committee through February 3, when the present chairman took over the office. Dr. Muller continued to serve as a member of the committee. (HR)

Committee on Committee Appointments

(Walter W. Wright, Chairman)

This committee exists to help the president-elect in the important and difficult task of making committee appointments. The committee assembled names of prospective appointees for committees to serve during Miss MacPherson's term as president. The chairman consulted with Miss MacPherson frequently and put in her hands suggestions for most committees early in 1953. Whether these persons will accept is another matter.

This committee should consist of people *who know* people, who can offer suggestions, and who will answer mail. The chairman should, if possible, be someone who lives relatively near the president-elect so that frequent consultation is possible. (WWW)

Duplicates Exchange Union

(Wixie E. Parker, Chairman)

Twelve new members have been added to the ACRL Duplicates Exchange Union this year. Two members have withdrawn. There are now 115 members.

The committee felt that the procedures of the union should be revised. Mrs. D. L. McDonald, Mr. Charles Penrose, and Mrs. P. K. Reamer began work on this project this year. They also planned to send material about the United States Book Exchange to all members of the Duplicates Exchange Union. These projects were not completed, and should be continued in 1953-54.

Mr. George F. Jones' 1952 report on the evaluation of the Duplicates Exchange Union was published in the January, 1953 issue of *Serial Slants*. (WEP)

Committee on Financing College and Research Libraries

(Mary D. Herrick, Chairman)

The continuing increase in advertising revenue and space in *C&RL* evidences the widespread interest in the journal. In the first two issues of 1952, there was a total of 17 pages of advertising with 13 full-page subscribers. In this same period in 1953, there were 30 pages of advertising and 21 full-page subscribers (including one double-page spread). The July, 1953 issue had 18 pages of advertising. Gross receipts for the year

were over six thousand dollars. Again this committee wishes to record the valuable contribution to this work that has been made by the executive secretary. (MDH)

Committee to Implement Library of Congress Bibliographic Projects

(Ralph E. Ellsworth, Chairman)

The chairman worked closely and actively with the Library of Congress on problems connected with the publication of the *National Union Catalog* and the Library of Congress' general policies with respect to doctoral dissertations. These negotiations continue into next year, so the committee should be continued. (REE)

Publications Committee

(Lawrence S. Thompson, Chairman)

The *ACRL Monograph* series has proven to be a significant and useful new medium for publication of material which is suitable neither as a book nor as a *C&RL* article. The committee felt that the series was so firmly established that an editorial subcommittee, with David K. Maxfield as managing editor, was set up. It expects to recommend that the *ACRL Monographs* editorial staff be set up precisely as is that of *C&RL* with respect to its relationship to the Association.

The *Monographs* serve an important role in carrying the name of ACRL into other countries, into other professions, and even into other branches of the library profession. For example, *Monograph No. 4*, which reported the ACRL Columbus Buildings Institute, received considerable publicity in architectural journals. The editorial board has well in mind its responsibility to serve college and reference interests and to carry the influence of ACRL outside the confines of its own membership.

The ACRL Monographs Subcommittee expects to be in a position shortly to have its own separate budget and accounts. The new Publications Officer in the ACRL office will keep some of the records and help with production and distribution.

In addition, a Publications Subcommittee is now actively engaged in setting up an *ACRL Microcard* series. Manuscripts are being considered and the first group of microcards is expected to be out before the end of 1953. (LST and ATH)

Research Planning Committee

(Louis Kaplan, Chairman)

A number of projects were considered at the Midwinter Meeting. Miss Elizabeth O. Stone has undertaken to study "Ways and Means of Promoting Ownership of Books by College Students." Under the committee's sponsorship, Mr. William H. Jesse is proceeding with his study of "The Influence of the Cooperative Committee on Library Building Plans."

At the Los Angeles Conference, the Committee reviewed its work and came to the conclusion that its possible accomplishments did not warrant its continued efforts. This it especially felt to be true because of the good work of the ACRL Publications Committee. Therefore, the committee recommended its dissolution. (LK)

ACRL State Representatives

(Archie L. McNeal, Chairman)

Although the Board of Directors approved the establishment of a system of state representatives at the Midwinter Meeting in January, 1952, the implementation of this action actually began with the selection of a chairman late in November, 1952. For this reason, with the concurrence of Miss MacPherson, it was decided to ask state representatives to serve for 1953-54 as well as for the remainder of this year. By late March, the majority of appointments had been made and acceptances received.

Since March, three newsletters have been issued. These suggest activities and report information useful in the field. Mr. Hamlin has been sending to each state representative copies of letters written to people in the respective states, except those dealing with ACRL or ALA organization or committee problems.

Much of the work has been on membership. Several representatives have made valuable reports on one or another library problem in their areas.

C&RL coverage of news from the field will be more complete because of the cooperation of this committee. We should also achieve a wider spread of committee assignments because of recommendations coming from this source. It is hoped that the activity will make for closer cooperation in the selection of sub-

jects for investigation on the state level and the national level.

It is too early to evaluate the effectiveness of this committee. In terms of individual qualifications, it has a potential for exceptional service in advancing the interests of ACRL in the individual states. Progress is being watched with interest by other divisions and by ALA officers. The chairman will appreciate suggestions regarding activities.

(ALMcN and ATH)

Chapters

At a meeting held on June 1, 1951, the college and university librarians of the Philadelphia area authorized a committee to organize a local chapter of ACRL. This group, chaired by Alphonse F. Trezza of the University of Pennsylvania Library, arranged for the petition which was later accepted by the ACRL Board of Directors for the first chapter in the Association's history. An organization meeting was held April 22, 1952 and a constitution adopted. Mr. Trezza was elected president.

Two meetings were held during the past year. A panel discussed the problems of reserve book department administration in February. The chapter met jointly with the College and Reference Section of PLA in May for a full day session in the new library building at LaSalle College. The principal topic was library buildings.

The New Jersey State Chapter is the College and University Section of NJLA. Meetings were held under President Dorothy W. Ferguson on December 6 at St. Peter's College, Jersey City, and at Atlantic City on May 1. A committee, chaired by Miss Miriam Grosh, is working on closer statewide cooperation in interlibrary loans. ACRL membership was promoted through the newsletter and at state meetings. Mrs. Ada J. English was elected president of the section and the chapter for the coming year. Mr. Theodore Epstein is president-elect, and Miss Carol Hawkes is secretary-treasurer.

College Libraries Section

(Donald C. Davidson, Chairman)

The College Libraries Section devoted its attention to program activities, as the officers believed that committee operations at Mid-

winter and annual meetings were not a function of this particular section. The participation of section members in other activities and committees of ACRL and of ALA is to be encouraged. At the Midwinter Meeting, the section met with the University Libraries Section for a jointly planned panel on "Acquisitions Policies: Fact or Fancy."

At the Annual Conference, the section had five discussion groups, each meeting twice, and reporting to the entire section. The theme was "Setting Standards for the College Library," and covered budgets, circulation, service to outsiders, and personnel. The reaction of the participants was an enthusiastic endorsement of programs of this type without formal panels, papers, or speakers. (DCD)

Junior College Libraries Section

(Ruth E. Scarborough, Chairman)

Principal business of the year centered around the programs at the Midwinter Meeting and the Annual Conference. The topic at the former was "Reading Programs and their Application to the Library," which was discussed by Ruth Newman and Ira Peskind of Wright Junior College, Chicago.

With the Los Angeles Conference topic of "Standards for Junior College Libraries," the section embarked on a program of investigation that will extend far beyond the actual conference. The panel speakers were L. Herman Smith of Pasadena City College, Nellie M. Homes of Cottey Junior College, Oscar H. Edinger of Mount San Antonio College, John W. Canario and Harriet Genung of Riverside Junior College.

A statistical questionnaire was distributed with the May newsletter and the results were being tabulated for publication in the fall newsletter. In another year, it is expected that a group of junior colleges will be included in the statistics published annually in *C&RL*.

Three newsletters of considerable value were issued during the year. These should be consulted for committee lists and business information as well as summaries of papers delivered at conferences. (ATH)

Pure and Applied Science Section

(Robert E. Betts, Chairman)

The Pure and Applied Science Section has completed its second year. The office of vice-chairman and chairman-elect was added in

order to secure continuity for the affairs of the section. Three issues of the news sheet were issued. These contain section news, reports of committee activity, discussion of proposed new projects, summaries of the discussion groups held at Midwinter, and notes on new scientific and technical periodicals, books, and bibliographies.

With the publication of "A Recommended List of Basic Periodicals in Engineering and the Engineering Sciences," *ACRL Monograph No. 9*, the first project of PASS has been brought to a successful conclusion. Mr. William H. Hyde served as chairman of the General Committee, which bore the responsibility of editing the work and overall planning, and was assisted by Mrs. Dorothy M. Crosland and Mr. Edward A. Chapman; there were twelve subcommittees, each having a chairman, which selected the outstanding technical periodicals in their respective fields. There are 553 titles in the List which were chosen by 55 librarians and a number of engineering professors and practicing engineers. For the first time librarians have a yardstick by which to measure their technical periodical collections. Thanks are due to Mr. Hyde and to all who contributed to this outstanding accomplishment.

At the Midwinter Meeting of the Committee on Relations with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Library, it was reported by the committee chairman, Mr. J. R. Blanchard, that progress was being made on the guide to agricultural reference literature which he, Mr. Harald Ostvold, and Miss Orpha Cummings, are working on together; when completed and published, this will be a very valuable reference tool and yardstick for agricultural collections. Mrs. Margaret Bryant of USDA reported that work had been started on a new supplementary list of "Serials Currently Received by the USDA Library."

The section had under consideration the publication of an annual list of masters theses in engineering. Late in the spring, it was learned that the Biblio Press of Washington had plans to publish a list of the masters theses awarded in 1952 in all the fields of science and technology. If this publication should materialize, it will contribute much toward the bibliographic control of a large, uncharted area of research.

The section is growing rapidly and now has over 400 members. (REB)

Erratum. In last year's report, I erred in attributing to this section the initiative in setting up the Committee on Engineering School Libraries by the American Society of Engineering Education. The Engineering School Libraries Committee of ASEE was established about the same time as ACRL's Engineering School Libraries Section, which later merged into PASS. (ATH)

Reference Librarians Section (Frances Stalker, Chairman)

The new "Code for the Referral of Reference Inquiries,"³ drawn up under the chairmanship of Miss Lucile Morsch, was adopted at the Midwinter Meeting. Miss Florence Gifford, chairman of the Committee on New Reference Tools, announced the reprinting of *Adeline's Art Dictionary*. It was voted to continue and expand the Committee on Wilson Indexes.

In April, at the request of Miss Ruth Rutzen, president of the Public Libraries Division, several members of the ARCL Reference Section in public libraries in the New York area were added to the Wilson Indexes Committee. Mr. Jerome Wilcox succeeded Mr. Morris Gelfand as chairman. The voting and check list for periodicals to be included in the *Readers Guide* was sent out in November, 1952. The committee is now in the process of studying the *International Index*.

Reviews of the *Syntopicon*, prepared by Dr. Louis Shores, Miss Margaret Pierson, and Mr. Joseph Komidar, were prepared for the April issue of *C&RL*.

A questionnaire sent out by the Committee on New Reference Tools received a response of 510 out of 1488. The results received publicity in the *Saturday Review* of March 21. The annual list of masters theses was listed as "most important" by a great number, and work on it is under way.

A reference section has been organized by the Public Libraries Division; it is designed to benefit the reference departments of smaller public libraries. While many members think that two reference sections in ALA will take care of the interests of all reference librarians, others think that a Reference Division should be formed. The chairman recommends that

³ *College and Research Libraries*, 13:364-365, October, 1952.

this matter receive first attention during the coming year.

The annual meeting was held at Los Angeles on June 26. Miss Florence Gifford presided in the absence of Miss Stalker. The program was a panel discussion of research work for the movies and was participated in by research directors from four motion picture companies. A business meeting followed.

(FS)

Libraries of Teacher Training Institutions Section

(Bernadine C. Hanby, Chairman)

The section set up two standing committees. A committee under the leadership of Mr. Donald Woods was given the assignment to study evaluative criteria for the teachers college library. It concentrated on Schedule 7, "The Library," of the AACTE standards. Mr. Woods reported progress both at Midwinter and the Annual Conference. The second committee under Mary Louise Lyda was assigned the problem of compiling bibliographic data on dissertations and essays, and of aiding organizations interested in publishing and continuing such studies. Progress of the committee was reported at Midwinter and at the Los Angeles Conference.

A newsletter to cover the activities of the section is desirable. Many members have absolutely no contact with the organization since they cannot get to the Midwinter Meeting or the Annual ALA Conference. A newsletter would help to make these librarians feel to a greater extent a part of the section and its work.

The chairman particularly appreciated the cooperation of Mr. James Green, chairman-elect, in planning the activities of the section. Such cooperation gives continuity to the work of the section. (BCH)

University Libraries Section

(Arthur McAnally, Chairman)

The four special committees appointed by the previous chairman were terminated without report of substantial progress. These were appointed to study undergraduate libraries, in-service training, processing technical reports and decentralization of cataloging.

Perhaps the section might proceed more satisfactorily with smaller topics and the case-study approach to a problem area. Thus, a

committee of five members might each work independently in discovering and evaluating the solution to a problem in each of five libraries (not his own library), then the conclusions compared, and a pooled report prepared by correspondence and revised by conference early in the Annual or Midwinter meetings. Their conclusions would be limited, it is true, but I believe would have definite interest and value to the membership.

Such an approach would be limited also in that it would tend to reflect existing practices and solutions only; but perhaps this could be offset partially through the evaluation part. On the other hand, this approach might not prove happy for the individual "case library."
(AMcA and ATH)

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ACRL has, of course, a number of representatives on joint committees, as listed in the organizational issue (December) of the *ALA Bulletin*. Special mention should be made of the many services done by Marian A. Youngs, our representative on the Joint Microcard Committee. Miss Youngs was of invaluable service to the ACRL office in many matters connected with microcards. Likewise, acknowledgement should be made to Burton W. Adkinson for his leadership of the Joint Committee for the Protection of Cultural and Scientific Resources, a committee which was established on the initiative of this Association.

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The summary of committee and section activity does not do justice to the work which so many loyal members have done to make the principal activities of the Association successful. I feel a special debt to President Severance for his wise leadership and unflinching

diligence applied to all aspects of his duties. The Association lost a servant of rare talent and diligence when Mrs. Lillian M. Shepherd resigned her post as secretary. Her place has been taken by Miss Elaine C. Mitchell, an equally competent and devoted servant of ACRL.

The ACRL office has had the cooperation of the ALA staff, both clerical and professional, at all times during the year. Relationships are cordial, informal, and pleasant. At ALA headquarters there is a healthy feeling of unity and working together, from Mr. Burgess, janitor extraordinary and friend to us all, on up the line to Mrs. Stevenson and Mr. Clift. All ACRL members should be grateful to Miss Beatty for her work in making our arrangements at the Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference, as well as for her cooperation in membership promotion. Calls on the library are a daily routine and its assistance in answering queries of all sorts is invaluable. The accounting and book-keeping offices under Mr. Weins should be mentioned for the many ways they have contributed to the divisional program. It has been particularly pleasant to meet weekly with the other divisional executive secretaries, compare notes, and discuss common problems. We have a strong feeling of unity of purpose and common responsibility.

Finally, personal thanks are due the ACRL Board of Directors for their invariably cooperative attitude toward headquarters recommendations, and for many other things. Every job has its bright and its dark moments, but most of the time I feel specially favored that ACRL membership and officers have entrusted me with this truly fascinating work at headquarters, and I am grateful to each and every one.

Louise Richardson Loan Scholarship

In recognition of her many years of fine service, the Library Staff of Florida State University, has established a graduate loan scholarship of \$250 in honor of Miss Louise Richardson who has been librarian for the past 32 years and who relinquished this responsibility on June 30, 1953. The fund will be known as the Louise Richardson Loan Scholarship and will be available to graduate students in the Library School, FSU. Contributions from former staff members amounting to \$77 have raised the original amount of the fund to \$327.