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J. Donald Thomas Resigns

J. Donald Thomas has resigned as Executive Secretary of ACRL effective May 31, and has accepted a position as head of the undergrad-



uate library on the College Park campus of the University of Maryland.

Mr. Thomas replaced George M. Bailey in October 1968 and has served ACRL as Executive Secretary through a period of great stress. Academic status, federation, minority rights, and restrictive budgets were only a few of the

problems that crossed his desk during his three and one-half years as Executive Secretary. The problems and decisions have been handled with skill and dispatch. His resignation will represent a great loss to ACRL.

As head of the Undergraduate Library of the University of Maryland he will be responsible for the new \$7 million facility which is expected to open in late August. The building will house 200,000 volumes and seat 4,000 students as well as housing the School of Library and Information Science.

A graduate of Tulane University, Mr. Thomas received his library degree from Columbia University in 1951. He has worked in the libraries of Columbia University, the French Embassy in New York City, Hunter College, Standard Oil Company, the *Montreal Star* newspaper, and the University of Chicago.

When he came to the University of Chicago library in 1960 as administrative assistant to the director, he was assigned a wide variety of problems in the public service fields, technical processing, physical plant maintenance, alteration, and planning. In 1962 he became the first head of the general services division of the library when the post was newly established. Thomas' earlier experience includes four years with the Army Air Force and free-lance writing.

A search is now under way for a successor to Mr. Thomas. ■ ■

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