



News of the libraries - Harvard Library Bulletin, Volume VIII.3

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Because Norris in other instances was known to have personally consulted and interviewed people in order to get the jargon of their special professions and crafts, it has been assumed that a similar practice obtained in the writing of *McTeague*. Marius Biencourt, for example, says that 'pour les termes d'odontologie, il consulta sans doute le dentiste dont le cabinet, situé dans Polk Street, est décrit dans *Mc-*

Teague.'¹⁸ Although Norris did draw many of his details from real life, 'les termes d'odontologie' were not among them, being rather the fruit of the simplest kind of research in the Harvard College Library.

CHARLES KAPLAN

¹⁸ Marius Biencourt, *Une influence du naturalisme français en Amérique: Frank Norris* (Paris, 1933), p. 133.

News of the Libraries

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

THE Library Committee of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, as appointed for one year from 1 July 1954, consists of the following members of the Faculty: Keyes D. Metcalf (Library), chairman, Stuart P. Atkins (German), Douglas W. Bryant (Library), Sterling Dow (Archaeology), Merle Fainsod (Government), Edwin B. Newman (Psychology), Reed C. Rollins (Botany), Alfred S. Romer (Zoology), Taylor Starck (German), Bartlett J. Whiting (English), and Donald C. Williams (Philosophy). Edwin E. Williams acts as Secretary to the Committee.

VISITING COMMITTEE

THE following Committee to Visit the University Library has been appointed by the Board of Overseers for one year from 1 July 1954: Arthur W. Page, chairman, Carleton R. Richmond, vice chairman, F. Gregg Bemis, John Mason Brown, John Nicholas Brown, William A. M. Burden, Ward M. Canaday, Carl P. Dennett, Imrie de Vegh,

Lee M. Friedman, Francis W. Hatch, Harrison D. Horblit, Arthur A. Houghton, Jr, Parkman D. Howe, M. A. DeWolfe Howe, Donald F. Hyde, Carl T. Keller, Bayard L. Kilgour, Jr, Roy E. Larsen, Gilbert H. Montague, Franklin E. Parker, Jr, Boies Penrose, Joseph V. Reed, Curt H. Reisinger, A. Hamilton Rice, David P. Wheatland, and Harold T. White.

PERSONNEL

LIBRARY appointments voted by the President and Fellows of Harvard College, with the consent of the Board of Overseers, effective 1 July 1954, were as follows:

Earl C. Borgeson, Librarian of the Law Library

John J. Gallen, Senior Assistant in the Lamont Library and Supervisor of the House Libraries

Charles R. Gredler, Assistant in Charge of the Slavic Collection in the Harvard College Library

Katherine McNamara, Librarian of the Department of City Planning and Landscape Architecture

Philip J. McNiff, Member of the
Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Thomas F. O'Connell, Senior As-
sistant in the Harvard College Li-
brary

John A. Riggs, Senior Assistant in
the Harvard College Library

David C. Weber, Senior Assistant in
the Harvard College Library

The retirement of John E. Shea,
Superintendent of the Stack and the
Harry Elkins Widener Memorial
Building of the Harvard College Li-
brary, took place as of 31 August 1954.

EXHIBITIONS

JULY 1953 — JUNE 1954

THE following list records a se-
lection of exhibitions held in
various Harvard libraries dur-
ing the year 1 July 1953 to 30 June
1954:

WIDENER LIBRARY

Main Halls

- The Maritime Provinces of Canada
- Mr Pusey's Predecessors and Their
Inaugurations
- A Centenary Exhibition from Publica-
tions of the Firm of Martinus Nij-
hoff, The Hague
- Colonel John Trumbull, Painter of the
American Revolution: An Exhibi-
tion Signaling the Publication of
a New Edition of the Autobiogra-
phy of John Trumbull (Harvard
1773) Edited by Professor Theodore
Sizer (Harvard 1916)
- Christmas Carols and Christmas Music
Winter in New England
- The Turks in History
- Theodore Roosevelt: An Exhibition
upon Final Publication of His *Let-*

ters by the Harvard University Press
An Exhibition in Honor of Professor
Archibald T. Davison in His Sev-
entieth Year, His Forty-third as a
Teacher at Harvard

The Harvard Divinity School
Publications by Members of the Class
of '29

Harry Elkins Widener

Memorial Rooms

- Gutenberg Bible, 1456 (throughout);
Shakespeare Folios (throughout)
- Periodicals and Original Drawings
- Caxton; Johnson Dictionary; Costumes
- Club Life in London; English Early
Printed Books
- Hostelries of London; William Heath
- Christmas Books; Updike Cards
- Centennials of 1854; Street Cries
- The Cruikshanks
- North American Wild Flowers, by
M. V. Walcott
- Caxton; Costumes
- Bibliographical Works Used by Harry
Elkins Widener Recently Added to
His Collection

HOUGHTON LIBRARY

Exhibition Room

- An Exhibition Commemorating the
150th Anniversary of the Birth of
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1953)
- Tercenary Exhibition in Honor of
the First Publication of Izaak Wal-
ton's *Compleat Angler* (1653-1953)
- An Exhibition of Color in Printing and
Illustration
- An Exhibition of Recent Accessions in
Honor of the Class of 1929
- A Victorian Illustrator: The Harvard-
Field Collection of John Leech
- An Exhibition of Bestiaries and Fables

Keats Room

Selected Manuscripts of John Keats
(throughout)

Ground Floor Hall

Drawings of Coffee Pots, by Count
Rumford

Randolph Caldecott's Illustrations for
Hallam Tennyson's 'Jack and the
Beanstalk'

A Group of Bindings from the Aero-
nautical Collection of William A. M.
Burden, '27, Recently Deposited in
the Houghton Library

Graphic Arts Room

Color in Printing and Illustration: Col-
or Reproduction of Manuscripts

LAMONT LIBRARY

Main Corridors

Harvard on View

Christmas Paintings

Harvard Experimental Group in Inter-
national Living

Lamont's Fifth Birthday

Harvard University Press Publications

Harvard Football Team

Harvard Band

Minority Rights

Harvard Dramatic Club

Harvard *Alumni Bulletin* (permanent,
with bi-weekly changes)

Harvard *Crimson* Photo Competition

Poetry Room

Generals

Harvard Yearbook Photographs

Galley Sheets of New Course Cata-
logue

Finals

The French Renaissance

Placement Office (permanent)

Poetry Room

Manuscripts of Conrad Aiken

Manuscripts of John Hewitt

BAKER LIBRARY

Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century
Ship Logs

The Application of Graphics

Six Centuries of Ledgers

The Evolution of the Silver Dollar:
A Coin Collection Loaned by the
Bank Building and Equipment Cor-
poration of America

A Selection of Coins from the Baker
Library Collection, Including Unit-
ed States Gold Coins Given by Dr
Arthur H. Cole

The 'Great Eastern' Steamship, 1858-
1889

Inventions and Developments Which
Made the Ocean Liner Possible

Clipper Ship Cards

Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century
Writings on Taxation

Early American Banking

Africa; Iran; Indonesia; The Philip-
pines: Four Exhibits in Connection
with Visits by American Universi-
ties Field Staff Representatives

American Association of Collegiate
Schools of Business: Some Recent
Publications of Members

An Essay of Drapery, by William
Scott, 1635

Case Research at the Harvard Business
School

How to Unravel the Mysteries of the
Card Catalogue

Steps to Success in Finding Magazine
Articles

The Harvard Libraries

The Harvard Business School in the
News

LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY

Treasure Room

An Exhibition to Celebrate the Dia-
mond Jubilee of the American Bar
Association

Early English Manuscripts and Printed Books; Manuscripts and Printed Books of the *Corpus Juris Civilis*; and Early Constitutions and Statutes of the United States

History of the Harvard Law School, 1817-1895

Law Books Printed by Richard Tottell
Manuscripts and Early Printed Editions of the Customary Law of France

Early Legal Treatises Printed in America

Exhibition of Manuscripts and Early Printed Books of the *Corpus Juris Canonici*

The First Constitutions of States Admitted to the United States before 1850

The Harvard Law School Library, 1817-1835

Reading Room

Official Transcripts of the Current Survey of the Legal Profession; Selected Materials Indicating the Scope of the Library's Holdings of Foreign Law

MEDICAL SCHOOL LIBRARY

An Exhibition in Memory of Dr Reginald Fitz (1885-1953)

ANDOVER-HARVARD THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY

Writings by Four Members of the Harvard Divinity School Faculty
The Early Years of the Harvard Divinity School

The Middle Period in the History of Harvard Divinity School, 1840-1880

Harvard Divinity School Portraits, 1880-1953

The Old Testament through the Centuries

Selections from the Writings of Professor Henry J. Cadbury

Original Letters from Theological Scholars of the Last Half-Century

An Exhibition in Memory of Dean Willard L. Sperry

The Ecumenical Movement in the Twentieth Century

STUDY OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

ACTING upon a proposal of Arthur W. Page, '05, Chairman of the Committee of the Overseers to Visit the Library, the Corporation late last spring authorized a study of the University Library to be carried out during the coming months. Mr Metcalf is directing the study with the advice of a committee appointed by President Pusey consisting of the following members: McGeorge Bundy, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Walter S. Gifford, '05, Arthur A. Houghton, Jr, '29, Thomas D. Morris, of the firm of management consultants Cresap, McCormick & Paget, and Edward Reynolds, '15, Administrative Vice President.

The study is designed to survey the present situation of the Library objectively, to locate and analyze weaknesses, to suggest possible improvements, to consider financial needs, and to discuss the place and future of the Library in the University. Operating methods and their efficiency are to be dealt with only incidentally, if at all. Finally, there is no thought either of freezing a status quo or of projecting too rigid a program for the future.

Plans call for the completion of the study by the late winter of 1955. Articles based upon the study are sched-

uled for publication in forthcoming issues of the BULLETIN.

ARCHIVES OF MINOAN WRITING

IN 1952-54 evidences were discovered and published that the Minoan writing 'Linear Script B,' which is half a millennium older than the oldest Greek hitherto known (Homer), is in fact Greek. The decipherer is a young London architect, Michael G. F. Ventris, who knew Greek, learned crypt-analysis in the war, and in 1952, against the historical evidence as it was then interpreted, tried to read the tablets as Greek. His success has been confirmed absolutely by tablets discovered subsequently. This has been hailed as the most sensational development in Hellenic studies since Milman Parry of Harvard discovered the nature of Homeric poetry. At Harvard, where the historical evidence about Linear B was first fully studied and interpreted, archives of Minoan writing have been gathered by Sterling Dow, John E. Hudson Professor of Archaeology, and are available in Widener Library to qualified scholars, through application to the Assistant Librarian, Robert H. Haynes. Besides the regular books, the collection contains fugitive and unique papers such as Ventris' 'Work Notes,' various letters, offprints, and manuscripts of articles.

Among the manuscripts are preserved some of the unpublished papers of Champlin Burrage. A note about this interesting New England scholar may not be out of place here. He was graduated from Brown ('06), attended the universities of Marburg, Berlin, and Oxford (B.Litt.), and became Librarian of Manchester College in Ox-

ford. His earlier works were on the history of various Protestant denominations (Widener has fourteen entries under his name) and were substantial. Returning to New England in his later years, and able to live the life of a private scholar, he devoted himself largely to the Minoan and other undeciphered scripts. In these studies his method was speculative, but he was among the few who before 1952 (he died the year previous) were confident that Minoan Linear B would prove to be Greek, and in fact it was by methodical speculation that Ventris succeeded.

BOTANICAL LIBRARIES IN NEW QUARTERS

THE Harvard University Herbarium, 22 Divinity Avenue, completed last spring, now houses the library and herbarium of the Gray Herbarium (formerly at 79 Garden Street), the non-horticultural portion of the library and herbarium of the Arnold Arboretum (transferred from Jamaica Plain), and the Orchid Herbarium of Oakes Ames (formerly in the Botanical Museum, Oxford Street). The moves were carried out between March and July. The new Herbarium, modern in equipment and fully air-conditioned, lies across the end of Divinity Avenue, with direct access to the Farlow Library and Herbarium on the east and to the Library of the Museum of Comparative Zoology on the west.

A horticultural library of 7,000 volumes and an herbarium of 100,000 specimens remain in the Arnold Arboretum building at Jamaica Plain, with expanded facilities for service. Pre-

Linnaean books from the Arboretum and the Gray Herbarium continue on deposit in the stacks of the Houghton Library, whence they may be drawn for consultation in the new Herbarium.

Mrs Lazella Schwarten, formerly Librarian of the Arnold Arboretum, is now Librarian of both the Arnold

Arboretum and the Gray Herbarium and is in charge of both libraries in the new building. She is assisted by Mrs Patricia Lewicki and Mrs Yvonne Meigs. Dr Richard Schultes has recently been appointed Curator of the Orchid Herbarium of Oakes Ames and is in charge of the Orchid Library.

List of Contributors

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