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NOTES ON THE HARVARD LIBRARIES

Clifford Kenyon Shipton, 1902–1973

Among historians of Harvard, Clifford Kenyon Shipton, who died on 4 December 1973, won a distinguished place with the fifteen volumes, covering the classes from 1690 to 1770, that he added to Sibley’s Harvard Graduates. He also deserves the gratitude of historians of Harvard, including generations of historians far in the future, for his work as Custodian of the Harvard University Archives from 1938 until his retirement in 1959. As he wrote in 1947, “The Harvard University Archives exists not simply to preserve, but to serve.” In building, organizing, and administering the collection for thirty-one years, Dr. Shipton never lost sight of these objectives; he was an historian as well as a conservator and archivist, and he understood the needs of scholarship.

Dr. Shipton’s Harvard degrees were a B.S. (1920), an M.A. (1927), a Ph.D. (1933), and a Litt.D. (1965). A second Litt.D. was awarded to him by Clark University in 1969. He had used the Harvard Archives intensively for several years, in research for Samuel Eliot Morison’s Tercentenary History and for his own additions to the biographical series begun by John Langdon Sibley, before he was invited to take charge of them.

His achievement in the Archives was all the more remarkable because his was a part-time (one day per week) position; he served also as Librarian of the American Antiquarian Society from 1938 to 1959, and as Director of that Society from 1959 to 1967. His numerous published writings included biographies of Roger Conant (1944) and Isaiah Thomas (1948); he edited the Early American Imprints series published by the Readex Microprint Corporation; and four contributions to the Harvard Library Bulletin appeared between 1947 and 1970.

The Godfrey Lowell Cabot Science Library

The new library in the Science Center was named the Godfrey Lowell Cabot Science Library during dedication ceremonies on 8 November 1973. As has previously been reported, this library, which accommodates approximately 375 readers and can provide shelving for more than 200,000 volumes, will support instructional requirements of undergraduates in most of the departmental science courses, in natural science courses of the Program for General Education, and in course work at all levels in mathematics and statistics, for which it will house the University’s research collections.

Godfrey Lowell Cabot (1861–1962) was a member of the Harvard Class of 1882. A chemist and manufacturer, he established a fully automatic plant for the production of carbon black. In 1937 he established the Marie Morris Cabot Foundation at Harvard for Botanical Research; his benefactions to Harvard
have been continued by the Godfrey L. Cabot Charitable Trust, which has given more than $4,000,000 to A Program for Science in Harvard College, and is the second largest contributor to that Program. Both his son, Thomas Dudley Cabot, '19, and his grandson, Louis W. Cabot, '43, have served on Harvard's Board of Overseers.

THE HARVARD UKRAINIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE REFERENCE LIBRARY

A new unit was added to the Harvard University Library in September 1973 when the Reference Library of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute was opened at 1581-83 Massachusetts Avenue with Edward Kasinec as Librarian. Mr. Gregory Dmytriw has given more than 850 volumes from the library of her late husband and has established the Dmytriw Book Fund in his memory. Other important gifts include those of Professor M. Lysyshyn and of the Ukrainians'kyj Narodnyj Dim of New York. Several bibliographical projects are being undertaken, notably an index to selected pre-revolutionary Ukrainian serials in the humanities and a union list of Ukrainica held by Harvard libraries; reprinting and microfiche publication projects are also under consideration. The new library, a working collection for the Institute and a central information point for Ukrainian studies, will confine itself to materials that are to be found also in Widener or other Harvard research collections.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Barbara Daines has been appointed Interlibrary Loan Librarian in the Harvard College Library, succeeding Edward J. Peterson, who resigned during September in order to return to his family home near Ithaca, New York. Mrs. Daines, a former Intern, had been Administrative Assistant in the Department of Resources and Acquisitions during 1972-73.

Margaret M. Morris, who has joined the staff of Geotman Library as Head of Cataloguing Services, comes to Harvard from the Library of the University of Massachusetts at Boston.

Sandra L. Smalley has been appointed Chief Descriptive Cataloguer in the Harvard College Library. This is a new position, established in the course of internal reorganization of the Monograph Cataloguing Division. Miss Smalley has been a member of the Catalogue Department staff for ten years.

Paul W. Upson came to the College Library staff on 1 February 1974 as Business Manager. A graduate of Middlebury College and of the Harvard Business School, he has been Executive Secretary to the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard since 1970. Mr. Upson's Library appointment was timed to enable him to work for several months with Charles L. Grace, who is to retire at the end of the current academic year.
Retirement of Miss Porritt

Ruth Kilburn Portitt retired in December 1973 as Librarian of the Hilles Library. After having earned a degree in librarianship from Simmons College and an M.A. in economics from Boston University, Miss Portitt joined the Acquisitions Department staff of Baker Library at the Harvard Business School in 1930. In 1942 she was appointed Head of the Reference Department at Baker, and the enviable reputation of reference service there dates from her administration. In 1949 she became Librarian of Radcliffe College; the Hilles Library, which was opened in 1966, owes a great deal to her ideas and her thoughtful planning. Administratively she left Harvard in 1949 and returned in 1971, when Hilles became a unit of the Harvard College Library.

Lucy M. Manzi, who joined the Radcliffe Library staff in 1950, is serving as Acting Librarian of Hilles.

Resignation of Mr. Alevizos

Theodore G. Alevizos, Librarian of Lamont Library, Associate University Librarian for Public Services, Member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Lecturer on Speech, and Associate of Eliot House, has resigned effective 30 June 1974 and has been on leave since 17 December 1973. A graduate of Marquette University and of the Columbia University School of Library Service, Mr. Alevizos joined the Harvard staff in 1957 as Assistant Chief of Circulation and Stacks in the College Library; he had been in charge of public service in the College Library since 1966. In 1966, Mr. Alevizos earned a law degree from Suffolk University; he is also a gifted singer and, in collaboration with his wife, Susan Alevizos, the author of Folksongs of Greece (1968).

Foster M. Palmer is Acting Head of the Department of Public Services in Widener, and Sharon Hamby is Acting Librarian of Lamont.

Award to Architects of the Gutman Library

The Harleston Parker Medal for 1973 has been awarded by the Boston Society of Architects to Benjamin Thompson and Associates, architects for the Gutman Library building. The committee of seven architects, which visited twenty buildings before recommending that the award be made to Gutman, described the design of the building as “an outstanding example of a disciplined approach . . . avoiding the stylistic mannerisms so common today . . .” Observing that “the building is not dull,” the committee added that “brightly colored interiors, visible from the outside, reflect the liveliness of Brattle Street and reinforce the immediate urban pattern.”
CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

William Bentinck-Smith has edited the Harvard Alumni Bulletin (1946-1954) and The Harvard Book, which was published by the Harvard University Press in 1953; he was Assistant to the President of Harvard University (1954-1971), and is now Publication Associate in the Development Office of the University and Honorary Curator of Type Specimens and Letter Design in the Harvard College Library.

M. M. McDowell, who was graduated from Harvard College in 1972, is now working for a doctorate in English literature at Brandeis.

Ronald Pradeau, Assistant Professor in the Department of English in Central Michigan University at Mount Pleasant, has contributed articles to a number of literary and philological journals and collections.

Michael West has recently moved from Wesleyan University to the Department of English in the University of Pittsburgh; his Harvard dissertation, in 1966, was on Dryden, but American literature has been the subject of most of his published articles.

Robert Lee Wolff, Coolidge Professor of History at Harvard, combines teaching and research on the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires with a long-standing interest in the nineteenth-century English novel; his books on the latter subject include The Golden Key: A Study of the Fiction of George MacDonald (Yale University Press, 1961), Strange Stories, published by Gambit, Inc., of Boston in 1971, and Sensational Victorian: The Life and Fiction of Mary Elizabeth Braddon, which will be issued by the same publisher later this year.