



# The Transportation Room at Baker Library

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poem is a romantic address to the sea, in which Pushkin represents the sea as an element very closely related to the soul of a poet. As the poem progresses Pushkin touches upon a number of other themes, such as the death of Napoleon, 'on a cliff in the ocean's waste,' and the death of Byron, and in addition makes several allusions of an autobiographical nature. In the present manuscript the portion devoted to Byron is particularly rich in corrections, even to the rewriting of entire lines. Pushkin was at this time strongly under the influence of the English poet, and sought here to convey his essential character in a few terse phrases that are based upon comparison with the sea.

The theme of the sea was not entirely new in Russian poetry. Pushkin himself had earlier in his southern exile written a poem ('Pogaslo dneвноe svetilo' — 'The daystar is quenched') that in places reflected Byron's *Childe Harold*. In the new poem 'K moriu,' however, the contemporary reader found a plethora of new features: the vocabulary is strewn with words that, here applied to the

sea for the first time in Russian poetry, have a true romantic ring; the images and symbols of the poem are very telling; and Pushkin skillfully introduces a political allusion (the sea as the symbol of freedom) and a caustic comment upon the Enlightenment of the eighteenth century. Such a combination of elements readily explains the enormous influence of this poem upon the sea-poetry of the Russian Romantics. Very likely it was directly responsible for the publication of many another 'evocation.' And indeed even in later times, and down into the twentieth century, we find numerous echoes in Russian poetry of Pushkin's 'K moriu.' Other Slavic literatures likewise bear witness to its spell: I have found traces, for example, in Ukrainian and Slovak poetry.

The importance of this new manuscript, then, is clear. It offers a whole series of previously unknown readings that are of great significance in the development to its final form of a poem that is itself a notable landmark in the history of Russian literature.

DMITRY CIZEVSKY

## The Transportation Room at Baker Library

**O**VER a period of many years Dr Lewis K. Sillcox, Vice Chairman of the Board of the New York Air Brake Company and Honorary Curator of Transportation in the Baker Library of the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, has given to that Library materials on land transportation. In 1953 he shipped to the Library a large

segment of his personal collection. Concurrently with this activity the Library had been developing its special collection on aviation, established in 1944 in response to a need created by the School's continuing research program dealing with various phases of the business aspects of aviation.

To signalize this gift of Dr Sillcox the School created the Transportation

Room, hoping that sometime the Library will be able to centralize all transportation research materials there as it has already centralized research materials on the business aspects of aviation. Such a centralization awaits other library changes, but the beginnings of this integrated transportation library were laid early this year with the remodeling of Rooms 105 and 106, the quarters of the former Aviation Collection, and the allotment of additional Baker Library stack space to the new Transportation Room.

The renovation of the rooms, in accordance with plans drawn by Mr Stanley A. Parker, Architect, in consultation with the firm of McKim, Mead and White, was completed in April. An exhibit room and two alcoves were created from Room 105, the former reading room, through the addition of a pleasing arrangement of paneled partitions. Room 106 remained the work room.

The exhibit room opens off the Baker Library lobby. Its paneled walls are broken on two sides by arches which open into the two adjoining alcoves. Bookcases cut across the four corners to make the area octagonal in shape. Each of these bookcases is filled with books representing a particular mode of transportation—one contains books on rail transport; another, those on water; a third, books on land transportation other than rail; and the fourth is devoted to air transport.

Portraits of Dr Sillcox, of Mr William A. M. Burden, Honorary Curator of Aviation, and of Professor William J. Cunningham, James J. Hill Professor of Transportation, Emeritus, all of whom have contributed substantially to the transportation materials in Baker

Library, hang on the corridor wall. A fine collection of bronzes, representing the work of such sculptors as Kalish, Bissell, Sautner, and Dallin, the gift of Dr Sillcox, add further to the attractiveness of the room. Blue-gray walls, accented by terra cotta tones in the bookcase niches and draperies and predominately brown tones in the furniture and floor covering, provide a pleasing atmosphere for research and study.

In the first of the two alcoves opening off the exhibit room are shelved the Lewis K. Sillcox collection of books on railroad transportation and the William A. M. Burden collection of monographs on the business aspects of aviation. The books in the Sillcox collection were drawn from the extensive library of books and serials dealing with land transportation presented by Dr Sillcox; other items in the Sillcox gift have been added to the general stacks in appropriate locations.

The Burden monographs were purchased by the Library from a generous fund established by Mr Burden in 1951. A former Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Air and partner in the William A. M. Burden Company, Mr Burden has long been associated with the aviation industry and has had a continuing interest in research concerned with its development. Again, only a portion of this growing collection is shelved in this alcove.

Professor Cunningham has given Baker Library many books during the years he has been associated with the Business School. These titles, which might have been shelved here, were earlier incorporated into the general collection and many 'hard to find

items' are thus readily available to faculty and students.

Similarly, serials purchased from the Lodwick Fund, the gift of Mr Albert I. Lodwick, President of the Lodwick Aircraft Industries, Inc., have been added to the aviation serials in the stacks adjacent to the Transportation Room. These publications, dealing with the early development of civil aviation, here and abroad, have considerably enriched the Library's holdings.

Shelved in the second alcove off the exhibit room are the current periodicals dealing with aviation, and a small reference collection of aviation materials. The card catalogue stands in that area. At present, relatively few non-aviation items are represented there; cards have been added for the books in the exhibit room only. The work room, which is reached through this second alcove, houses annual reports for aircraft and airline companies, newspaper clippings, the pamphlet file, a small collection of reference books, and typewriting facilities. Access to the general stack is through this room.

The public catalogue, on the third floor of Baker Library, continues to be the point of departure for all those interested in general transportation, or in modes of transport other than air. For at present the literature of the Transportation Room and its stacks continues to be primarily that of the Aviation Collection, such as reports of the Civil Aeronautics Board, the an-

nual reports of corporations concerned with aircraft manufacturing or air transport, the special releases of airline and aircraft associations, and the exhibits presented to the Civil Aeronautics Board by domestic air carriers. In the Spring 1948 issue of this BULLETIN, Ruth A. Sanborn (now Mrs Ruth Sanborn King), who was Curator of the Aviation Collection for nine years, described the establishment of the Collection and its growth during the earlier period.

Until additional space becomes available for the Transportation Room, the classics in the field — the works of Locklin, Ripley, Sherrington, Johnson, and Daggett, the reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission on railroads and motor carriers, the current monographs, and the older serials will continue to be shelved in Baker Library's general stacks. Recent serials will remain on the shelves of the Library's Reading Room, and annual reports of corporations (except for the aviation industry) will still be found in the Corporation Records Division, along with the volumes of Moody's *Manual of Investments* dealing with transportation companies.

The modest changes outlined above indicate recognition by the Library administration that research in the field of transportation can be most effectively conducted in a general transportation library. With the availability of additional space, such shifts of materials will be made as appear desirable.

MARGARET S. IRWIN



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.

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