



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

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would probably be the first to demur — these materials, especially the manuscripts, once they are finally arranged, will provide excellent sources for an account of his career. The significance of that portion of the collection relating to the Philippines for any study of the Islands during the present century has already been mentioned. Some future user of a picture in the Map Room or the Archives, of an account book or

business record in Baker Library, or of a book on birds in the Museum of Comparative Zoology may also have occasion to be grateful to Mr Forbes. There can be no question of the gratitude of the College, for which, as Mr Forbes wrote in a letter to the Director of the Library, he has always had an unbounded affection and loyalty.

ROBERT W. LOVETT

News of the Libraries

RENOVATION OF THE WIDENER BUILDING

WITH the opening of Lamont Library the Widener building was relieved of many of its services to the Harvard undergraduate, and the administration of the College Library could then turn to improving Widener, a building that has never been entirely satisfactory, and a building that had fallen below the standard at which most other buildings of the University have been maintained. The intensive discussions that have been held and the detailed plans that have been worked out in the past two and a half years have resulted in a renovation program of two parts.

The first part is a plan to combine the official and public catalogues on the first floor of the building, to bring the circulation desk down to that floor, and to reassign the work and study areas of a large part of the building. This part of the program was discussed in Mr Metcalf's article in the Winter 1950 issue of the *BULLETIN*; a decision regarding its execution will probably be forthcoming this autumn. The sec-

ond part of the program is the physical improvement of Widener, and in February 1951 the Corporation granted over \$300,000 for this purpose in fulfillment of its acknowledgment of responsibility to put the building in good working condition upon turning the College Library over to the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in July 1949. The following work has been done this past summer, or is to be completed during the next few months.

The periodical room has been expanded into the west end of the main reading room so that nearly all periodicals can be shelved on open display. Two new floor cases form large alcoves in which new leather chairs have been placed. The stairs from the top floor to the second floor and from the first to the ground floor have had abrasive non-skid edges inserted and bronze hand rails installed to provide the degree of safety required by state law. Hand rails have also been placed on the sides and down the middle of the main stairway. The Winsor Memorial Map Room on the top floor has been enlarged to provide more storage space.

A faculty study and a seminar room are to be made on this floor of what was the Poetry Room, now located in Lamont. Fluorescent lights have been placed throughout the top floor of the building. New fixtures placed above the skylight are to be used to light the main reading room. And fluorescent lighting has been placed in most of the stalls and studies in the building. On the second, third, and fourth (C, B, and A) of the ten stack levels, there are to be placed about four dozen new stalls for graduate students, and twelve radiators to heat these areas.

On the first floor, the catalogue department and order department rooms have had new lighting. The book shelves in the union catalogue room have been removed, and some of them installed in the order department room. Subsequent to this, the union catalogue cases were relocated so as to show the space allotment in the proposed combined catalogue. The general arrangement is of four alcoves and a large open space toward the east end of the room where tables for twenty-four readers have been placed. The cases now run around the walls and in front of two of the windows. As an experiment to see what better use may be made of catalogue room floor space a new consultation table, wider and higher than usual, has been placed in one alcove. On the ground floor, the three large work rooms have been renovated, and a new tile floor has been laid in the lobby where the old one was worn into valleys. Exhaust fans have been placed in the three rooms which are behind the main stairs, as well as in the photographic department's dark room.

During the winter the freight ele-

vator will be replaced by an automatic freight-and-passenger elevator, the Massachusetts Avenue elevator will be replaced, and three other elevators in the building will be thoroughly overhauled. Finally, the roof is to be repaired as required. (Contrary to earlier fears, it has been determined that replacement of the whole roof is unnecessary.)

The carrying out of these various undertakings has been proceeding satisfactorily; and such changes as have been completed have already made the building more useful and comfortable for both patrons and staff.

THE EMILY DICKINSON ROOM

THE Emily Dickinson Room, placed on the top floor of the Houghton Library, was opened at Commencement 1951. Its design and installation were made possible by a committee consisting of Mrs Robert Woods Bliss, Mrs Theodora V. W. Ward, and Messrs John P. Coolidge, '35, Parkman D. Howe, '11, William A. Jackson, and John S. Thacher.

The room, shown in the accompanying plate, is not a replica of an actual room, but is designed to harmonize with the books, furniture, and memorabilia of Emily Dickinson formerly in the Amherst house and here permanently exhibited. Among the objects of furniture are to be seen the bureau in which her poetical manuscripts were found after her death (and where they have again been placed); the small table on which she wrote, the piano at which she learned music. On the walls are the family



THE EMILY DICKINSON ROOM,
HOUGHTON LIBRARY

portraits by Otis A. Bullard,¹ a water-color done by her mother, the picture of Windsor Castle which hung in her bedroom, and the sampler which family tradition attributes to her working. Here too are her teacup, her shawl, and articles of her jewelry. The bookcase filling the lower wall to the left contains all the books found in the Amherst house published prior to her death and judged to have any possible connection with her; among these are a number of important volumes bearing her annotations — such as Bibles, and works of Shakespeare, Emerson, the Brontës, and George Eliot — as well as many volumes presented to her and with her name inscribed.

Manuscripts, books, furniture, and memorabilia all form part of the Dickinson collection presented to Harvard in 1950 by Gilbert H. Montague, '01, in memory of his wife Amy Angell Collier Montague. With the manuscripts in the room have been placed original letters of Emily Dickinson to the Holland family presented by Mrs Ward.

EXHIBITIONS

JULY 1950–JUNE 1951

THE following list records a selection of exhibitions held in various Harvard libraries during the year 1 July 1950 to 30 June 1951:

WIDENER LIBRARY

Main Halls

The Lure and Romance of the Sea in Book and Picture

¹To be the subject of a separate note in the next issue of the HARVARD LIBRARY BULLETIN.

Famous Theories of Famous Mathematicians of the Past

Three Designers of the Contemporary Theatre: Robert Edmond Jones, Class of 1910; Donald Oenslager, Class of 1925; Lee Simonson, Class of 1909

Portuguese and Brazilian Books in Honor of the International Colloquium on Luso-Brazilian Studies

Some Christmas Literature

Winter in New England

John James Audubon, 1785–1851

The Paris Stage in Retrospect: An Exhibition Commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the City of Paris

Jack B. Yeats — Manuscripts and Illustrated Books

The Development of Knowledge of Blood Represented by Manuscripts and by Selected Books Published from 1400 to the Nineteenth Century (sponsored by the University Library, the Committee on Higher Degrees in the History of Science, and the University Laboratory of Physical Chemistry Related to Medicine and Public Health)

The Harvard Anniversary Classes

Harry Elkins Widener

Memorial Rooms

Gutenberg Bible, 1456; First Four Folios of Shakespeare (throughout)
Caxton; Johnson Dictionary; Costumes Bindings; William Blake; Costumes Robert Louis Stevenson Centennial Christmas Cards 1927 through 1949
Christmas Books
Robert Burns; the Cruikshanks
Headdresses; Centennials
Portraits; Centennials
Wild Flowers of North America
Sources of Shakespeare's Plays

The Stage
Sports and Amusements
Caxton; Early Printed Books; Caricatures and Costumes

HOUGHTON LIBRARY

Exhibition Room

A Selection of Books and Manuscripts, Chiefly from the Department of Graphic Arts and the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Displaying the Art of Entomological Illustration 1400-1800
An Exhibition in Honor of the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of Danish-American Diplomatic Relations
Modern English and American Lettering and Calligraphy
An Exhibition of the Works of Sir Max Beerbohm
Lafcadio Hearn, 1850-1904: An Exhibition Signaling the Presentation by Edward Laroque Tinker of a Collection of Manuscripts, First Editions, and Memorabilia
An Exhibition of Bibliographical Books and Manuscripts in Honor of the Bibliographical Society of America
Emily Dickinson: A Selection of Books and Papers Now in the Harvard College Library, Mainly through the Gift of Gilbert Holland Montague, '01

Keats Room

Letters and Prints Illustrative of a Walking Tour Made by John Keats in the North of England and Scotland in the Summer of 1818
A Selection from a Series of Thirty-four Autograph Letters, the Correspondence of John Keats and B. R. Haydon, Recently Acquired

Manuscripts and Pictures Relating to Keats's Journey to Italy and Death in Rome, 23 February 1821
Letters and Poems of John Keats Written in the Spring of 1819

Ground Floor Hall

Manuscripts of Emily Dickinson
Some Aspects of Christmas in Seventeenth-Century England
Title-Pages of the 15th and 16th Centuries
Japanese Bird-Scrolls

Graphic Arts Room

An Exhibit of Some Materials Used in Bookbinding
Six Famous Examples of Early Illustration
Title-Pages of the 16th and 17th Centuries
Some Outstanding Manuscripts Belonging to the Department of Graphic Arts
The Seasons: Calendars and Almanacs
Persian Manuscripts
Recent Accessions
Two Great Baroque Books: *Pompa introitus Ferdinandi*, 1641; *Medailles du règne de Louis le Grand*, 1702

LAMONT LIBRARY

Main Corridors

Three Stage Designers
Harvard As It Was
The Class of 1901
The Class of 1921
Office of Student Placement
Harvard Crimson Photographs
315 Photographs
United Nations Council
World Federalists
Lowell House Music Society
Harvard Dramatic Society

Robert Frost
Wallace Stevens

Poetry Room

Poems of Ralph Hodgson
Manuscripts of Richard Wilbur's
Poetry
Poems Illustrated by Jack B. Yeats
Exhibition of Books and Manuscripts
by Richard Eberhart
Manuscripts of Adrienne Cecil Rich

BAKER LIBRARY

Recent Foreign Additions to Baker
Library
The Motion Picture Industry
Famous Trains (from the Railway and
Locomotive Historical Society Col-
lection)
The History of Transportation by Air
European and American Anniversary
Publications
Early Trades, Tradesmen, and Ped-
dlers
Business Leaders Past and Present
Government Regulation of Business
in the 16th, 17th, and 18th Centuries
Railroad and Canal Money
American Paper Currency
Social Security Plans in the United
States and Great Britain
High Lights in the History of English
and American Trade Unions
The Division of Labor
The South Sea Bubble and Other
Speculative Manias: The Bancroft
Collection
The First Check and the First English
Banker
Paper Money from the Ming Period in
China
Two Illustrated Ship's Logs
Nineteenth-Century Christmas Cards

Recent Publications of the Business
Historical Society
Early Chinese Coins
The Medici Manuscripts Recently Ac-
quired by Baker Library
Spanish, Russian, Chinese, and German
Playing Cards from the Collection
of Arthur H. Cole
Recent Acquisitions of the Kress Li-
brary: The Wallich Collection
The Harvard Business School in the
News (current)
The *Harvard Business Review*
Fifty Years of Motion Picture Adver-
tising
United States Economic Cooperation
Administration Contest Posters

LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY

Treasure Room

History of the Harvard Law School,
1817-1895
Law Books Printed by Richard Pyn-
son, 1492-1529
Manuscripts and Printed Books of the
Corpus Juris Canonici
The First Constitutions of States Ad-
mitted to the United States after
1850
Law Books Printed by Richard Tottell
Early American Treatises on Law
Early English Manuscripts and Printed
Books

MEDICAL SCHOOL LIBRARY

George Richards Minot, a Memorial
Exhibition
Books, Bibliographical Material, and
Instruments Pertaining to Riggs
Disease (Dental School Library)
The Class of 1911
New Books

ANDOVER-HARVARD THEOLOGICAL
LIBRARY

Display of Books on Albert Schweitzer
Faculty Owned and Annotated Greek
Testaments from President Increase
Mather to Dean W. L. Sperry

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

THE Committee on the Library of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, as appointed for one year from 1 July 1951, consists of the following Professors: Keyes D. Metcalf (Bibliography), chairman, Stuart P. Atkins (German), Sterling Dow (Archaeology), William Y. Elliott (History and Political Science), William C. Greene (Greek and Latin), Seymour E. Harris (Economics), William A. Jackson (Bibliography), Perry G. E. Miller (American Literature), Norman F. Ramsey (Physics), Hyder E. Rollins (English), Alfred S. Romer (Zoology), and Donald C. Williams (Philosophy).

PERSONNEL

DOUGLAS Wallace Bryant, recently appointed Administrative Assistant Librarian in the College Library and Member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, is ex-

pected to assume his duties in April 1952. After service in the general library, University of Michigan, the Clements Library, and the Detroit Public Library, Mr Bryant became Assistant Librarian and Lecturer on Librarianship at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1946. Since 1949 he has been on leave of absence from California to serve as Director of Libraries of the United States Information Service, American Embassy, London. At Harvard he will serve as assistant to the Librarian in an administrative capacity.

Other appointments recently voted by the President and Fellows of Harvard College, with the consent of the Board of Overseers, include:

Bartol Brinkler, Assistant in charge of Subject Cataloguing, Harvard College Library

Charles R. Gredler, Slavic Cataloguer, Harvard College Library.

Ian W. Thom, Administrative Assistant in the Catalogue Department of the College Library, resigned as of 30 April 1951, to become Head of the Processing Department, Northwestern University Library.

List of Contributors

JEAN SEZNEC, Marshal Foch Professor of French Literature in the University of Oxford and Fellow of All Souls College

ROSCOE POUND, University Professor, Emeritus, Harvard University

M. A. DEWOLFE HOWE, Boston, Massachusetts

G. W. COTTRELL, JR, Editor in the Harvard University Library

WILLIAM A. JACKSON, Professor of Bibliography and Assistant Librarian of the College Library in charge of the Houghton Library, Harvard University

A. E. GALLATIN, New York City

I. M. OLIVER, Assistant to the Librarian in the Houghton Library, Harvard University

JOHN CLIVE, Teaching Fellow in History, Harvard University

LOUIS H. SILVER, Chicago, Illinois

HYDER E. ROLLINS, Gurney Professor of English Literature, Harvard University

THOMAS LITTLE, Custodian of the Theodore Roosevelt Collection and Member of the Catalogue Department, Harvard College Library

ELTING E. MORISON, Associate Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Editor, *The Letters of Theodore Roosevelt*

ROBERT W. LOVETT, Head of the Manuscript Division, Baker Library, Harvard University