



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

## Citation

Cottrell, G.W. 1953. News of the libraries - Harvard Library Bulletin, Volume VII.3. Harvard Library Bulletin VII (3), Autumn 1953: 375-379.

## Permanent link

<https://nrs.harvard.edu/URN-3:HUL.INSTREPOS:37363640>

## Terms of Use

This article was downloaded from Harvard University's DASH repository, and is made available under the terms and conditions applicable to Other Posted Material, as set forth at <http://nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:HUL.InstRepos:dash.current.terms-of-use#LAA>

# Share Your Story

The Harvard community has made this article openly available.  
Please share how this access benefits you. [Submit a story](#).

[Accessibility](#)

## News of the Libraries

RENOVATION OF THE  
WIDENER BUILDING:  
THIRD REPORT

**T**HIS report of progress in the renovation of the Widener building supplements the statements made in 1951 and 1952.<sup>1</sup> Considerable work has been done since the last report appeared, and the renovation program has now been very nearly completed.

One of the most important changes made this year has been the installation of a new reference desk in the southeast corner of the main reading room. The principal reason for establishing the reference desk in this location is that the reference librarians will now be adjacent to the public catalogue and thus can be of more effective assistance to users of the library. This change has also permitted removal of the large desk in the center of the north wall of the reading room, with the result that the room is now a more open and inviting place to study. Also during the past summer, the reading tables have been refinished, and their lighter color and freshness add to the now handsome appearance of the room.

One of the most inadequately lighted spaces in the Widener building has been the public catalogue room, and various methods of improving illumination in this important area have been thoroughly studied.

<sup>1</sup>'Renovation of the Widener Building,' *HARVARD LIBRARY BULLETIN*, V (1951), 385-386, and 'Renovation of the Widener Building: Second Report,' *ILLR*, VI (1952), 400-402.

Large card catalogues are, at best, not easy to use, and proper lighting is essential. The lighting scheme finally adopted has been the installation of a series of specially designed fluorescent fixtures hung several feet below the ceiling. To gain the needed reflection, the dark coffered ceiling has been painted a light shade. Similar fixtures have been hung in the area east of the public catalogue room, adjacent to the circulation desk. The result of this relighting is much improved illumination in these important rooms, and it is hoped that the public catalogue can now be used with greater convenience.

The staff work space behind the circulation desk has been enlarged and made considerably more efficient by the removal of the partition which divided the area from the former bibliography room. Rearranged use of the space should make for more efficient loan service, and redecoration and new furniture have improved the appearance of this part of the building.

Relighting has been completed in the main entrance lobby of the building and in the corridors of the ground floor. In the lobby, fluorescent lighting has been set into the coffered ceiling in two rows along the side walls. The resulting combination of incandescent and fluorescent light gives a pleasant atmosphere to the lobby and provides excellent illumination for the exhibition cases.

As the final renovation of the year, the main stairway and the second-floor central lobby outside the main reading room, as well as the adjoining

corridors and the periodical room, have been redecorated.

## EXHIBITIONS

JULY 1952 - JUNE 1953

THE following list records a selection of exhibitions held in various Harvard libraries during the year 1 July 1952 to 30 June 1953:

## WIDENER LIBRARY

*Main Halls*

- Books and Maps Relating to Cape Cod  
George Santayana  
José Toribia Medina: In Honor of the Medina Centennial Celebration at the Pan American Union, Washington, D. C., November 6 through November 8  
An Exhibition in Honor of the Linguistic Society of America and of the Modern Language Association of America, on the Occasion of Their 1952 Annual Meetings Held in Cambridge and Boston  
Original Editions of Works by Thirty Great Mathematicians (from the Collection of William Marshall Bullitt)  
Thomas Nelson Page, Distinguished American Author and Diplomat, in Celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of His Birth  
José Martí (1853-1895), Cuban Patriot, Poet, and Man of Letters, in Honor of Pan American Week  
The Harvard Anniversary Classes—1653, 1753, 1853, 1903, 1928

*Harry Elkins Widener Memorial Rooms*

- Gutenberg Bible, 1456; Shakespeare Folios (throughout)

- Caxton; Illuminated Manuscripts  
George Cruikshank  
Elizabeth and Robert Browning  
Caxton; Christmas Books  
Centennials of 1853; Costumes; Street Cries  
Dr Samuel Johnson and His Associates  
Bindings  
Religious Books and Costumes  
Portraits  
William Shakespeare  
England's Queens and Royal Residences

## HOUGHTON LIBRARY

*Exhibition Room*

- A Choice of Autographs from the Harvard Collections  
An Exhibition on the Occasion of the Convention of the Episcopal Church Books and Manuscripts Honoring the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Publication of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe  
William Pickering  
An Exhibition of Literary Books and Manuscripts in Honor of the Modern Language Association  
Mathematical Books and Manuscripts  
An Exhibition Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1953)

*Keats Room*

- Selected Autograph Manuscripts of John Keats  
Letters of Keats (Autographs and Transcripts) and of Members of the Keats Circle, July 1820 to May 1821  
Selected Autograph Letters of John Keats, Containing Drafts or Copies of His Poems  
Selected Manuscripts of John Keats

*Ground Hall Floor*

- Abraham Lincoln: Autograph Manuscript of the Baltimore Address, 19 October 1864; Samuel Francis Smith: Autograph Manuscript of 'America' and Its First Printing, Boston, 1831  
 Some Indulgences Printed in England  
 Miniatures on Parchment by Jean-Louis Fesch: French Actors and Actresses of the late Eighteenth Century  
 Early Editions of François Rabelais (ca. 1490-1553)

*Graphic Arts Room*

- Palace Construction in Eighteenth-Century Vienna  
 Colored Views of Prague and St Petersburg, of the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries;  
 Dürer's *Life of the Virgin*, 1511

## LAMONT LIBRARY

*Main Corridors*

- Harvard on View: Photographs by Walter Fleischer  
 Historic New England  
 Boston and Vicinity  
 Ivy Films  
 Political Cartoons  
 Pierian Sodality  
 Hasty Pudding Club  
 United Nations Council  
 New Drawings for *Moby Dick* by Gil Wilson  
 Museum of Science  
 Harvard Experimental Group in International Living  
 Minstrel Show Posters from the Theatre Collection  
 The Harvard *Crimson*  
 Harvard Radio Station WHRB  
 Lowell Institute Station WGBH  
 Harvard Dramatic Club

## Great Britain

- Graduation Activities  
 Exhibits of Boston Symphony Orchestra Programs (weekly)

*Poetry Room*

- Manuscripts of Poetry by Blanaid Salkeld  
 Exhibition of 'Log Book II' by George Seferis  
 Manuscripts of David Chandler and Charles Neuhauser  
 Exhibition of Books of Poetry Decorated by Graham Sutherland and Henry Moore  
 Poetry of Dylan Thomas  
 Manuscript of a Part of *Actfive*, by Archibald MacLeish

## BAKER LIBRARY

- The Application of Graphics  
 Six Centuries of Ledgers  
 Wedgwood Past and Present, from the Collection of Elizabeth Chellis  
 Life and Work in Sweden: A Series of Charts  
 Case Research at the Harvard Business School  
 English and American Trade Cards  
 An Exhibition in Honor of Professor Melvin Thomas Copeland  
 A Memorial to John Harvard (the Window in Southwark Cathedral)  
 Lotteries: Old Lottery Shares and Tickets  
 America's First Iron Works  
 Discount Bill Book of the First Bank of the United States, 1793-1794  
 How to Unravel the Mysteries of the Card Catalogue  
 The Harvard Libraries  
 Paint Brushes, for the Course in Industrial Procurement  
 Automation: Making the Factory Automatic

The Manufacturing Course, Including  
Seventeen Reports Written by Stu-  
dent Groups

The Corporation Records Division  
Harvard Business School: The First  
Decade

Harvard Business School in the News

#### LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY

##### *Treasure Room*

Early English Manuscripts and Printed  
Books

The Founding of the Harvard Law  
School

The Year Books or Decisions of the  
English Courts, ca. 1270-1535

Laws and Statutes of the Development  
of Legislation in New York, 1638-  
1828

Editions of Hugo Grotius' *De Jure  
Belli ac Pacis*

Manuscripts and Printed Books of Bar-  
tolus de Saxoferrato, Fourteenth-  
Century Commentator on the *Cor-  
pus Juris Civilis*

Life and Works of Roscoe Pound,  
University Professor, *Emeritus*

#### ANDOVER-HARVARD THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY

The Evolution of the Revised Stand-  
ard Version of the Bible

An Exhibition in connection with  
the Five Hundredth Anniversary of  
the Gutenberg Bible

Thanksgiving in Early New England  
Religious Classics of 1902

Some Text Books in Theology Used  
at Harvard in the Seventeenth Cen-  
tury

Nine Hancock Professors of Hebrew,  
1764-1953

Coins and Bible Times  
Emerson and the Divinity School

#### LIBRARY COMMITTEE

**T**HE Library Committee of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, as appointed for one year from 1 July 1953, consists of the following members of the Faculty: Keyes D. Metcalf (Library), chairman, Stuart P. Atkins (German), Douglas W. Bryant (Library), Sterling Dow (Archaeology), William Y. Elliott (History and Political Science), Edwin B. Newman (Psychology), Alfred S. Romer (Zoology), Joseph L. Walsh (Mathematics), Bartlett J. Whiting (English), and Donald C. Williams (Philosophy).

#### VISITING COMMITTEE

**T**HE following Committee to visit the University Library has been appointed by the Board of Overseers for one year from 1 July 1953: Arthur W. Page, chairman, Carleton R. Richmond, vice chairman, F. Gregg Bemis, John M. Brown, William A. M. Burden, Ward M. Canaday, Carl P. Dennett, Lee M. Friedman, Francis W. Hatch, Harrison D. Horblit, Arthur A. Houghton, Jr., M. A. DeWolfe Howe, Parkman D. Howe, James M. Hunnewell, 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, Imric de Vegh, David P. Wheatland, Alexander M. White, and Harold T. White.

## PERSONNEL

AT Commencement 1953 John E. Shea, Superintendent of the Stack and the Henry Elkins Widener Memorial Building of the Harvard College Library, was awarded the honorary degree of Master of Arts, with the following citation: 'Superintendent of the stacks in the Harvard College Library, he has for many years helped scholars on their way to knowledge.'

Library appointments voted by the President and Fellows of Harvard College, with the consent of the Board of Overseers, effective 1 July and 1 August 1953, were as follows:

William B. Ernst, Jr, First Assistant in the Lamont Library (1 August)

Walter Grossmann, Specialist in Book Selection in the Harvard College Library (1 July)

Robert W. Lovett, Head of the Manuscript Division and Archives of Baker Library (1 July):

Roland H. Moody, Circulation Librarian in the Lamont Library, resigned as of 31 July 1953 to become Director of the Library of Northeastern University.

The retirement of Arthur C. Pulling as Director of the Law Library took place as of 31 August 1953. On 26 August, during the Diamond Jubilee of the American Bar Association, the following citation was presented to Mr Pulling by the Harvard Law School Association, in commemoration of his ten years' service as Director: 'His professional skill has preserved and expanded the treasury of learning which has been his charge;

his ingenuity has made the resources of scholarship increasingly accessible to those in search of knowledge; his tact has made the mechanism of a great library the helpful instrument of education.'

MATHEMATICS LIBRARY  
IN NEW QUARTERS

DURING the summer the Mathematics Library was moved from the Vanserg Building, where it has been housed since 1950, to new quarters of the Department of Mathematics in a part of the building of the Institute of Geographical Exploration, on Divinity Avenue. For some account of the location of the Mathematics Library prior to 1950 see this BULLETIN, IV (1950), 284.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

THE third in a series of *Guides to the Harvard Libraries*, entitled *Research Services in the Harvard College Library*, by David C. Weber, Assistant to the Librarian of Harvard College, was issued by the University Library in time for the opening of the fall term. Like its predecessors, this *Guide* is designed primarily for graduate students, but like them should also prove helpful to all other users of the Library, and particularly of course to newcomers, whether members of the faculty or visiting scholars. Copies of the new *Guide* may be purchased at the reference desk in the main reading room of Widener for \$.25 each. Copies of the first two *Guides*, *Economics and Business*, by Arthur H. Cole, and *Fine*

*Arts*, by E. Louise Lucas, are also available, at \$.50 each.

A *Farmington Plan Handbook*, by Edwin E. Williams, Chief of the Acquisition Department of the Harvard College Library, has been published this autumn by the Association of Research Libraries. The *Handbook* gives the history of the plan, explains its operations, and sets forth in detail the allocation of subjects among the participating libraries.<sup>1</sup> Copies, at \$2.50 each, may be obtained from the Office of the Executive Secretary, Association of Research Libraries, Indiana University Library, Bloomington, Indiana.

For some years an up-to-date list of

<sup>1</sup>For further information concerning the scope of the *Handbook* see pp. 370-374 above.

books for undergraduate study has been a desideratum. Early this year the Carnegie Corporation of New York, which had been concerned in the production of certain earlier lists, undertook to subsidize the publication, by inexpensive means, of the current holdings of the Lamont Library, thus providing a list not only up-to-date but with the new feature of representing an actual working collection rather than the theoretical selections of the past. The Lamont list, prepared by Philip J. McNiff, Assistant Librarian of the Harvard College Library in charge of the Lamont Library, in cooperation with members of the Lamont Library staff, has now been published by the Harvard University Press as *Catalogue of the Lamont Library*, at \$7.50 per copy.

## List of Contributors

- THOMAS H. JOHNSON, Chairman of the Department of English, The Lawrenceville School
- PAUL L. WARD, Professor of History, Carnegie Institute of Technology
- DMITRY CIZEVSKY, Lecturer on Slavic, Harvard University
- ROBERT F. METZDORF, Secretary to the Boswell Editorial Committee and Curator of Manuscripts, Yale University Library
- KEYES D. METCALF, Professor of Bibliography, Director of the Harvard University Library, and Librarian of Harvard College
- DAVID C. WEBER, Assistant to the Librarian of Harvard College
- JACOB BLANCK, Editor, Bibliography of American Literature
- WILLIAM H. BOND, Curator of Manuscripts in the Houghton Library, Harvard University
- LEROY C. BREUNIG, Associate Professor of French, Barnard College
- EDWIN E. WILLIAMS, Chief of the Acquisition Department of the Harvard College Library