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NOTES ON THE HARVARD LIBRARIES

RALPH THEODORE ESTERQUEST, 1912-1968

TEN YEARS of extraordinary achievement made up the Harvard career of Ralph Theodore Esterquest, Librarian of the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine, who died suddenly on 10 August 1968. In February 1958 Mr. Esterquest came to Harvard as Librarian of the Harvard Medical School, Dental School, and School of Public Health. Less than two years later the agreement was concluded to unite under one roof and one librarian the Boston Medical Library and Harvard's medical libraries. From the outset of his administration Mr. Esterquest had been planning the new building that was made possible by the generous gift of Miss Sanda Countway; beginning in January 1960 it was necessary to revise the plans in order to house two institutions instead of one, and to undertake the administrative and technical work of uniting two great collections. The Countway Library opened in 1965. Architecturally it has been acclaimed as one of the finest library buildings of recent years; as an institution serving teaching and research in medicine it has resources surpassed only by those of the National Library of Medicine, with which it has been cooperating closely in national library services and in automation. In 1967, under a program of regional services supported by the National Library of Medicine, Countway became the Regional Medical Library of New England.

Few librarians have had as much experience as Mr. Esterquest in cooperative library activities. In 1944, following graduation from Northwestern University, graduate work in librarianship at the University of Illinois, and three years as Sales Manager of the American Library Association's Publishing Department, he became Director of the Pacific Northwest Bibliographical Center in Seattle. As Assistant Director of the University of Denver Library from 1946 to 1949 he was involved in the Bibliographical Center for Research, and then, from 1949 until he came to Harvard, he was Director of the Midwest Inter-Library Center, which has since become the Center for Research Libraries. In 1953-54, as a Fulbright Senior Research Fellow in England, he studied interlibrary cooperation in the British Isles, and he was on leave from Harvard for the academic year 1967-68 to serve as Director of the International Relations Office of the American Library Association. In library cooperation at the regional, national, and international levels, as well as in the planning and organization of the Countway Library, he has left behind him genuinely enduring monuments.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Frank N. Bunker has been appointed Charles Warren Bibliographer in American History in the Harvard University Library. Mr. Bunker is a graduate of the School of Librarianship at the University of California, Los Angeles; his

undergraduate work was at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he has also earned an M.A., completed course work for the Ph.D. in American history, and served for four years as a teaching assistant. As Warren Bibliographer, responsible for development of Library collections in the field of American studies, Mr. Bunker succeeds the late John A. Riggs, who died in 1967.

Irene Christopher is the new librarian of the Gordon McKay Library of the Division of Engineering and Applied Physics. Miss Christopher, a graduate of Boston University and of the School of Library Science at Simmons College, has served successively as Head of the Circulation Department of the Chenery Library at Boston University, Chief Reference Librarian at the same institution, Director of the Emerson College Library, and Supervisor of Library Services of G. K. Hall & Co.

Mrs. Maria Woodman, who had been Librarian of the Gordon McKay Library since 1966, has transferred to a part-time appointment as Cataloguer in the Harvard College Library, where she will have particular responsibility for Dutch materials.

THE JOHN BARNARD ASSOCIATES AND THE WINSHIP LECTURES

THE NAME John Barnard Associates was chosen by a group of "members of Harvard College or persons sympathetically affiliated with its interests," to quote from *John Barnard and His Associates*, a small and elegant volume printed in 1927 by Bruce Rogers at the Harvard University Press. The announced objectives of the Associates were:

"To honor the memory of JOHN BARNARD, who loved books and did what he could for Harvard

"By meeting for the discussion of matters of mutual bookish interest; By holding exhibitions of books belonging to Harvard men or of especial Harvard interest; By printing catalogues, essays, or other writings which interest the members or which may serve to stimulate an interest in the objects of the association."

For a decade the John Barnard Associates flourished and did all of these things. Before the Associates ceased active participation in library affairs, more than one hundred men had been enrolled as members.

Behind the formation and promotion of the Associates stood George Parker Winship, '93, an extraordinary bookman who, after twenty years of illustrious service at the John Carter Brown Library in Providence, came in 1915 to Harvard, where he was Librarian of the Harry Elkins Widener Collection until he became Assistant Librarian in the Harvard College Library in 1926. His authoritative bibliographical writings were numerous, but in the long run the most important thing he did for the Harvard Library was to locate and to fire with enthusiasm a whole generation of Harvard collectors.

He knew that books, by and large, do not survive without the efforts of the private collector, and that libraries cannot thrive without the interest and sup-

port of collector-donors. In his associations and in the courses he gave at Harvard, Mr. Winship ferreted out with uncanny success young men and old who had within them the potential he sought. For the Harvard College Library, the result has been a continuing benefit of inestimable value for more than forty years, and the effects will be felt as long as the Library endures.

The John Barnard Associates were one of the means by which Mr. Winship captured and held the interest of able collectors for the ultimate benefit of the Library. To all intents and purposes their organized activities ceased thirty years ago; but in 1966 an Associate canvassed as many other members as possible in order to raise a fund for a series of lectures on appropriate topics, to be sponsored by the Houghton Library and entitled the George Parker Winship Lectures. It is not easy to find and communicate with the membership of an organization so long dormant, but the Associate carried on single-handed and with extraordinary success. Of eighty-two living Associates who could be located, more than half contributed, providing a capital sum large enough to inaugurate the Winship Lectures in the spring of 1968.

Accordingly, on 1 May 1968, in the presence of the Friends of the Harvard College Library, sundry John Barnard Associates including the originator of the fund, and members of the Winship family, the first George Parker Winship Lecture was delivered in the Lamont Forum Room by A. N. L. Munby, Librarian of King's College, Cambridge, and a leading authority on the history of book collecting. The audience greatly enjoyed Dr. Munby's paper, which is printed in this issue of the HARVARD LIBRARY BULLETIN. Other lectures will be scheduled from time to time, and it is hoped that eventually it will be possible to publish a collection of them as a volume of essays; as has been noted, it was an objective of the John Barnard Associates to print essays of this kind.

THE HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY ADDITION

A NOTE in the April 1968 issue of the BULLETIN reported the appointment of a Committee on the Harvard College Library Addition, which has undertaken the task of raising \$5,000,000 for construction of an underground addition in the area bounded by the Houghton and Lamont Libraries, Quincy Street, and the President's House. Substantial pledges and contributions have already been received. It should also be reported that the Committee now has an Executive Assistant, Mrs. Roderick Nordell, and that its membership is now as follows: Lamont du Pont Copeland, *Chairman*; Augustus P. Loring, *Vice Chairman*; G. Barry Bingham; Emilio G. Collado; John Elliott, Jr.; Francis Keppel; Bayard L. Kilgour, Jr.; Edward M. Lamont; David McCord; Donald M. Oenslager; Carl H. Pforzheimer, Jr.; Robert S. Pirie; Walter T. Ridder; John T. Sargent; Hermon D. Smith; Thomas W. Stephenson; Joseph S. Stern, Jr.; Arthur B. Tourtellot; and Arthur E. Vershbow.

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