NOTES ON THE HARVARD LIBRARIES

RETIREMENTS

Hilda E. Conlan has retired as Interlibrary Loan Librarian in the Harvard College Library after forty-eight years on the staff. Miss Conlan joined the Widener Circulation Department in 1924, subsequently headed the Periodical Room for a number of years, and had been in charge of interlibrary loans since 1960.

Helen E. Honey, Head of the Catalogue Department of Baker Library at the Graduate School of Business Administration, has retired after twenty-eight years at Harvard. Miss Honey came to the Widener Catalogue Department in 1944 from Connecticut University and went to Baker Library the following year.

Helen D. Willard has retired as Curator of the Theatre Collection in the Harvard College Library, a position she had held for twelve years. Before coming to the Library, Miss Willard had been associated with the Fogg Art Museum and with the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

OTHER PERSONNEL CHANGES

H. Gordon Buchanan has resigned as Associate University Librarian for Resources and Acquisitions and Member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in order to go to the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University of Virginia at Blacksburg as Assistant Director for Technical Services. Mr. Buchanan came to the Harvard Library in 1957. As head of the Personnel Office, one of his major contributions was development of the internship program. Since 1967 he has headed the Department of Resources and Acquisitions; he has also been active in library affairs nationally, particularly as a member of the American Library Association Committee on Accreditation.

Jeanne A. Broburg has been appointed Curator of the Farnsworth and Poetry Rooms in the Harvard College Library. She had served as Assistant Curator since 1955 under John L. Sweeney, who retired in 1969, and Professor Robert S. Fitzgerald.

Mary van Abbenhoven Chatfield is now Assistant Librarian for Technical Services at Baker Library of the Graduate School of Business Administration. Mrs. Chatfield came to the Widener staff as a reference librarian in 1961 and transferred to the reference staff at Baker two years later. In 1967 she became Head of the Acquisitions Department at Baker, and was on leave for 1971-72 while completing her work for the M.A. degree at the Harvard Business School.

Philip E. Leinbach became Assistant University Librarian for Personnel early in 1972. He came to the Department of Resources and Acquisitions in the Harvard College Library during 1964 and had been Specialist in Book Selection since 1967; during 1970-71 he was on leave in order to serve as Assistant Librarian at Queen Mary College of the University of London.
Margaret Karen Nelson, Mr. Leinbach’s predecessor as Assistant University Librarian for Personnel, resigned in January 1972, following her marriage to Professor Franklin Warren McFarlan of the Business School. Miss Nelson came to the Library staff in 1962 and completed an internship in 1966; she had been associated with the Personnel Office for more than eight years.

Jeanne T. Newlin succeeds Miss Willard as Curator of the Theatre Collection in the Harvard College Library. Miss Newlin had taught at Villanova, St. John’s University, and the City University of New York before she came to Harvard in 1968 as Assistant Curator of the Theatre Collection. She earned a doctorate from the City University of New York in 1971; her dissertation was on Trellis and Crossida, which was also the subject of an article she contributed to the October 1969 issue of the Harvard Library Bulletin.

Edward J. Peterson succeeds Miss Conlan as Interlibrary Loan Librarian; he came to Harvard in 1967 as Administrative Assistant for Cataloguing.

William H. Turk is now Head of the Catalogue and Data Processing Department of Baker Library at the Graduate School of Business Administration. Mr. Turk came to Harvard in 1970 as Head of Data Processing in the Baker Library.

THE MONROE C. GUTMAN LIBRARY-RESEARCH CENTER

Until 7 February 1972, when the Monroe C. Gutman Library-Research Center was opened, the Library of the Graduate School of Education had never occupied a building designed for it. Now, after 51 years in improvised accommodations, it is installed in a very attractive building on Appian Way, adjacent to Larsson and Longfellow Halls. With 92,000 square feet of floor space, the Gutman building comprises five levels, the first four for the Library and the fifth for faculty office and research facilities.

The glass and sandblasted concrete building opened with more than 100,000 volumes assembled from half a dozen scattered locations. Another 40,000 volumes will be transferred from Widener Library over the next two years. The Gutman Library also provides several special collections and services, including a collection of textbooks from the eighteenth through the early twentieth century; an Instructional Resources collection of teaching materials; an Urban Information Collection on urban and minority education; a file of some 4,000 educational tests; a Media Division with equipment and facilities for film, audiotape, videocassette, and related services; and some 60,000 documents on microfiche from the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC). Also available will be microfiche and microfilm readers and a coin-operated reader-printer. A recent gift of 100motion picture films has greatly expanded the Library’s film holdings.

The building provides a large number of study and teaching spaces. These include private study cubicles, primarily for advanced graduate students; unassigned study carrels; lockers for storage of personal belongings; and more than 200 other informal seating and reader spaces. In addition, the office floor provides more than 30 offices for faculty members and researchers, along with seminar, conference, and secretarial space.
The building is named for Monroe C. Gutman of the Harvard class of 1905, a New York investment banker and philanthropist who has been a generous supporter of Harvard for many years. Besides his gifts to the Gutman Library, his benefactions include the Monroe C. Gutman National Scholarships and the Gutman Professorship of Latin-American Affairs in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and support for research on social studies curriculum at the Graduate School of Education. The School also received a major Federal construction grant under Title II of the Higher Education Facilities Act.

The project, which cost $6,700,000, included the moving and restoration of Read and Nichols Houses, two historic frame buildings on the site, for use by the School. Benjamin Thompson and Associates of Cambridge were the architects. The contract for the Gutman building was awarded in February 1970 to the Jackson Construction Company of Needham, and included assurances of equal employment opportunities for black and other minority workers on all phases of the project.

THE JOHN G. WOLBACH LIBRARY AT THE OBSERVATORY

During February the library of the Harvard College Observatory occupied new quarters in the Perkin Building, a new structure designed by the Cambridge Seven and built at a cost of nearly $4,000,000 with the assistance of a grant from the National Science Foundation and a fund-raising campaign by the Observatory. The Perkin Building, which houses offices and laboratories as well as the library, links together all the facilities on Observatory Hill.

On the occasion of the move, the Corporation voted to name the library for John G. Wolbach, a member of the Harvard class of 1908, who has long been interested in the Astronomical Observatory and has been a contributor to its building fund. Harvard's research collection in astronomy has been housed for many years in the Phillips Library Room, named for Edward Bromfield Phillips, who left a major bequest to the Observatory in 1849. The auditorium in Building D will now perpetuate his name as the Phillips Auditorium.

KRESS LIBRARY REPORT

Evidence that a library report can be interesting and readable has been supplied once more by Kenneth E. Carpenter, Curator of the Kress Library of Business and Economics at the Harvard Business School. His Annual Report for 1970–71 answers, for the staff of a rare-book library, the question, "What do you do, exactly?" He writes, in part, as follows:

"After reading through a bookseller's catalog and noting likely candidates for purchase, a staff member determines whether Harvard already has the book. If not, we have to decide whether Harvard ought to have it. Is the book important? How does the book fit with our collection? Is the price right for this book for Kress? Sometimes extensive checking is required. We were offered a Vienna, 1801, edition of J. G. Fichte's Der geschlossene Handelsstaat. Although the first edition of 1800 was here, we wanted this one if the philos-
opher had revised it. This meant a trip to Widener to check Fichte's correspondence. The 1814 edition was not mentioned there, but it was also not cited anywhere else—not in the recent bibliography of Fichte or other major bibliographies. So we bought the book, because it contributes to our knowledge of the transmission of the great philosopher's thought. We then notified the editors of the new edition of Fichte at the Bavarian Academy of Sciences; this edition was unknown to them.

"If our order reaches the bookseller first, before the books we want are sold, they arrive in a month or two. Then it seems like Christmas, regardless of the date. After checking the books to make sure they are as described, we start cataloging. For the past two years the preliminary cataloging has been done by Mrs. Michael Farmer who has been very hard-working and efficient. She determines the correct name of the author and his birth and death dates, transcribes the title and imprint and describes the physical book, i.e. number of pages, plates, maps, etc.

"Sometimes this process is quite simple, because the author is well known, and the book appears in standard bibliographies. But such often seems to be the exception rather than the rule. Economic pamphlets are apt to be by little-known authors or anonymous and are not infrequently issued without date of publication. Time and the law of diminishing returns generally put limits on our efforts to obtain complete cataloging information, but sometimes persistence, knowledge of some obscure work, or plain luck leads to answers. . .

"After identifying the author, date, etc., and describing the book physically, one has to assign the subject headings under which cards will be filed. A card is typed by another assistant, Mrs. Richard McClintock, whose accurate attention to detail is invaluable. After checking the final typed card, it is reproduced, the various headings are typed on, and the cards are sorted for our catalog, the Union Catalog in Widener, and the National Union Catalog at the Library of Congress. The filing of cards in our catalog must be checked. Throughout the entire process the greatest possible accuracy must be maintained. This is true of all libraries, for errors or misplaced cards breed others and can also lead to the outlay of funds for duplicates.

"After the book has been catalogued, it goes to a student assistant, this past year Miss Diana Postlethwaite, a Radcliffe senior. She puts in a bookplate, oiled leather bindings, mends any tears, and finally shelves the book. . .

"When users do not ask a particular question, one often has to determine whether the person really knows exactly what he wants or whether he is fishing. Since most people are only too happy to talk about their research, we can often help discover their needs, find out how they have been proceeding, and then show them more efficient ways of locating pertinent sources.

"Partly with this purpose in view, the student assistant, especially, has been annotating certain bibliographies to indicate which books are in Kress. One result has been more work for all of us. The bibliographer often has information that was not available to us at the time a book was catalogued. For instance, hundreds of items need to be recataloged because L. W. Hanson,
Contemporary Printed Sources for British and Irish Economic History, 1701-1750 (1963) has often identified the author of an anonymous work, or dated more accurately an undated item. Correcting and recataloging them is no luxury for a library like Kress, but a necessity, since our bibliographical information is relied on.

“We also have recataloging resulting from transferring books from Baker or Widener... For instance, we found that Widener had an anonymous pamphlet from 1847, which was by Daniel Le Grand, the first advocate of international legislation for the protection of workers. Since we had just acquired three of his exceedingly rare pamphlets, we felt it best to transfer this one—the more so since it and one of the purchases are not recorded by the biographer of Le Grand or listed in the Bibliothèque Nationale’s catalog.

“Competing for time and attention are several thousand titles of the original Foxwell Collection which are yet to be catalogued. This backlog of works published between 1850 and 1900 must somehow be recorded and made available to scholars.”

Two fellowship programs, Mr. Carpenter reports, have been supported by the Kress Foundation. Exhibitions of the year included one on Latin American holdings, prepared with the assistance of Miss. James P. Baughman, one on 450 years of advocacy of decimal coinage (apropos of the British change-over), and one on German business and economic literature, 1500-1800, sponsored jointly with the German Center of Boston and prepared with the help of Professor Fritz Redlich. Further staff activities included publications, planning, continuing professional development, and the Curator’s work as a member of the University Library Study Committee on Professional Library Personnel.

Finally, Mr. Carpenter records the indebtedness of the Kress Library to booksellers, professors, librarians, and other readers and benefactors, particularly the Kress Foundation and Dr. Arthur H. Cole, retired Librarian of the Baker Library and Professor of Business Economics, Emeritus.
CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

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MARY HYDE, author and collector, collaborated with her husband, the late Donald F. Hyde, on several books and articles and in forming the private library of which the Harvard College Library published a three-volume catalogue in 1965: Catalogus Bibliothecae Hydelianae; The Hyde Collection of the Works of Samuel Johnson, comp. by J. D. Fleeman.

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