

The recommendations in order are:

1. The establishment of a New York library service authority.
2. The construction of an undergraduate college-oriented reference library at 42nd Street.
3. A program for interinstitutional library use for undergraduates and doctoral students and faculties.
4. A program of research into library activities in the area.
5. Improved utilization of paperback publications in connection with reserve collections at college libraries.
6. Identification of special subject advanced research level holdings and their designation as the advanced research centers under the 3 R program.
7. A site location study to select the optimum site or sites for the establishment of future college-oriented reference libraries.

Of these, the hortation for the use of paperbacks must be regarded as fatuous. The recommendation on interinstitutional use is idealistic but impractical and could be turned to use by those irresponsible administrators who have always regarded library cooperation as a device to let George and the New York public library handle their problems. The other recommendations are secondary to the prime suggestion for the establishment of a New York library service authority—on which recommendation the value of this report ultimately hangs.

This recommendation, to develop a private legal body, supported apart from any other institution in the city, headed by influential members of the community is the *pièce-de-resistance* of the report. Such an organization could provide the manpower and the facilities to implement decisions and recommendations made in concert by the libraries of the city, an element lacking in the history of previous cooperative efforts since no one institution could afford to carry on the involved time-absorbing operations which would be required in any situation as large and as complex as the library problems besetting the city. Such an establishment could also perform the necessary research and provide the leadership to develop needed cooperative programs on a pay-as-you-go basis, and could be devised

so as to conform to the proposed 3 R legislation so that city libraries would be prepared to step into the state-supported program. When the legislation is enacted, the authority could either dissolve into a regional body or help to bring such a body into existence and continue to work alongside it, each with different responsibilities. This recommendation is naturally the one which has fired the interest of the New York City librarians.

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Purdue University Libraries Attitude Survey: 1959-1960. Lafayette, Indiana: Purdue University Library Staff Association, 1964. 51p.

The results of the Purdue survey are both revealing and disappointing. Undergraduates, the group surveyed, possessed strongly favorable attitudes toward the Purdue University libraries, the university in general, and also toward the American library system—evidence of intellectual gerrymandering, or at least as the survey puts it “a social-culturally induced predisposition of the student to regard the institution favorably.” Furthermore, the strongly favorable attitude toward the Purdue libraries was independent of frequency of use and scholastic achievement and class in the university. Unfortunately, knowing a student’s attitude score toward one institution helped but little in inferring his attitude toward another specified institution.

On the basis of median values students ranked the card catalog first and the reference librarian fourth in a list of nine facilities. Readers are reminded that these are relative rankings and do not suggest the intrinsic worth of the facilities. Interestingly enough, the rankings of the nonfrequent users of the libraries paralleled the ranking of the frequent users.

Both the students and the Remmers-Kelly scale for measuring attitudes toward institutions seem insensitive. That the latter is true might have been expected by the surveyors since the scale has not been altogether well received. It is, however, a simple and