

Investigations and Research Projects in the Field of College Libraries¹

WE LIKE to think that research into problems of librarianship is both a scholarly and practical pursuit. By objective analysis of our problems we anticipate the skeletonizing or isolation of principles involved in librarianship and, perhaps, although it does not always happen, we apply the principles immediately to practical situations. About 20 years ago, when the Graduate Library School was just starting, there were some librarians who were skeptical of the value of research, especially the formalized research as carried on in an academic atmosphere. There are still some librarians who see little or no value in research, especially since they have not, as a result of research, been able to reduce library service costs, to increase efficiency, or to raise the reading level of their patrons. The critics have been apprehensive, and with some justification, that students would fail to do more than collect facts. The proponents of systematic research, whether in the library school or in some other academic department, have recognized this danger. They have also insisted that one of the real contributions of library research is to encourage and develop critical thinking about our problems. Have we been doing this? What are we learning about college library problems? What ways and means are being determined for the improvement of procedures leading to a more effective meeting of the demands upon the college library? It is the purpose of this paper to review what students and others have been doing in the way of studying problems which are of both scholarly and practical concern.

We can arbitrarily divide the research being done on a functional basis, and consider such problems as those related to organization and administration, personnel, finance, etc. Or, we can consider studies from a methodological base, such as historical, experimental, or prog-

nostic. For the purposes of this discussion it would seem that the functional approach would be more meaningful. The effort will be made, then, to show what research has been going on in the following areas of librarianship: foundations and historical backgrounds; general administrative problems; public relations and extension service; personnel; finance; relations of faculty and curriculum; selection and acquisition of printed materials; problems of nonprint materials; cataloging and classification; binding and conservation; circulation work, including inter-library loans; reference and bibliography; instruction in the use of the library; evaluation of collections and services; buildings and equipment; cooperation; and reading problems. Since *College and Research Libraries* has just celebrated its tenth anniversary, it seems fitting to limit studies to the past 10 years. It was not possible to examine every unpublished study, of course, so that some studies are merely mentioned to indicate the direction of investigation. Many of the published studies have been examined. An effort has been made to include those studies which have made a contribution to our knowledge of college librarianship, but there is no claim that all such studies have been noted. Sources include the Cole list in the *Library Quarterly*, the Charles' annotated list of Chicago studies, the current "Research in Progress in Librarianship," issued by Sarah R. Reed of the Graduate Library School, and *Library Literature*.

Foundations and Historical Backgrounds

Just as members of staffs of other social institutions have been interested in the beginnings of their enterprises, so have librarians. Several studies which may be classified as historical have been made during the past few years. Some have been concerned with libraries of particular states, while others are studies of specific institutions. Ruth E. Bo-

¹ Paper presented at the meeting of the College Libraries Section, A.C.R.L., Chicago, Jan. 27, 1950.

gart, for example, studied "College Library Developments in New York State during the Nineteenth Century,"² while N. O. Rush was concerned with college libraries in Maine.³ Frances L. Spain, in her study of "Libraries of South Carolina,"⁴ included material relating to college and university libraries. Among the specific studies are those by Stanley (Earlham College),⁵ Knighten (Southwestern Louisiana Institute),⁶ Krueger (Carroll College),⁷ Irwin (Iowa Wesleyan),⁸ and Engley (Amherst).⁹ It might be said that historical studies, even with the earlier ones by Shores,¹⁰ Storie,¹¹ Satterfield,¹² Duncan¹³ and Atkins¹⁴ are relatively few. Indeed, it might be said that the story of college librarianship in America still needs to be told. Among current studies is the one by T. S. Harding, who is studying "College Library Societies of the Nineteenth Century: Their Contributions to the Development of Academic Libraries" (Chicago).

Of what value are such studies, in addition to giving students an exercise in writing about a relevant historical subject? Experience of surveyors of libraries has generally proved it necessary to delve into the history of the institution and its library in order to explain current situations. The historical sections of the surveys of South Carolina, Cornell, V.P.I., A.P.I., Florida, Georgia and other libraries clearly show the factors which have resulted in difficult library situations. A systematic historical study of a library, therefore, has not only scholarly value in pinning down the

facts regarding a particular institution, but it adds to the total picture of college library development in America. More studies of this kind need to be encouraged, although it is admitted that unless they are in survey category, and consider current questions, they are likely to have little direct application to immediate administrative problems.

General Administrative Problems

In *The University Library*, the statement is made that "The controversies which center about certain types of administrative organization of libraries will not be settled until systematic study is made of the efficiency of existing patterns."¹⁵ There has apparently been very little systematic study of over-all problems of organization and administration. Guy R. Lyle's book on *The Administration of the College Library*,¹⁶ now in its second edition, has been a useful contribution in summarizing and evaluating data as well as in providing some new information concerning the management of the college library. Intensive studies of special problems of organization and administration, however, are limited to such investigations as Felix Reichmann's "The Location of Books on the College Campus,"¹⁷ Elizabeth F. Kientzle's "Study of Administrator and Library Committee Relationships in College and University Libraries,"¹⁸ Taisto Niemi's "Problems and Considerations Connected with the Inception of a Science Departmental Library at Western Michigan College of Education,"¹⁹ and Eli Oboler's "The Process Chart as a Management Device for College and University Libraries: with Special Reference to Circulation Routines."²⁰

A number of college librarians have followed the pattern which is being established in university and large public libraries in dividing their organizations into readers' and technical services divisions. Joseph L. Cohen's study of "The Technical Services Division in Libraries"²¹ has already revealed that there are many unresolved problems in this type of library organization.

² M. S., Columbia, 1948.

³ "A History of College Libraries in Maine." M.S., Columbia, 1945.

⁴ Ph.D., Chicago, 1944.

⁵ Stanley, Ellen M. "The History of the Earlham College Library." M.A., Illinois, 1947.

⁶ Knighten, Loma. "History of the Southwestern Louisiana Institute Library, 1900-1948." M.S., Columbia, 1950.

⁷ Krueger, Hannah. "History of Carroll College Library." M.A., Chicago, 1943.

⁸ Irwin, Maurine. "History of Iowa Wesleyan University Library." M.A., California, 1941.

⁹ Engley, Donald. "The Emergence of the Amherst College Library, 1821-1911." M.A., Chicago, 1947.

¹⁰ Shores, Louis. *Origins of the American College Library, 1638-1800.* Nashville, George Peabody College, 1934.

¹¹ Storie, C. P. "What Contributions Did the American College Society Make to the College Library?" M.S., Columbia, 1938.

¹² Satterfield, V. "The History of College Libraries in Georgia as Interpreted from the Study of Seven Selected Libraries." M.S., Columbia, 1936.

¹³ Duncan, R. B. "A History of George Peabody College Library, 1785-1910." M.A., George Peabody College, 1940.

¹⁴ Atkins, Eliza. "A History of Fisk University Library and Its Standing in Relation to Other Comparable Institutions." M.A., California, 1930.

¹⁵ Wilson, L. R., and Tauber, M. F. *The University Library.* Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1945, p. 337.

¹⁶ New York, H. W. Wilson, 1949.

¹⁷ M.A., Chicago, 1942.

¹⁸ M.A., Denver, 1948.

¹⁹ M.A., Denver, 1948.

²⁰ M.A., Chicago, 1949.

²¹ In process, Columbia.

Public Relations and Extension Service

Although college librarians are concerned with the problems of public relations, few studies in this area have been carried on intensively. The survey made by Barcus in 1946²² included many of the aspects of a public relations program. A recent study by Williams was concerned with "College Library Publications as Media for Public Relations."²³ Agnes Reagan made a detailed study of the incidence and problems of college library exhibits.²⁴ While university libraries and land-grant college libraries have been included in a few studies relating to extension work (e.g., H. E. Helmrich, "Relationship of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges in the Pacific Northwest to State-Wide Library Service," M.S., Columbia, 1939; Mildred H. Lowell, *College and University Library Consolidations*, Eugene, Oregon State System of Higher Education, 1942; and J. G. Hodgson, "Rural Reading Matter as Provided by Land-Grant Colleges and Libraries," Ph.D., Chicago, 1946) there have been no systematic investigations of the service in the liberal arts college library as a separate entity. A few reading studies, commented upon in a later section, include work with alumni.

Personnel

Studies of personnel problems include investigations of the work of student assistants,²⁵ the activities of librarians in Mississippi,²⁶ the reading of librarians,²⁷ staffs in Negro colleges,²⁸ academic status of Negro college librarians,²⁹ retirement plans,³⁰ worker morale

among college catalogers,³¹ and faculty rank of college and university librarians.³² The last mentioned study, by Frank A. Lundy, is a detailed study of present practice in 35 college and university libraries. In addition to presenting new material gathered through correspondence, it is also a summary of a number of studies of personnel made in individual institutions. Undoubtedly, the Bryan study of public librarians (a report of the Public Library Inquiry) will contain suggestions which will be applicable to academic librarians.

Finance

Investigations of problems in financing of the college library have dealt with comparative statistics,³³ administration of book funds,³⁴ budgets of Negro college libraries,³⁵ and records.³⁶ The effort to develop standards of library support, based on certain criteria, continues although libraries are having a more difficult time with appropriating bodies.³⁷ Several of the university and land-grant college library surveys contain material on financial problems which should be useful to college librarians. On the whole, however, it might be said that research into problems of finance has been relatively meager. Knapp's study³⁸ of costs in a preparation department of a college library is an example of the type of project that other individual li-

²² Barcus, T. R. "Incidental Duties of the College Librarian," *College and Research Libraries*, 7:14-23, January 1946.

²³ Williams, Dagny H. "College Library Publications as Media for Public Relations." M.A., Denver, 1948.

²⁴ Reagan, Agnes. "College Library Exhibits: An Investigation and Report," *College and Research Libraries*, 5:246-58, June 1944.

²⁵ Oberheim, Grace M. "Predicting Success of Student Assistants in College Library Work." M.S., Columbia, 1941. Also Brown, Helen M., "Conditions Contributing to the Efficient Service of Student Assistants in a Selected Group of College Libraries."

²⁶ Harkins, Anna E. "The Activities of Librarians in the Universities and Senior Colleges of the State of Mississippi." M.S., Columbia, 1943.

²⁷ Hotaling, Donald O. "Reading Patterns of College and University Librarians." M.S., Columbia, 1948.

²⁸ Hutton, Leonelle M. "Library Personnel in Negro Colleges." M.A., Chicago, 1948.

²⁹ Copeland, Emily A. "Academic Status of Librarians in Institutions of Higher Education for Negroes." M.S., Columbia, 1948.

³⁰ Stieg, Lewis F. "Retirement Plans for College and University Librarians," *College and Research Libraries*, 11:10-16, January 1950.

³¹ Herrick, Mary D. "Status of Worker Morale among College Catalogers," *College and Research Libraries*, 11:33-39, January 1950.

³² "Faculty Rank of Professional Librarians." M.L.S., California, 1948. See also Gelfand, Morris A. "The College Librarian in the Academic Community," *College and Research Libraries*, 10:129-34, April 1949.

³³ Strauss, Lovell H. "The Liberal Arts College Library, 1929-1940; A Comparative Interpretation of Financial Statistics of Sixty-Eight Representative and Twenty Selected Liberal Arts College Libraries." M.A., Chicago, 1942.

³⁴ Muller, Hans. "The Administration of Book Funds in College Libraries." M.A., Chicago, 1941. See also Ellsworth, R. E. "Survey of Current Practices in Colleges and Universities with Respect to Management of Book Funds," *College and Research Libraries*, 3:252-54, June 1942.

³⁵ Peters, Wilk S. "Library Budgets in Negro Colleges." M.S., Columbia, 1941.

³⁶ Trent, Robert M. "Financial Records of College Libraries." M.S., Columbia, 1939. (Although dated 1939, this is one of the important studies of financial problems of college libraries.)

³⁷ A.L.A. Board on Salaries, Staff and Tenure. Subcommittee on Budgets, Compensation and Schemes of Service. *Classification and Pay Plans for Institutions of Higher Education*, 2nd ed., vol. II, "Degree-conferring Four Year Institutions." Chicago, A.L.A., 1947. See also Carlson, William H., chairman. *College and University Libraries and Librarianship; An Examination of Their Present Status and Some Proposals for Their Future*. Chicago, A.L.A., 1946.

³⁸ Knapp, Patricia B. "A Cost Study of the Preparation Department of a Small College Library," *Library Quarterly*, 13:335-37, October 1943.

braries probably have carried on in order to justify expenditures.

Relations of Faculty and Curriculum

Efforts on the part of students to study the library's relations to the educational program have also been few, despite the importance of the problem. Hagan, for example, studied the "Libraries of Six Liberal Arts Colleges Operating under Progressive Education Programs,"³⁹ while Coleman was concerned with "Changes Needed in the Library of a Small Liberal Arts College to Meet the Needs of the New Curriculum."⁴⁰ Wray approached the problem from the standpoint of holdings.⁴¹ Sister Rose Warburton examined the literature on the question of the "Attitude of the Educator towards the College Library."⁴²

Selection and Acquisition of Printed Materials

While almost any study of library materials—books, periodicals, pamphlets and other forms—should be potentially significant to all librarians, special efforts have been made by students of college libraries to investigate problems related to the building up of collections. At Columbia, a series of studies has been made concerning reviewing in periodicals in certain subject fields—food and nutrition,⁴³ biology,⁴⁴ political science,⁴⁵ classics,⁴⁶ music,⁴⁷ English and American literature,⁴⁸ economics,⁴⁹ higher education,⁵⁰ technology,⁵¹ philosophy,⁵² and general works⁵³—

³⁹ Hagan, Helen. M.A., Columbia, 1941.

⁴⁰ Coleman, L. Zenobia. M.A., Columbia, 1943.

⁴¹ Wray, Carolyn. "Coordination of Library Holdings with Curriculum at Gardner-Webb College." M.A., Peabody, 1948.

⁴² M.A., Chicago, 1945.

⁴³ Cullipher, Martha R. "Book Reviewing Adequacy for College Library Book Selection of Certain Technical Periodicals Relating to Foods and Nutrition." M.S., Columbia, 1939.

⁴⁴ Doggett, Marguerite V. "Extent to Which the Book Reviews in Certain Biological Journals Meet the Needs of College Library Book Selection." M.S., Columbia, 1940.

⁴⁵ Henry, Eugenia M. "Book Reviewing Adequacy of Some American Journals of Political Science." M.S., Columbia, 1939.

⁴⁶ Sister Jane Frances. "Book Reviewing Adequacy of Certain Classical Periodicals for College Library Book Collections." M.S., Columbia, 1939.

⁴⁷ Hawkins, Jane S. "Book Reviewing Adequacy of Certain Musical Journals for College Library Book Selection." M.S., Columbia, 1941.

⁴⁸ Kogan, Marie J. "Value of Book Reviews of English and American Literature for College Library Book Selection." M.S., Columbia, 1941.

⁴⁹ Rogers, Mary E. "Book Reviewing Adequacy of Certain Economic Periodicals for Use in College Library Book Selection." M.S., Columbia, 1942.

⁵⁰ Steele, Rea J. "Book Reviewing Adequacy of Certain Periodicals in the Field of Higher Education." M.S., Columbia, 1940.

⁵¹ Whitford, Robert H. "Evaluation of Certain Technical Reviewing Media as Book Selection Aids

for book selection purposes for college libraries. How much college librarians have used these studies—they represent a type of study that requires periodic revision—is a question which needs to be answered by a separate study. Essentially, the methodology is to examine reviews in a group of periodicals in a special subject field and appraise them on the basis of certain criteria of evaluation.

Another approach to book selection has been through analysis of publications. This has been done by considering book usage,⁵⁴ or selecting lists of books on the basis of minimal needs,⁵⁵ or for background purposes,⁵⁶ or for the requirements of certain college libraries.⁵⁷ Again, these studies will have a certain value for the time when they appear. It should be pointed out that these studies, as well as those of book reviewing adequacy, tend to add little in the way of new approaches to studying library problems. They fall within the category of critical bibliography.

In addition to these studies dealing with the selection of books, there has also been some interest in the collecting of such materials as serials in the field of sociology,⁵⁸ chemical engineering periodicals,⁵⁹ and maps.⁶⁰ A number of similar studies were made prior to the period being covered by this review. Insofar as acquisitions administration is concerned, three recent Columbia studies may be noted. These are Lena Biancardo's "Desiderata Files in College and University Libraries," (1950); A. F. Lane's "Exchange Work in College and University Libraries," (1950); and R. W. Christ's "Acquisition Work in Ten College Libraries," (1948).

in a College Technology Library." M.S., Columbia, 1939.

⁵² Maxfield, D. K. "The Adequacy of the Reviews of Certain Journals of Philosophy for Book Selection in College Libraries." M.A., Columbia, 1946.

⁵³ Boyce, Margaret. "Book Reviewing Adequacy of Certain Literary Journals for College Library Book Selection." M.S., Columbia, 1939.

⁵⁴ Blackney, Anna L. "Principles of Book Selection Based on an Analysis of Book Usage in a Liberal Arts College." M.A., Chicago, 1941.

⁵⁵ Dunn, Sister Helen. "Minimum Basic List of Spanish Books for the Four Year Liberal Arts College." M.A., Columbia, 1940.

⁵⁶ Marie L. Celine, Sister. "Background Books in the Biological Sciences for the First Two Years of Liberal Arts Colleges." M.A., Columbia, 1945.

⁵⁷ Moll, Boniface E. "Basic List of Books in Sociology for Catholic Liberal Arts Colleges." M.S., Columbia, 1942.

⁵⁸ Ganfield, Jane. "The Most Desirable Serials in the Field of Sociology for a Four Year Liberal Arts College Library." M.A., Columbia, 1943.

⁵⁹ Smith, Maurice H. "Selection of Chemical Education Periodicals in the College Library." M.A., Columbia, 1942.

⁶⁰ Riesner, Marianna. "The Acquisition of Map Material for a College Library." M.A., Illinois, 1948.

Problems of Nonprint Materials

Examination of periodical literature will reveal the presence of a large number of articles on the treatment of nonprint materials. There are few intensive studies of the problems created by these materials, however. In addition to an early study on the handling of serials,⁶¹ recent theses have investigated the problems of educational films and records,⁶² and the distribution of microfilm in libraries in Ohio.⁶³

Cataloging and Classification

Under the heading of general administrative policy in cataloging, we have studies dealing with centralization of work,⁶⁴ size of staffs,⁶⁵ and satisfaction of catalogers in their work.⁶⁶ The various studies at the Library of Congress by Lucile Morsch and others have definite applications to problems of cataloging in college libraries. A number of students have been concerned with the characteristics of the card catalog, including such aspects as the methods of indicating serials holdings,⁶⁷ the practice of making analytics,⁶⁸ and the division of the catalog.⁶⁹ Another study has been made of the content and use of the shelflist.⁷⁰ The investigation by Knapp is the only recent intensive study we have of the use of the card catalog in the college library.⁷¹ Studies by A. E. Markley, L. C. Merritt and W. H. Brett, now in progress at the University of California, will probably

⁶¹ Rothman, F. B., and Ditzion, S. "Prevailing Practices in Handling Serials," *College and Research Libraries*, 1:165-69, March 1940. Summary of a longer study.

⁶² Grass, Sister Mary Winifred. "The Administration, Organization, and Distribution of Educational Films and Recordings in College Libraries." M.S., Columbia, 1947.

⁶³ Cornell, George. "A Survey of Microfilm in Some Ohio College and University Libraries." M.A., Western Reserve, 1949.

⁶⁴ Dickson, Janet S. "Centralized Cataloging in College and University Libraries." M.S., Columbia, 1948.

⁶⁵ Dean, Hazel. "Size of Cataloging Staffs in Academic Libraries," *College and Research Libraries*, 7:52-57, January 1946.

⁶⁶ Herrick, Mary D. "Status of Worker Morale among College Catalogers," *College and Research Libraries*, 11:33-39, January 1950.

⁶⁷ Wimersberger, Evelyn G. "Methods of Indicating Serial Holdings in the Catalogs of College and University Libraries." M.S., Columbia, 1939.

⁶⁸ Meyer, Jean E. "Policy and Practice of Making of Analytics in the Catalogs of Medium-Sized College and University Libraries in New England and the Middle Atlantic States." M.S., Columbia, 1945.

⁶⁹ Thom, Ian W. "The Divided Catalog in College and University Libraries." M.S., Columbia, 1948.

⁷⁰ Wallach, Eileen L. "The Content and Present Use of the Shelflist in the Small College Library." M.S., Columbia, 1943.

⁷¹ Knapp, Patricia B. "The Subject Catalog in the College Library: An Investigation of Terminology." M.A., Chicago, 1943.

provide new insights into problems relating to the use of the catalog, though on a university level.

Actually, little study has been made of problems of classification. One student has assembled information about special classifications in college and university libraries.⁷² The problem of recataloging and reclassification in college and university libraries was also considered.⁷³

Binding and Conservation

Although binding and conservation of materials are becoming more and more serious problems for librarians, the only study prepared during the period is Margaret H. Hughes' "Periodical Binding Schedules of Improved Reader Service in University and College Libraries."⁷⁴

Circulation Work

Aspects of circulation work considered by students include general studies of use,⁷⁵ the lending of pictures to college students,⁷⁶ application of microfilm to interlibrary loan,⁷⁷ and problems of the reserve book room.⁷⁸ College librarians, like public librarians, have become keenly interested in the application of machine methods, electrically operated or photographic, in circulation work. Comparative studies of these machines have not been made by librarians.

Reference and Bibliography

In the area of reference and bibliography, it may be repeated that with a few exceptions practically any study, on any academic level, should have potential value for the college librarian as he deals with his students and faculty members. Some of the library schools, especially Denver, have encouraged the preparation of bibliographies. These seldom get into print, however. It might be suggested that there be established some publication,

⁷² Scott, Mary E. "Special Classifications in Medium Sized College and University Libraries." M.S., Columbia, 1943.

⁷³ Tauber, M. F. "Recataloging and Reclassification of Materials in College and University Libraries." Ph.D., Chicago, 1941.

⁷⁴ M.S., Columbia, 1949.

⁷⁵ Steig, Lewis F. "Circulation Records and the Study of College-Library Use," *Library Quarterly*, 12:94-108, January 1942.

⁷⁶ Whitten, Joseph N. "Picture Loans to College Students for Their Personal Use." M.S., Columbia, 1949.

⁷⁷ Leonard, Richard. "A Study of the Application of Microfilm to Interlibrary Loans in College and University Libraries." M.A., Denver, 1949.

⁷⁸ Lansberg, William R. "Current Trends in the Reserve Book Room." Paper, Simmons, 1949.

either print, offset or other photographic reproduction, to provide access to such studies.

Although there have been several studies relating to reference work,⁷⁹ the only study directly relating to reference work in the college library is Frances Cheney's "The Reference Function of the Southern College Library" (Peabody, 1949).

Instruction in the Use of the Library

Allied to reference work is the problem of instruction in the use of the library. Two studies in this area may be called to your attention. The first is Ann Conway's "Readers' Advisory Work in the Liberal Arts College,"⁸⁰ and the second, Johanna B. Smith's "Library Instruction in Liberal Arts Colleges."⁸¹ On the basis of articles which have appeared in the literature it would seem that this particular aspect of college library service could be subjected to a thorough examination.

Evaluation of Collections and Services

In a preceding section, attention was given to the appraisal of materials in the selecting process of the library. In addition to the relatively large number of such studies, there have been several investigations of college library holdings which might be noted. These include studies of collections in philosophy,⁸² education⁸³ and sociology,⁸⁴ as well as examinations of recent noncurricular books⁸⁵ and current publications received by college libraries.⁸⁶ Such reports as that by Rugg,⁸⁷ "Modern Authors in New England College Libraries," provide helpful information to librarians without necessarily involving evaluation.

The several surveys of libraries, of course, provide information to librarians of what particular institutions have been doing in their collecting activities. Similarly, they also pro-

vide evaluations of services. Several surveys of particular institutions which have appeared in *College and Research Libraries* give other estimates of collections and services.

Checklists issued by the various accrediting associations have been used constantly by college librarians in developing their collections. Eileen M. Thornton has prepared a study which seeks to re-evaluate the North Central Association checklist holdings of a group of college libraries by weighted values instead of by a numerical count.⁸⁸ This study represents a distinct departure in the approach to checklists. Gosnell⁸⁹ and Stieg⁹⁰ have analyzed problems of obsolescence and evaluation by use, respectively.

Buildings and Equipment

In the matter of library buildings, one may find in the literature a large number of descriptions of individual libraries, as well as statements concerning new ideas and principles of construction. In 1946, Reynolds made a study of university library buildings in the United States (1890-1939).⁹¹ Earlier, Andrews considered trends in college library buildings,⁹² and Buchanan studied library buildings of teachers colleges.⁹³ The Chicago Institute of 1947 contained a number of papers which have application to college libraries as well as to other types of libraries.⁹⁴ This is also true of the recent book by Burchard and others.⁹⁵ Undoubtedly, we have not reached the end of studies of buildings.

Few studies of equipment have appeared. The use of photographic and other equipment in circulation work has resulted in a number of articles in journals. At the present time, a study by Blasingame on the use of I.B.M. equipment in libraries is under way,⁹⁶ while McGaw is investigating the use and applica-

⁷⁹ For example: Cole, Dorothy E. "An Analysis of Adult Reference Work in Libraries." M.A., Chicago, 1943.

⁸⁰ M.A., Denver, 1948.

⁸¹ M.A., Western Reserve, 1949.

⁸² Falvey, Daniel P. "Survey of Holdings in Philosophy of Representative College Libraries, with an Authoritative List of Books in the Field." M.S., Columbia, 1940.

⁸³ Berry, Leona. "A Survey of the Education Collection of the Mary Reed Library of the University of Denver." M.A., Denver, 1949.

⁸⁴ Logsdon, R. H. "The Instructional Literature of Sociology and the Administration of College Library Book Collections." Ph.D., Chicago, 1942.

⁸⁵ Hoskinson, Alice L. "Recent Non-curricular Books in College Libraries." M.A., Chicago, 1943.

⁸⁶ Krehbiel, Leona G. "Current Publications and College Library Accessions." M.A., Chicago, 1941.

⁸⁷ *College and Research Libraries*, 6:54-57, December 1944.

⁸⁸ Thornton, Eileen M. "The North Central Association on Check-list: Some Experiments in Its Application." M.A., Chicago, 1945.

⁸⁹ Gosnell, Charles F. "Obsolescence of Books in College Libraries." *College and Research Libraries*, 5:115-25, March 1944.

⁹⁰ Stieg, L. F. "Technique for Evaluating the College Library Book Collection." *Library Quarterly*, 13:33-34, January, 1943.

⁹¹ Reynolds, H. M. "University Library Buildings in the United States, 1890-1939." M.A., Illinois, 1946.

⁹² Andrews, Thelma. "Trends in College Library Buildings." M.A., Chicago, 1945.

⁹³ Buchanan, Lillian M. "Library Buildings of Teachers Colleges, 1932-1942." M.A., Columbia, 1944.

⁹⁴ Fussler, H. H., ed. *Library Buildings for Library Service*. Chicago, A.L.A., 1948.

⁹⁵ Burchard, J. E., etc. *Planning the University Library Building*. Princeton, Princeton University Press, 1949.

⁹⁶ Blasingame, Ralph U. "The Applications of I.B.M. in Libraries." (In process at Columbia.)

tion of marginal punched cards in college and university libraries.⁹⁷

Cooperation

Aspects of cooperation are included in specialization in acquisitions programs, in contributions to union catalogs and bibliographic centers, in interlibrary lending, and regional coordination.⁹⁸ *College and Research Libraries* has during the past 10 years published articles in all of these areas. While they have not been exhaustive, they have added to our knowledge of the various activities and opportunities in cooperation. College libraries in the New York metropolitan area have been participating in discussions on cooperation held during the past three years.

Reading Problems

Under the rubric of reading problems may be listed studies relating to both reading and other use of the library. Among recent studies are those which involve students as a group,⁹⁹ freshmen,¹⁰⁰ women students,¹⁰¹ alumnae,¹⁰² and faculty members.¹⁰³ The use

of reading material as a factor in attitudes of college students concerning social problems was also investigated.¹⁰⁴ Primarily, the methodology of the reading studies is the analysis of circulation records or the manipulation of data obtained through questionnaire and interview.

Summary

This review of studies of the last 10 years is concerned with more than 100 studies which have been made of problems concerning the liberal arts college library. Another 50 or so studies could be added if the teachers college libraries, junior college libraries, and university libraries were included. These figures exclude the numerous bibliographical studies of a descriptive and enumerative type. Historical studies, and investigations of problems of personnel, collections and use predominate.

One final word on methodology is pertinent. Many of the studies have been carried on through the device of obtaining data by questionnaires. Many college and other librarians are annoyed by the never-ending questionnaires and checklists which come to them from students working on theses and dissertations. Librarians interested in substantial answers to questions disturbing them also need to use the questionnaire to obtain information. Correctly used, however, the questionnaire is an appropriate instrument for gathering data.

On the basis of queries which have been noted, there seem to be some librarians who apparently have not taken full advantage of many of the studies made. The need for dissemination of findings of studies of general interest has been emphasized by the Committee on Research of the Association of American Library Schools. So far as possible, studies are listed in *College and Research Libraries*, and an effort is made to present in partial form some of the studies. Other library periodicals also contain reports of studies of college library problems. The A.C.R.L. office in Chicago has been collecting significant documents reflecting current practices in college, university and reference libraries, available on loan to members of A.C.R.L. A résumé of the materials collected, prepared by Orwin Rush, appears in this issue of *College and Research Libraries*.

¹⁰⁴ Gordon, Edna C. "Reading Materials as a Factor in the Attitudes of College Students concerning Certain Social Problems." M.S., Columbia, 1948.

⁹⁷ McGaw, Howard F. "Marginal Punched Cards—Their Use in College and University Libraries." (Ed.D., in process at Columbia Teachers College.)

⁹⁸ Hoole, W. S. "Library Cooperation in the North Texas Region," *College and Research Libraries*, 5: 327-30, September 1944; Sampley, A. M. "Five Years of Library Cooperation in the North Texas Region," *College and Research Libraries*, 10:24-26, 68, January 1949.

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