

THE REDEDICATION PAPERS

From modest beginnings in 1913, when all the books could be kept in a single case, the Rice Library grew until it had filled the rooms assigned to it in the Administration Building and many others beside. The construction of a library building was necessarily delayed by the priorities of the Second World War, but a cornerstone was laid in 1947, and the Fondren Library of the Rice Institute was opened two years later.

The rated capacity of the new building was 600,000 volumes, to be reached in an expected twenty years, and these estimates proved to be remarkably accurate. A new wing, called the Graduate Research Addition, was opened in the fall of 1968; this facility doubles the Fondren Library's capacities in all lines: for readers, for books, for processing, and for specialized services such as maps, music, and microfilms.

The new construction was made possible by grants from the Fondren Foundation, the United States Government, and private donations. This expanded library of Rice University was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies during the month of April, 1969, and the major papers and speeches delivered on that occasion are presented in this volume of the *Rice University Studies*.

The Dedication Address itself was delivered by Dr. Merrimon Cuninggim of the Danforth Foundation. This paper appears first in the volume, the others being printed in alphabetical order under the author's name.

Dr. David Kaser, Mr. Frank M. LeBar, Mr. George M. Bailey, Professor Howard L. Resnikoff, and Mr. M. Zane Thornton, all of them in the front of library and research activity, add their contributions to an understanding of the present state of the library art and their suggestions for its development. Professor Doralyn Hickey, who was present at the same time on the campus for a regional seminar on the MARC (Machine-Readable Cataloging) Project of the American Library Association and the Library of Congress, contributes a timely discussion of humanization and mechanization in modern library practice. Professor R. H. Super of Michigan shows how extensive are the library materials

necessary for a piece of research and discusses the limitations of microphotography in satisfying such needs.

The papers which follow then, although of a nontechnical nature, will assist in an understanding of libraries in an era when miracles are expected from machines and some are even performed, as well as bringing into proper perspective the values of traditional procedures and of the human beings who use and manage libraries today.

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(UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN, 1953-68)