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# Special Libraries

ADELAIDE R. HASSE, Editor,  
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No. 1

## The Metric System

*This list was compiled under the direction of Dr. H. H. B. Meyer, Chief Bibliographer of the Library of Congress. The actual compilation and the wording of the notes are the work of Miss Anne L. Raden. The list has had the advantage of revision by Dr. H. D. Hubbard of the Bureau of Standards who has devoted much study to the subject. Responsibility for the final exclusion of any item rests with Dr. H. H. B. Meyer.*

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Suggests that the introduction of the metric system would not necessarily involve an alteration of the dimensions of machine parts.

— Metric system and international trade. (Nature, Oct. 7, 1920, v. 106: 169-170.)

Argues the benefits of the metric system to trade.

American chamber of commerce in Paris. Answers to objections to the metric system. Washington, D. C., 1903. 17 p.

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— Metric weights and measures, 3d ed. N. Y., Amer. metric association, 1919, 15 p.

American metric association issues a mimeographed bulletin under the title of Metric news, which contains information on the progress in the metric world.

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"The object of this Bureau shall be to disseminate information concerning the metric system; to urge its early adoption; and to bring about actual introduction wherever practicable"

American metrological society. Bulletin of the American metrological society. First session, December 30, 1873, at Columbia college, N. Y. [N. Y.? 1874?] [6] p. 28½cm.

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— Bulletin of the American metrological society. Organized December 30, 1873. Officers, committees, constitution and by-laws. N. Y., Gregory bros., 1882. [11] p. 22½cm.

— A few reasons why the metric system of weights and measures should be adopted in the United States. New York, 1893. 4 p.

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Anthony, E. Metric system. (Westminster review, Feb., 1905, v. 163: 139-147.)

"Error to believe that metrics is a matter for experts alone"

Arnold-Foster, Hugh O. The coming of the kilogram, or The battle of the standards. A plea for the adoption of the metric system of weights and measures. 3d ed. London, Paris, N. Y., & Melbourne, Cassell and co.,

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Army, H. V. The metric system in everyday life. (Sci. mo., Mar., 1917, v. 4: 202-206.)

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Bell, Alexander Graham. The metric system. An explanation of the reasons why the United States should abandon its heterogeneous system of weights and measures. Washington, Press of Judd & Detweiler, inc., 1906. [158]-169 p. 25½cm.

Reprinted from the National geographic magazine, March, 1906

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Bell, Louis. [A review of Frederick A. Halsey's, The metric fallacy.] (Electrical world and engineer, Nov. 5, 1904, v. 44: 784-785.)

Argues against the views of Mr. Halsey and points out the ways in which the metric system will be a benefit and not a detriment especially to industry.

Bill to fix the metric system of weights and measures as the single standard for weights and measures. [text]. (School science and mathematics, Mar., 1921, v. 21: 251-253.)

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Report of a committee of the society, draft of a memorial to Congress upon the metric system, and list of references

"If we appreciate the advantages of having one system throughout the civilized world, our first work is to adopt the metric."

— Practical steps remaining to be taken in completing the abandonment of ancient customary units by the substitution of the metric system of weights and measures. Its Jol., Sept., 1916, v. 3, no. 7: 376-403.

— Report of standing committee on the metric system of weights and measures. December, 1876. Boston, Press of Rockwell and Churchill, 1876. 12 p. 23cm.

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Briggs, C. A. The metric system. Some direct applications to practical problems. (Sci. Amer. suppl., Sept. 8, 1917, v. 84: 149-150.)

"In the conduct of the European War ... the metric system is admitted by England to give Germany a very important advantage in getting the highest industrial efficiency"

British association of chambers of commerce for an international agreement on the metric system. (Americas, Apr. 22, 1917, v. 3: 22.)

Brooks, Frederick and others. Pan-American use of the metric system. (Boston society of civil engineers. Jol., Sept., 1916, v. 3: 377-403.)

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**Brown, Samuel.** An account of the plan, objects, and progress of the International association for obtaining a uniform decimal system of measures, weights, and coins [n. p., n. d.] 12 p.

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"One of the greatest recommendations of the metric system is that it is a final one, and that it is international."

**Business men who want the metric system.** (Science, Jly. 14, 1916, n. s., v. 44: 59.)

"Nothing gives so much hope that the metric system will some day be adopted in America as the work now being done in its behalf by the National Wholesale Grocers' Association."

**Cabot, G. L.** The metric system should be adopted for aeronautic purposes. (Flying, Nov., 1917, v. 6: 362.)

Argues that the metric system would simplify the work of production and inspection.

**Carnegie, Andrew.** James Watt. N. Y., Doubleday, Page & co., 1905. 5 p. l., 3-241 p. 23cm.

Favorable mention of Watt's scheme for a metric system: p. 175-177.

**Claiborne, H. C.** Metric system in Great Britain. U. S. Bureau of foreign and domestic commerce. Daily consular and trade reports, Jan. 22, 1920, no. 18: 439-443.

A discussion of the favorable consideration by Great Britain of the adoption of the metric system.

**Collins, Joseph V.** 5 metric myths. (Amer. machinists, Mar. 8, 1917, v. 46: 434.)

— Metric reform in the United States. (Educational review, Oct., 1916, v. 52: 265-271.)

"If the educational world were to take up the work of spreading information concerning the frailties and idiosyncracies of our present denominate numbers and the keen advantages of the metric ones ... it would be easy indeed to have the new system introduced."

— Metrical tragedy. (Sci. mo., Dec., 1915, v. 1: 256-263); (Amer. jol. of pharmacy, Apr., 1916, v. 88: 147-155.) RS1. A45, v. 8.

A discussion of the need of the metric system in commercial and manufacturing transactions

— Metric weights and measures. (Education, Dec., 1894, v. 15: 229-235.)

"It is to be sincerely hoped ... some now and potent influence will come into existence to force the adoption in this country of the metric weights and measures now so widely used by other nations of the world."

**Cunynghame, Sir Henry.** British and metric systems. (Land and water, v. 67, Jy. 20, 1916: 13-14.)

**Decimal association.** London. Annual report. London, 1919.

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— Who urges meter—liter—gram? London, Decimal association, 1921. 44 p.

**The Decimal educator:** Official organ of the Decimal association, established to promote the adoption of a decimal system of coinage, and of the metric system of weights and measures in the United Kingdom. London, Decimal association, 1918—.

**Dowson, J. Emerson.** Metric weights and measures. London, Andrew Reid and co., 1899. 13 p.

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**A draftman's sane views.** (Valve world, Oct., 1914, v. 11: 321-322.)

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**Drake, F. R.** The metric system from the standpoint of the United States wholesale grocers and canning industry. (Sci. mo., Mar., 1917, v. 4: 206-210.)

**Drury, A.** Standardization with metric units. (Jol. of electricity, Nov. 1, 1919, v. 43: 409-411.)

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**Eastburn, George.** The metric system. N. Y. The Amer. metrol. society, 1890. 21 p.

**Eliot, C. W.** Metric system of weights and measures. (Nation, Je. 8, 1866, v. 2: 731.)

Gives a short history of the metric system, and advocates its adoption on account of its simplicity and universality.

**Engineers' club of Philadelphia.** Report of the committee on the metric system of weights and measures. April, 1878. Philadelphia, McCalla & Stavelly, prs., 1878. 3, [2] p. 23cm.

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"An address delivered before the First annual meeting of the Sealers of weights and measures of the United States at the Bureau of standards, Washington, D. C., 1905."—Note, p. 365.

"The history of the original Confederation of states is full of evidences of the perplexities arising from the diversity of weights and measures throughout their jurisdiction and of the desirability of a uniform system."

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— Presidential address before the Society for the promotion of engineering education. (Science, Aug. 18, 1899, n. s., v. 10: 196-203.)

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"It is time for those who think a unified system of measurement is worth having to make a push for it"

Siemens, A. Metric system: an international unit of weights and measures. (Nature Jc. 11, 1914, v. 93: 390-392.) (Sci. Amer. suppl., Jly. 4, 1914, v. 78: 6.)

"The general experience is that wherever the metric system has been introduced it has been accepted as by far the simplest and easiest to comprehend, while it has the great advantage of being international, which is more necessary nowadays where the intercourse between countries is increasing"

— President Siemens of the British institution of electrical engineers on the metric system. (Electrical world and engineer, Dec. 10, 1904, v. 44: 1007-1008.)

Strongly advocates the adoption of the metric system in Great Britain.

Slosson, E. E. Decimal numeration in the United States. (Science, Jy. 17, 1896, n. s., v. 4: 59-62.)

"If the metric system is not adopted it will not be long before we shall be using mostly tenths and hundreds of pounds, feet and inches. While this would be better than the present chaos, it would not be so good as the metric system."

Smith, R. H. Metric measures in industry and commerce. London, Decimal association, 1906. 8 p.

Reprinted from Engineering review, Dec., 1906. A discussion of the merits of the system.

Sonnenschein, A. The metric system. (Society of arts. Jol., Jan. 23, 1903, v. 51: 170-178.)

Points out advantages of various applications of the metric system

Stevens, W. Le Conte. The metric system. (Science, May 29, 1896, n. s., v. 3: 793-796.)

Advocates the adoption of the metric system and argues that it will not be a hardship upon the poor classes as is generally supposed.

— Shall the metric system be compulsory? (Popular science mo. Mar., 1904, v. 64: 394-405.)

Stone, Charles L. The metric controversy. (Electrical world and engineer, Nov. 19, 1904, v. 44: 863-869.)

"The whole argument for the English system seems to be based on a misconception of what it really means to use the metric system, and the simplest possible way to convince the conservative of their mistake is to give them a chance to see its actual workings in the government service."

Stratton, S. W. The American national bureau of standards. (Franklin institute. Jol., Feb., 1902, v. 153: 81-92.) Engineers' club of Philadelphia. Proceedings, Apr., 1902, v. 19: 155-165.

Considers the metric system as offering more advantages than any other system.

— The national Bureau of standards. An address at the thirty-seventh annual meeting of the National association of wool manufacturers. [Boston, 1902]. 8 p. 24cm.

Advocates the adoption of the metric system. See also Western society of engineers. Journal, Aug., 1902, v. 7: 329-346.

— Weights and measures. Engineers' society of western Pennsylvania. Proceedings, Mar. 1903, v. 19: 98-106.

A historical review of governmental action regarding the metric system

See also U. S. Bureau of standards.

Subbs, A. J. Case for the adoption of the metric system (and decimal coinage) by Great Britain. (Institution of electrical engineers. Jol., Feb., 1918, v. 56: 129-135.)

Sumner, Charles. The works of Charles Sumner. Boston, Lee and Shepard, 1870-83. 15 v. front. (port.) 20¼cm.

Explanation and advantages of the metric system: v. 10: 534-539.

Sumner, William G. The financier and the finances of the American revolution. N. Y., Dodd, Mead, and co., 1891. 2v. 23cm.  
Comments on Morris' report on coinage: v. 2, p. 42-47.

Thompson, J. B. The metric system. In New York. University. State regents' reports, vol. 86. Albany, 1873. p. 659-680.

A discussion of the advantages of the metric system

Tittmann, O. H. Historical account of United States standards of weights and measures, customary and metric; of the inception and construction of the national proto-types of the metre and the kilogramme; of their transportation from Paris to Washington; of their official opening and certification, and of their deposits in the office of weights and measures. In U. S. Coast and geodetic survey. Report, 1890. Washington, 1891. p. 735-758.

Turner, F. W. Thoughts on the practical use of the metric system. School science and mathematics, Jan., 1907, v. 7: 8-11.

U. S. Bureau of standards. The international metric system of weights and measures. Washington, Govt. print. off., 1906. 15 p. illus. 25½cm.

Includes a discussion of advantages claimed for the metric system, and its status in the United States.

— — — Laws concerning the weights and measures of the United States. Comp. by Louis A. Fischer, associate physicist, and Henry D. Hubbard, secretary, Bureau of standards. Washington, Govt. print. off., 1904. ix, 476 p. 30cm.

Consult index under Metric system.

— — — Metric manual for soldiers. Washington, Govt. print. off., 1918. 16 p. incl. illus. tables. 16cm. (Miscellaneous publications, no. 21.)

"The soldier's primer of the metric system—An international decimal system of weights and measures adopted as the legal standard by France and thirty-three other nations and in world-wide use."

"The rapid progress of the metric system in the United States is caused by the growing recognition of the merits and the need for an international system especially in science and commerce."

— — — Metric system in export trade. Report to the International high commission relative to the use of the metric system in export trade, by Samuel W. Stratton, director of the Bureau of standards. Washington, Govt. print. off., 1916. 80 p. illus. 23cm. (64th Cong., 1st sess. Senate. Doc. 241.)

Answers objections to the metric system and gives many reasons for its adoption.

— — — Report of the superintendent of standard weights and measures. Progress of the construction of metric standards for the states. [Washington? 1869]. 4 p. 24½cm.

— — — Congress. House. A bill (H. R. 10.) to fix the metric system of weights and measures as the single standard of weights and measures for certain uses. Introduced by Mr. Britten, April 11, 1921. Congres-

sional record, 67th Cong., 1st sess., v. 61, no. 1 (current file): 13.

— — — Committee on coinage, weights and measures. Coinage, weights, and measures. Report [to accompany bills H. R. 596 and 597, and H. Res. no. 141] Washington, Govt. print. off., 1866. 22 p. (39th Cong. 1st sess. House. Report no. 62). Serial no. 1272

Discussion of legislation on the metric system and includes various bills and resolutions.

— — — A decimal system of weights and measures for the English-speaking nations. Report. Mar. 5, 1880. [Washington, Govt. print. off., 1880. 20 p. (46th Cong. 2d sess. House. Misc. doc. no. 30.) Serial no. 1929.

— — — Metric coinage. Report [to accompany bills H. R. 410, 411, 412, 1519, 1911] Feb. 12, 1880. [Washington, Govt. print. off., 1880.] 19 p. (46th Cong. 2d sess. House. Report no. 203.) Serial no. 1935.

— — — Metric system of weights and measures. Report (to accompany H. R. 7251) Feb. 10, 1897. Washington, Govt. print. off., 1897. 40 p. (54th Cong., 2b sess. House. Report no. 2885.) Serial no. 3556.

Pages 12-13 give a letter from Professor Foerster, Chief of the German bureau of weights and measures on the adoption of the system in Germany.

— — — Metric system of weights and measures. Report [to accompany H. R. 1058.] June 20, 1898. [Washington, Govt. print. off., 1898.] 42 p. (55th Cong. 2d sess. House. Report no. 1597.) Serial no. 3722.

— — — Metric system of weights and measures. Report [to accompany H. R. 5768] Mar. 1, 1901. [Washington, Govt. print. off., 1901.] 9 p. (56th Cong. 2d sess. House. Report. no. 3005.) Serial no. 4214.

— — — The metric system of weights and measures. Report [to accompany H. R. 123.] Apr. 21, 1902. [Washington, Govt. print. off., 1902.] 9 p. (57th Cong. 1st sess. House. Report no. 1701.) Serial no. 4404.

— — — Metric weights and measures. Report: [to accompany H. R. 7251.] [Washington, Govt. print. off., 1896] 21 p. 23cm. (54th Cong., 1st sess. House. Rept. 795.)

Referred to the House calendar and ordered printed, March 16, 1896. Charles W. Stone, chairman

— — — Report. Washington, Govt. print. off., 1879. 218 p. (46th Cong. 1st sess. House. Report no. 14.) Serial no. 1934.

Part 1. On the adoption of the metric system of weights and measures.

Part 2. On metric coinage.

— — — Select committee on weights and measures. Weights and measures. Report, Feb. 27, 1835. [Washington, D. C., 1835.] 31 p. (23d Cong., 2d sess. House. Report, no. 132.) Serial no. 276.

— — — Congress. Senate. A bill (S. 2267) to fix the metric system of weights and measures as the single standard of weights and measures for certain uses. Introduced by Mr. Ladd, July 18, 1921. Con-

gressional record, 67th Cong., 1st sess., v. 61, no. 78 (current file): 4146.

— Dept of agriculture. The metric system. In its Yearbook, 1895, p. 614-616; 1896, p. 634-636; 1897, p. 672; 1902, p. 754-755.

"In all the different countries in which this system has been adopted the change from the systems previously in use was made without the slightest difficulty."

— Dept. of state. Report upon weights and measures, by John Quincy Adams, secretary of state of the United States. Prepared in obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the third March, 1817. Washington, Printed by Gales & Seaton, 1821. 245 p. 3 fold. tab. 23½cm.

Printed also as Senate document 119 and House document 109, 16th Congress, 2d session, under titles beginning: Report of the secretary of state, upon weights and measures.

Papers in the Appendix (p. [137]-241) include tables of weights and measures as used in the United States, and laws of the several states, 1734-1819.

Recognizes the advantages of the metric system, but thinks its introduction into the United States impracticable, until its benefits shall have been fully proven

— President (Hayes). International bureau of weights and measures. Message from the President of the United States, transmitting a communication from the Secretary of state in response to a resolution of the House of representatives in relation to the convention for establishing an International bureau of weights and measures. June 11, 1878. Washington, Govt. print. off., 1878. 86 p. (45th Cong. 2d sess. House. Ex. doc. no. 96.) Serial no. 1809.

— Treasury dept. Adoption of the metric system. Letter from the secretary of the Treasury transmitting to the House of representatives certain reports in reference to the adoption of the metric system. Washington, Govt. print. off., 1878. 1 p. l., 37 p. 23cm. [46th Cong., 2d sess. House Ex. doc. 71, pt. 1.]

Cites instances of its success in foreign countries and favors its adoption by the U. S

— Weights and measures. Letter from the Secretary of the treasury transmitting information in relation to a standard of weights and measures. Dec. 29, 1835. [Washington, D. C., 1835]. 7 p. (24th Cong., 1st sess. House. Doc. no. 32.) Serial no. 287.

— War dept. America's munitions 1917-1918. Report of Benedict Crowell, the assistant secretary of war, director of munitions. Washington, Govt. print. off., 1919. 592 p. incl. tables, diagrs. front., plates (3 fold.) 23½cm.

Cites difficulties arising during the European war from lack of metric standardization on pages 26, 62, 65, 69, 156, 481, 497, 504.

The use of the metric system in the United States. (Sci. mo., Jan., 1919, v. 8: 95-96.)

Discusses the value of the metric system in trade.

Using the metric system. (Independent, Oct. 9, 1916, v. 88: 54.)

Brief article on the theoretical superiority of the metric system.

Utah. Legislature. Memorializing Congress to adopt the weights and measures of the metric system as the standard weights and measures of the United States. Congressional record, 57th Cong., 1st sess., v. 35, pt. 1: 209.

Van Blene, Joseph H. The metric system. A reply to the late Mr. Herbert Spencer. London, issued by the Decimal association, 1905. 32 p.

Vivier, Charles. Advantages of the metric system. (Automobile, Nov. 23, 1915, v. 33: 968-969.)

Wade, H. T. Metric system: why we should measure in meters, grams and liters, without reservation. (Sci. Amer., Aug. 7, 1920, v. 123: 119, 125.)

"Experience and logic are overwhelmingly in favor of the adoption of the international metric system."

— Standardization and the metric system. (Iron trade review, Jan. 31, 1918, v. 62: 321-322.)

The war and the metric system. (Literary digest, Dec. 4, 1915, v. 51: 1280-1281.)

Discusses the adoption of the metric system by the United States and Great Britain and maintains that the simplicity of the system endows it with immense advantages.

Washington, George. Annual message to Congress, January 8, 1790. In U. S. Congress. Debates and proceedings, 1st Congress, 2d sess., v. 1 Washington, 1834. p. 932-933.

"Uniformity in the currency, weights and measures of the United States, is an object of great importance": p. 933.

— Annual message to Congress, Oct. 25, 1791. In U. S. Congress. Debates and proceedings, 2d. Cong., 1st sess., v. 3. Washington, 1849. p. 11-15.

"An uniformity in the weights and measures of the country is among the important objects submitted to you by the Constitution, and, if it can be derived from a standard at once invariable and universal, must be no less honorable to the public councils, than conducive to the public convenience" p. 15

Wells, William C. Metric standard (Pan American union. Bulletin, Jan., 1917, v. 44: 22-28); same cond. (American review of reviews, May, 1917, v. 55: 542-543.)

Argues the advantages to be gained by the use of the metric system, with special reference to foreign commerce.

William, Rufus P. Calendar reforms and metric reforms (School science and mathematics, Je., 1907, v 7: 457-461.)

Recommends the adoption of the metric system.

— The metric system. A paper read at a meeting of the American chemical society, June, 1900. Issued by the Decimal association . . London, Whitehead, Morris & co., ltd. printers, 1900. 8 p. 20½cm.

Advocates the metric system and argues that enlightened sentiment in the United States is overwhelmingly in favor of the adoption of the system.

A wonderland of science. (National geographical mag., Feb., 1915, v. 27: 153-169.)

"Bureau of standards endeavoring to secure uniform legislation on weights and measures.

False measures have a habit of running away from progressive laws."

**World trade club, San Francisco.** [Publications] (all pertaining to the adoption of the metric system.) San Francisco, 1919-date.

1. Keep the world war won.
2. An evening at the world trade club.
3. Metric unites to unite the world.
4. Who urges meter-liter-gram?
5. Who opposes meter-liter-gram?
6. World trade club attacked.
7. Who suffers?
8. Metric literature.
9. A 15th of a second world
10. World trade, world unity, and metric standardization.
11. The universal language of quantity, meter-liter-gram.
12. What will meter standardization cost?
13. "The meteigram-monthly publication"
14. World metric literature clubs.

The world-wide spread of the metric system. (Valve world, Feb., 1914, v. 11: 51.)

**Yates, James.** Narrative of the origin and formation of the International association for obtaining a uniform decimal system of weights, measures, and coins. 2d ed. London, Bell and Daldy, 1856. 56 p.

#### OPPOSED

The American institute of weights and measures, 115 Broadway, N. Y., publishes mimeographed and pamphlet material presenting arguments against the adoption of the metric system in the United States.

Among its publications are the following:

Some reasons for opposition to the compulsory introduction of the metric system

Inches versus millimeters, opinions of some of the leaders in the American machine tool industry.

Metric chaos in daily life: a staggering program of overturning for industry and the individual.

Report of the Cleveland chamber of commerce on the metric system.

World trade club of San Francisco and its metric propaganda.

Some of the organizations which have taken formal action in opposition to the compulsory use of the metric system in the United States.

Why world trade facts do not support the metric system.

**American iron and steel association.** The metric system. Objections of the American iron and steel association to its adoption. [Philadelphia, 19—?]. 10 p. 23cm.

**American society of mechanical engineers, New York.** The metric system in export trade; report of Committee on weights and measures. Tentative draft of report subject to revision. [N. Y.? 1918]. 48 p. 23cm.

"Presented at the spring meeting of the American society of mechanical engineers, Worcester, Mass., June 4 to 7, 1918."

A comprehensive abstract of the report by Mr. Halsey.

**Bennett, W. B.** High cost of metric measurements. (Amer. machinist, Nov. 25, 1920, v. 53: 1017.)

**British scientific societies' committee** reports against compulsory metrics. (Amer. machinist, Jan. 6, 1921, v. 54: 40a.)

**British weights and measures association, London.** The position we take up. [London, 1904]. 8 p. 18½cm.

"The persistent efforts of the advocates of

the French metric system to get it enforced in the British empire have brought into being the British weights and measures association, whose primary object is to combat the metre."

**British weights and the metric system.** (Edinburgh review, Oct., 1910, v. 212: 426-449.)

Argues against the compulsory adoption of the system in Great Britain.

**Cate, Malcolm S.** Designer's slant on metric system. (Amer. machinist, Mar. 25, 1920, v. 52: 660.)

"In contemplating the metric system, it will be well to consider the chips that will be added to the fires of unrest that are now burning enthusiastically."

**Change to the metric system undesirable.** (Engng. and mining jol., Jo. 1, 1918, v. 105: 1013-1014.)

**Cleveland, Chamber of commerce** [Report against the adoption of the metric system] Cleveland, 1920.

**Colles, George W.** The metric versus the duodecimal system. In American society of mechanical engineers. Transactions, 1896, v. 18, New York, 1897. p. 492-611.

Strongly argues against the adoption of the metric system.

**Committee on standards, Bureau of surveys and maps,** recommends use of English measuring system. (Amer. machinist, Sept. 30, 1920, v. 53: 647-648.)

"To make a metric law compulsory would be a great misfortune to the country."

**Cost of changing to the metric system.** (Industrial management, Mar. 1, 1921, v. 61: 202.)

Discusses the seriousness and importance of the cost of installing the system.

**Geier, Fred A.** Why the metric system must not be made compulsory. (Machinery (Eng. ed.), May, 1920, v. 26: 819.)

Argues that compulsory metric law would cause confusion and expense and prove great hardship to industries.

**Gould, E. Sherman** The metric system. A practical view of it, and a suggestion. (Cassier's mag., Aug., 1902, v. 22: 521-524.)

Argues for the English system of measurement.

**Halsey, Frederick A.** Anti-metric case. (Amer. machinist, Jan. 25, 1917, v. 46: 139-142.)

— Metric equivalent scheme. (Machinery (Eng. ed.), Mar., 1921, v. 27: 665-667.)

— The metric fallacy, by Frederick A. Halsey, and The metric failure in the textile industry, by Samuel S. Dale. N. Y., D. Van Nostrand co., 1904. 1 p. l., 231 p. illus. 23cm.

— The metric fallacy; an investigation of the claims made for the metric system especially of the claim that its adoption is necessary in the interest of export trade. 2d ed., rewritten. N. Y., The American institute of weights and measures, 1919. ix, 229 p. chart. 23½cm.

— The metric fallacy, (Electrical world and engineer, Dec. 10, 1904, v. 44: 1011-1015.)

An answer to the reviewers and articles by Kapp and Guillaume

— Metric fallacy. (International marine engng., Feb., 1920, v. 25: 146.)

— Metric system. (Engineer (London), Aug. 3, 1917, v. 124: 105.)

— Metric system in engineering. (Sibley jol. of engng., Je. 26, 1918, v. 32: 134-137.) (Amer. machinist, Feb. 1, 1917, v. 46: 189-191.)

— The metric system in export trade; a report of an investigation of the practice of exporting manufacturers, by F. A. Halsey, commissioner of the American institute of weights and measures, N. Y., The Institute [c1917]. 1 p., l., 69 p. 23cm.

— Metric system in export trade. (Nation, Mar. 28, 1918, v. 106: 360-362.)

Argues that the metric system is not essential to the successful cultivation of foreign markets

See also Heating and ventilating magazine, Oct., 1918, v. 15: 49.

— Pan-Americanism in weights and measures. (Amer. machinist, Apr. 8, 1920, v. 52: 784-786.)

— Present status of the metric system. (Amer. machinist, May 12, 1921, v. 54: 815.)

— The weights and measures of Latin America. [N. Y. ? 1918]. 34 p. 23cm.

"To be presented at the annual meeting of the American society of mechanical engineers, 29 West 39th street, New York, December 3 to 6, 1918."

"Embodies the results of an investigation conducted under the auspices of the American institute of weights and measures of which the author is the commissioner."

— A word against the metric system. (Sci. Amer., May 30, 1903, v. 88: 413.)

— and others. The metric system fallacy: why compulsory metric system legislation should be defeated. (Cassier's mag., May-Je., 1906, v. 30: 36-57; 143-157.)

Hartness, James. What a change of measures would mean. (Machinery (Eng. ed.), Apr., 1920, v. 26: 715.)

"The difficulty with the men who advocate the metric system is that they do not understand the problems of the industrial world."

Ingalls, W. R. Why the metric system should not be adopted. (Mining and metallurgy, v. 173, May, 1921: 15-16.)

Linnard, J. H. The metric system in relation to the shipbuilding industry of the United States. In Society of naval architects and marine engineers. Transactions, 1903, v. 11. New York, 1904. p. 167-188.)

"Whatever arguments there may be advanced in its favor can be opposed by counter arguments, and even if you admit that there is a slight advantage in the metric system, after it has once got thoroughly going, the question for everyone to consider is—Is it worth the enormous expense and confusion? It seems to me that even admitting that there is some slight advantage it is not worth such expense, confusion and long period of delay."

Lyman, Benjamin S. Against adopting the metric system. Philadelphia, Sherman & co., 1897. 10 p. 23½cm.

"Read before the Engineers' club of Philadelphia, April 18, 1896."

McFarland, W. M. The metric system

fallacy. (Cassier's mag., Feb., 1906, v. 29: 293-299.)

Metric attack on industry. (Industrial management, May, 1920, v. 59: 425-426.)

Metric system not wanted in British optical industry. (Amer. machinist, Dec. 16, 1920, v. 53: 1162.)

More opposition to the metric system by leading engineers and manufacturers of Great Britain and America. (Cassier's mag., Jly., 1906, v. 30: 211-220.)

National automobile chamber of commerce against compulsory metric system. (Amer. machinist, Apr. 22, 1920, v. 52: 907.)

Noel, E. Natural weights and measures: a challenge to the metric system. London, Edward Stanford, 1889.

Norton, C. H. The English versus the metric system. (Machinery (Eng. ed.), Apr., 1920, v. 26: 719.)

"Believes that the compulsory adoption of the metric system would rock the very foundations upon which our industrial structure is built"

Nystrom, John W. On the French metric system of weights and measures, with objections to its adoption among English-speaking nations, and on the duodenal arithmetics and metrology. Philadelphia, J. Pennington & son, 1876. 20, 307-331 p. illus., tables. 22½cm.

Objections to metric compulsion. (Literary digest, v. 65, Je. 5, 1920: 39-40.)

Others who are against a compulsory metric law. (Amer. machinist, Mar. 18, 1920, v. 52: 632-634)

Gives the names of associations that are against the metric system.

Pittsburgh, Chamber of commerce. Report on the metric system. [Text] (Amer. machinist, Feb. 5, 1920, v. 52: 309.)

Opposes the adoption of the compulsory metric system.

Pope, Frederick A. Some experience with the metric system. (Amer. machinist, Feb. 26, 1920, v. 52: 1298-1299.)

"Whatever may be the real origin and object of some of the efforts and propaganda in behalf of the compulsory adoption of the metric system, I can not say, but there should not be the slightest shadow of a doubt in the mind of any practical thinking man that to attempt to abandon our present system for the metric would inflict much harm and would be nothing short of industrial suicide."

Report of the Cleveland chamber of commerce on the metric system. (Amer. machinist, Aug. 5, 1920, v. 53: 283-287.)

"Is not able to believe that the adoption of the metric system will promote .. standards and interchangeability."

Scientific England and the metric system. (Industrial management, Mar., 1921, v. 61: 154.)

"The assertion loudly proclaimed by the metric advocates that all scientists are unreservedly in favor of the compulsory use of the metric system, would seem to require a substantial modification."

Sellers, Coleman. The metric system. Is it wise to introduce it into British and American machine shops? From an American point of view. (Cassier's mag., Mar., 1900, v. 17: 365-377.)

"The wonderful extension of the metric system to time and infinite space was given up as



impracticable long ago, and we are now asked to bear the shock of a mighty change to use this inconvenient system, this unhandy system of ten, for the sake of uniformity with some other peoples of the world."

— Obstacles to metric system. (Iron age, Nov. 2, 1916, v. 98: 1045-1046.)

Sharpe, Henry D. The threat of the metric system. (Machinery (Eng. ed.), Apr., 1920, v. 26: 717-718.)

Points out the reasons why the metric system should not be made compulsory in the United States.

Sharpe, L. C. Experience with the metric system. (Amer. machinist, May 13, 1920, v. 52: 1063.)

Argues that Germany and other foreign countries use more than one system of measurement, and doubts the value of the general application of the metric.

Society of automobile engineers. Resolution passed against compulsory adoption of the metric system. Its Journal, Aug., 1920, v. 7: 155.

Discussion: p 155-156.

Spencer, Herbert. Against the metric system. With appendices, containing quotations from the Emperor Napoleon, Sir Joseph Hooker, Sir Frederick Bramwell, Prof. Corfield, Dr. Sweet, and several others. [3d ed., with additions] London, Williams and Norgate, 1904. 36 p. 21½cm.

— The metric system. (Popular science mo., Je.-Jly., 1896, v. 49: 186-202; 410-411.)

Stutz, C. C. Are the South American countries metric? (Machinery (Eng. ed.), May, 1921, v. 27: 871-872.)

— Metric system applied to the rubber industry. (India rubber world, May, 1920, v. 62: 481-485.)

— Cost of the metric system to the machinist. (Amer. machinist, Apr. 28, 1921, v. 54: 735.)

"It will be readily admitted that the tools the machinist owns cannot be regraduated to the metric system. Being compelled by the provisions of the bills to work only to the metric system, he is obliged to buy new measuring tools."

— Some effects of compulsory use of the metric system. (Amer. machinist, Mar. 25, 1920, v. 52: 693-694.)

Among effects mentioned are long transition period, introduction of dual system, confusion between two systems, cost "appalling in its magnitude," and recalculation and establishing of new prices.

Suplee, H. H. The proposal to force the use of the metric system. (Engng. mag., May, 1906, v. 31: 173-178.)

Totten, Charles A. L. An important question in metrology, based upon recent

and original discoveries: a challenge to "the metric system," and an earnest word with the English-speaking peoples on their ancient weights and measures. N. Y., J. Wiley & sons, 1884, xxiv, 230 p. incl. front., illus., tables, diagrs. 24cm.

Towne, Henry R. The adoption of the metric system would do untold damage. (Industrial management, Je., 1920, v. 59: 473-474.)

"Abandonment of present basic standards would involve, it is claimed, damage beyond easy comprehension, injury to organized industries, injury to commerce and needless inconvenience to the people."

Trix, John and others. Metric system. In National association of manufacturers of the United States of America. Proceedings, 1917. Phila., 1917. p. 190-193.

Viall, Ethan. Anti-metric resolutions of representative industrial bodies. (Amer. machinist, Nov. 11, 1920, v. 53: 916-917.)

— A compulsory metric system—and you. (Amer. machinist, Jan. 22, 1920, v. 52: 208-209.)

"Machine tool builders are one solid unit in opposing metric adoption, and would suffer the most by its compulsory use."

— The International chamber of commerce did not indorse the metric system. (Amer. machinist, Oct. 14, 1920, v. 53: 735.)

— Pittsburgh Chamber of commerce unanimously approves Directors' report [opposing the adoption of the metric system.] (Amer. machinist, Feb. 26, 1920, v. 52: 471.)

— What the steel industry thinks of the compulsory metric system. (Amer. machinist, Sept. 30, 1920, v. 53: 643.)

Replies received to questionnaire sent out to members of Association of American steel manufacturers

Watson, Sir C. M. Some objections to the compulsory introduction of the metric system. (Society of arts. Jol., Dec. 7, 1906, v. 45: 50-57.)

Discussion: p 57-64, 94-95.

Webber, Samuel. The metric system from a mechanical point of view. (Cassier's mag., Apr., 1897, v. 11: 447-449.)

Opposed to the special application of the metric system to the linear measure used for mechanical purposes.

What leaders in the electrical field think of the compulsory metric system. (Amer. machinist, Mar. 4, 1920, v. 52: 523.)

Gives a list of electrical manufacturing firms opposed to its adoption.

Worthington, B. A. Railroads oppose compulsory metric legislation. (Amer. machinist, Apr. 22, 1920, v. 52: 911.)

## Books Received

### Sales Management Problems

Dr. Harry R. Tosdal of the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration has published an interesting collection of "Problems in Sales Management" (Chicago: A. W. Shaw Co., 1921) which should be of interest in educational institutions and to sales executives. After an introductory section on the general field, the author takes up successively, sales organization, planning and research, policies, methods, sales force management, sales operations, financing, delivery, administrative policies, etc. The analysis of the research problem is particularly complete and interesting, but we should like to see more emphasis placed upon the need for correlation of research activities and upon the preservation of live data in library and files. The book is noteworthy because of the care with which the 24-page bibliography has been prepared.

D. W. H.

### Marketing Principles

Present industrial conditions seem to indicate the increasing need for specialized research and library service in connection with the distribution of manufactured products. For this reason forward-looking special librarians will find that Dr. Paul Wesley Ivey's book, "Principles of Marketing" (New York: Ronald Press Co., 1921) makes interesting reading. Dr. Ivey points out the increasing importance of the marketing function and treats in detail the wholesaler, the department store, the chain store, the mail order house, and such special problems as market analysis, advertising costs, trademarks and competition, merchandising costs, etc. Several pages of suggested collateral reading are appended.

D. W. H.

### Bohemians Book

The New York musicians club, "The Bohemians," has recently issued an attractive little book in commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the club's founding. The book includes a short history of the club, reference to its social and artistic activities and a note concerning the Musician's Foundation. The greater portion is given over to a list of the various club programs and the text is illustrated with a considerable number of photographs of well-known musicians. Copies may be obtained gratis from Mr. Ernest T. Carter, secretary of the club, 115 East 69th Street, New York City.

D. W. H.

### Business Finance Problems

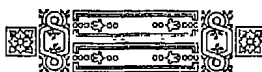
In his "Problems in Business Finance" (Chicago: A. W. Shaw Co. 1921), Dr. Edmond Earle Lincoln has presented a well written text which should prove useful to business men and educators. In the first part of the book there is an 8-page outline of its general scope and a carefully compiled 16-page bibliography. The sections deal with sources of capital, internal financing, financial difficulties and their significance, etc. A statistical appendix of almost 40 pages contains much valuable fact information of particular interest to the special librarian.

D. W. H.

### An Advertising Reference Book

Special librarians who do not see the International Year-Book Number of the Editor and Publisher are missing a good deal. The 1921-22 issue is just out. Space forbids a catalogue of all the excellent compilations in this well-printed folio volume of 180 pages. The frequent state supplements of Editor and Publisher alone are worth the price of the magazine to the special librarian, on account of their reference value.

A. R. H.



# Special Libraries

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Washington, D. C.

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## BRASS TACK LIBRARIANS

A writer in a recent *Times Annalist* dwells upon the recession of the guess-work method in industry and in business and the emergence of the fact method in the place of the former simpler but often disastrous system. Not only facts but brass tack facts is what the present system demands, the writer contends. It is not the first time that this has been said, but it is being said in a surprising number of places by a surprising number of people.

The assembly, coordination and systematic delivery of facts is primarily the work of the special librarian. It is the very *raison d'être* of the special librarian.

The keynote of the Swampscott convention of the Special Libraries Association was fact reclamation, fact storage, fact distribution. Men highly connected with great publishing houses, insurance companies, the National Research Council, financial services, etc., made it quite clear to the special librarians that simple facts, brass tack facts were what they needed most, and to secure which large sums of money were being expended.

At a recent meeting of the New York Special Libraries Association, a prominent engineer used the term "bankable information" in referring to the special librarian's stock in trade. It is a very striking phrase and means the conversion and combination of facts by the special librarian and after that the direction of each newly assembled group of facts to its especial consumer demand.

This process is, of course, not a tyro's job. To control the fact information structure just as the financier controls the credit structure, by knowledge, experience and intuition; to know where it is wise and profitable to invest research capacity, where it is useful and wasteful to do so, where fact resources are latent, awaiting exploitation, and to maintain continual contact with the always fluctuating store of bankable information—this is the job of the successful special librarian, the brass tack librarian.

## Association Activities

### SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

The next annual convention will be held at Detroit, Mich., in June, simultaneously with the meeting of the A. L. A. The President of the S. L. A., Mr. Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., has the program in hand, and promises an irresistible program.

#### NEW YORK CITY

##### Officers

President: Rebecca B. Rankin,  
Librarian, Municipal Reference Library,  
Municipal Building  
Vice President: Carlos C. Taughton,  
Assistant Secretary, Poor's Publishing Company,  
33 Broadway  
Secretary-Treasurer: Elsie L. Bacchold,  
Librarian, Irving National Bank,  
Woolworth Building

The January meeting of the New York Special Libraries Association was planned and carried out by the Medical Group of special librarians, Miss Sarah L. Halliday of the Public Health Division of the Municipal Reference Library, chairman. The members met at six o'clock in Schrafft's Tea Room, 181 Broadway, and were served a splendid dinner. Our guests of the evening, Dr. Royal S. Copeland, Commissioner of Health of New York City, and Dr. Thos. Darlington, a well-known physician of the city, entertained us with splendid after-dinner speeches. Everyone gained a great deal from these two speeches; while decidedly humorous and enjoyable they carried in them much good advice and inspiration. Com'r Copeland made us realize the great need for and usefulness of the special library, and Dr. Darlington enthused us with a desire to improve our physical condition through personal hygiene so that we might give the service expected of us. If any came to the meeting with a frown he left with a light heart and a smile.

The Association continues to increase its membership. Anyone interested in our work may join us; dues should be sent to Miss Elsie Bacchold, Irving National Bank, Woolworth Building.

The Separate group meetings are being held continually at times chosen by the chairmen. Familiarity of the resources of all the libraries within the group is one of the purposes of these smaller meetings, and the individual librarians realize their importance.

The next monthly meeting of the Association will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 28th,

at the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. Announcements of this meeting will be mailed as usual at a later date.

#### Employment

The New York Special Libraries Association has, for several years, assisted its members and others interested in the special library field in securing positions in New York City. The Employment Bureau of the Y. W. C. A. Central Branch, 610 Lexington Avenue, has acted in this capacity for the local Association. Miss Dorothy Wells, the director of the Employment Bureau, is a member of our Association and has taken personal charge of the placing of special librarians.

All employers needing librarians or assistants may have excellent service by placing their requests with this Employment Bureau, and any librarians desiring positions may register at any time. It is not necessary that individuals be members of the New York Special Libraries Association to obtain this assistance.

Miss Wells informs me that recently she has not had sufficient applicants to fill the positions open.

The New York Special Libraries Association through this Bureau will welcome an opportunity to assist special librarians.

#### BOSTON

##### Officers

President: Ernest W. Chapin,  
Librarian, First National Bank,  
70 Federal St., Boston  
Vice President: Laura R. Gibbs,  
Tell-U-Where Co. of America,  
142 Berkeley St., Boston  
Howard L. Stebbins,  
Librarian, Social Law Library,  
Court House, Pemberton Sq., Boston  
Secretary: Abbie G. Glover,  
Asst. Librarian, Women's Educational and Industrial Union,  
261 Boylston St., Boston  
Treasurer: Ruth V. Cook,  
Librarian, Harvard Architectural Library,  
Robinson Hall, Cambridge, Mass.

The Special Libraries Association of Boston met on February 27, at 7.45 p. m. in the Boston University, School of Law. The subject of the meeting was "LAW LIBRARIES," and the guest of the evening was Mr. John E. Hannigan, of Boston. Mr. G. W. Lee prepared a paper on "Getting the most out of Associations." A report of progress report was made by the Committee on Follow-up Methods.

## Special Library Field Doings

Miss Edith Mac Phail, late of the Scovill Co., Waterbury, Conn., is now with the Westinghouse Air Spring Co., New Haven, Conn.

The annual meeting of the New Jersey Library Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club will be held in the Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, Friday and Saturday, April 28 and 29. Librarians have come to look forward to these meetings at Atlantic City as a happy break in the year's work. They are always worth while and a delightful rest besides.

Mr. Guy E. Marion announces that he is leaving Boston for Los Angeles. His new address will be 832 N. Mariposa Avenue, Los Angeles, Cal. Mr. Marion's efforts in behalf of the Special Libraries Association have been so continual and cover such a long period of years, that our Godspeed to him from the eastern coast is burdened with gratitude and well-wishes.

Miss Isabel Stevens, Librarian of the Insurance Library Association of Atlanta, Ga., writes: "The Insurance Library Association of Atlanta was organized in December, 1921. The objects of the Association are educational and social in relation to insurance. Any person connected with the fire, life, or casualty branch of insurance, or any person interested in insurance is eligible for membership. The Association is maintained by membership dues. The officers are: Mr. Chas. A. Bickerstaff, President; Mr. Wm. F. Dunbar, First Vice President; Mr. Wilmer L. Moore, Second Vice President; Mr. Geo. P. Street, Secretary and Treasurer; Miss Isabel Stevens, Librarian."

Miss Patterson, Librarian at Pottsville, Pa., has prepared the text of the publicity circular developed by Gaylord Bros. for use by public libraries with business men and firms. The talk is full of punch and cannot fail to make an impression. The four-page circular is offered at lot prices with the names of individual libraries printed in if desired.

The Library School of the New York Public Library offers open courses on Mondays and Wednesdays from February to May on "The Literature of Economics" and "Special Library Methods," respectively. A fee of \$5.00 for each course is exacted.

Miss Sarah Halstead, Librarian of the

National Bank of Commerce, New York City, has resigned; she is to be married soon.

Miss Bertha Greenbaum has accepted a position with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. Library.

Miss Poulin is the new Librarian of the U. S. Testing Co., 340 Hudson Street, New York City.

Miss Edith Edwards, formerly with the National Organization for Public Nursing, has accepted a position with the Public Affairs Information Service.

Miss Alice Jewett, editor of P. A. I. S., has resigned to go to the Rockefeller Foundation, to take charge of the directory files. Miss Harriet Bircholdt is now acting as editor of the P. A. I. S.

Mrs. Nancy Vaughn, reference librarian of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. Library, has resigned to pursue the library course in the N. Y. Public Library School.

Mr. Robert F. Lovett is now head of the Information Department of the Community Service, 1 Madison Avenue, New York City.

Miss Dart, late of the American Red Cross Headquarters, Washington, D. C., has become the librarian of the Safety Institute, New York City.

The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai recently opened its new commercial museum and library. The new museum includes a very complete exhibit of Chinese products, including both raw materials and manufactured articles. A trip to this museum will be found profitable by all American business men who visit Shanghai.

Miss Ruth Barker, of the Cossitt Library, Memphis, Tenn., has a very attractive story in the Memphis Chamber of Commerce Journal for February. Miss Barker pleads for a greater effort to attract the business man to the public library. The refrain of the story is "if a citizen does not use the library when he needs it he is actually losing money."

The New York Laundry Board announces the establishment of a technical library by the Laundry Board of Trade in its offices in the Times Building, New York City. It is believed that this is the first library of its kind in existence.

## The Data File

### Kansas Court of Industrial Relations

Miss Laura Thompson, Librarian U. S. Department of Labor, has compiled a supplementary list of references on the Kansas Court of Industrial Relations, following the list issued February 24, 1921. There are now available one hundred and thirty-two references to this subject.

### Oil Maps

The California State Mining Bureau has issued a new map of the Huntington Beach oil field which is available at a cost of 75 cents. The new map is the most comprehensive and complete map which has been issued to date, showing all the important locations of oil wells and the principal leases in the field.

### U. S. Public Health Service

The U. S. Public Health Service, its evolution and organization is the title of a pamphlet recently issued by the Service. In the small compass of sixteen pages is told the history of the Service including an account of its activities and its functions. An organization chart makes quite clear the administrative distribution. This pamphlet, which is issued as Reprint No. 661 from the Public Health Reports of May 27, 1921, will be found useful in the library school class-room as well-preserved for reference in the librarian's data file.

### From a Librarian to the Business Man

John Cotton Dana, in the Preface to his "On Buying and Using Print" (N. Y., The H. W. Wilson Co., 1921 60 pp. Tells how this very attractive monograph originated in a series of lists of books which Mr. Dana was requested to prepare for The Nation's Business by its editor, Mr. Merle Thorpe. These lists appeared in the journal mentioned between November, 1917, and July, 1919.

The introductions to the lists proper are reprinted now under the title "On Buying and Using Print." Characteristically Mr. Dana pays tribute to Miss Morley and to Miss Kight, of the Business Branch of the Newark Public Library, who one gathers are associates rather than employees, in the preparation of both lists and introductions. The little volume is beautifully printed and will give pleasure to every special librarian and to all friends of special library work.

### A Friend of the Special Library

One pleasant by-product of the work of distributing the Special Libraries Directory takes the form of new contacts and new friendships established. Colonel H. H. Burdick, Treasurer and Managing Director of the Kelly Publishing Co., 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City, writes: "I was very much interested in reading the introduction

to your 1921 Special Libraries Directory, as you are voicing therein, almost word for word, what I am preaching myself in regard to the use of reference books in connection with modern business." Colonel Burdick states further: "I should like to have you include the name of the S. E. Hendricks Co., Inc., in your next list of special libraries as we maintain here a very valuable reference library containing Commercial Directories, City and Telephone Directories for reference purposes." Col. Burdick's firm is the sole agent in the U. S. for Kelly's Directories Ltd., whose Directory of Merchants, Manufacturers and Shippers of the World is well known to all librarians.

### Public Markets

Service and Regulatory Announcement (markets) No. 69, issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, contains suggestions for an ordinance to establish, locate, regulate and maintain a public farmers' market. This pamphlet is now available for general distribution. Address Publications Division, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

### Phonograph Record Lending Library

The *Bulletin of Pharmacy* of December 1921, p. 520, interestingly tells the story of a phonograph lending library plan instituted by the E. A. Rutgers Co. of Brooklyn, N. Y.

### New House Organ

*Anchor Post* is the title of a new house organ issued monthly by the Anchor Post Works, Garwood, N. J., in the interest of better fences.

The National Association of Box Manufacturers has begun an interesting publication *The Wood Box*. It appears monthly and is of value not only to manufacturers but to industry generally.

### Zoning Ordinances

A reference manual in miniature, useful to both the municipal reference librarians and those connected with civic organizations, is the tabulation of zoning ordinances in effect and in progress. It appears in the *National Real Estate Journal* of November 7, 1921, p. 25, and is a revision by Mr. Charles B. Ball of a list which originally appeared in the *Chicago City Bulletin*.

### Poland

*Revue Général des Sciences Pures et Appliquées* in its issue of November 30, 1921, returns to its enterprise of June 15, 1920, when its entire issue was devoted to Roumania. The November 30 issue is devoted to Poland, and comprises articles on the geology, population and agricultural, mineral and industrial resources of that country, with articles by Polish scientists

on the subjects of their particular exploration.

#### Lead Products

The Eagle Picher Lead Co., Chicago, Ill., has issued a very attractive catalogue of lead products and derivatives, including red lead, lithopone, litharge, lead pipe and plumbers' lead fittings, babbitt metals, solders, slab zinc and zinc oxide. Eleven of the Company's plants are illustrated, the control laboratories operated at each of the plants are referred to as well as the research laboratory at Joplin, Mo., and a complete "tree" showing the products derived from lead ore is bound into the catalogue.

#### A Suggestion for Special Libraries

From time to time histories of old or great business establishments are printed in the daily or trade press. The opening chapters of the history of Marshall Field & Co., written by S. H. Ditchett, editor of the *Dry Goods Economist*, appeared in the issue of January of that journal. It deserves a place in every industrial data file.

A recent article in the *Detroit Times* traces the growth of the great house of Frederick Stearns and Co., from its humble beginning in 1855.

The *Danbury News* in April, 1921, published in six daily installments the history of the Hull Hardware and Plumbing Co., beginning in 1843.

The suggestion is made that here is an unlimited field for special librarians. By bringing a subject of this sort, which is always an acceptable one to a newspaper, to editorial notice, the librarian will not only be contacting with the paper but with the establishment whose history is to be written, as well. The librarian may even be of assistance in the compilation.

#### Thrift

Miss Margaret Reynolds, Librarian of the First Wisconsin National Bank, and Miss Ruth G. Nichols, Librarian of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, have each recently compiled a list on Thrift. The respective lists are printed as attractive folders, The former by the Bank and the latter by the American Librarian Association, The Special Libraries Association has had copies of the latter reprinted for its members.

#### The Association of North American Directory Publishers

Directories and mailing lists have an important place in every special library. Every librarian knows the importance of accuracy in compilations of this kind. The Association of North American Directory Publishers is doing a very important work which should be of interest to readers of "Special Libraries." This Association was organized in 1898 "for the purpose of improving the directory business by exchanging ideas" and membership is extended to any reputable city directory publisher. The offices of the Association are maintained at 125 Church Street, New York City, and Mr. E. J. Loranger is Secretary-Treasurer. The Association publishes a monthly "*Directory Journal*" and a complete Directory Library is maintained in the New York office. All members of the Association have subscribed to certain Standards of Practice, one of which is as follows: "To increase public knowledge of what directories and reference media contain; to study public needs and make directories and reference media; to supply them; to revise and standardize methods and classifications so that what is wanted may be most easily found, and the directory and reference media be made to serve their fullest use as business and social reference books and directories of buyer to seller and seller to his market."