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Special Libraries, April 1933

Special Libraries Association

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SPECIAL LIBRARIES

"PUTTING KNOWLEDGE TO WORK"

VOLUME 24

APRIL, 1933

NUMBER 3

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SPECIAL LIBRARIES

APRIL, 1933

Volume 24

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Number 3

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

ONE of the first letters that I received on becoming President last summer, was a fine, constructive, cheering note from K. Dorothy Ferguson, of San Francisco. Most of us who have attended S. L. A. Conventions in recent years remember her friendliness and humor, her good, practical contributions to any subject under discussion. Her letter to me reflected all three of these characteristics, because, in addition to being friendly and funny, she added, "Are we any nearer to having a permanent Book Review Committee in S. L. A.? It is a thing for which I have been pleading — year after year." And she went on to explain why our Association should and how it could further this project.

How right she is that special librarians are peculiarly fitted to sponsor book reviews. Because each of us knows a few subjects thoroughly, we can more easily judge the relative values of books in our special fields. Surely we can claim to know our source material more intimately than general librarians. And though we have for a long time exchanged opinions informally with each other, it is obvious that we need machinery for recording these opinions, that they may actually guide people in the selection of new books. So I welcomed Miss Ferguson's suggestion that this work should head up under the Groups in our Association and wrote to each chairman. There was a general expression of interest, approval and willingness to make this their major project of the year. As usually happens, the person responsible for a good idea has to take it in hand, work out plans and become a Chairman. The definite steps taken so far have been these: last November Miss Ferguson started work with the Group chairmen who in turn got a few people to agree to report regularly on the new, significant books issued in their respective fields. Each comment received by the Group chairman is to be checked by several others so that a consensus of opinion is reached. Reviews will then either be issued in bulletin form to members of the Group, or held till the end of the year when a list of recommended books may be issued, or they may appear from time to time in *SPECIAL LIBRARIES*. Plans are still in the making and suggestions from each of you will be so welcome.

Did you notice that Marion Mead's section in the last issue of *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* reported this work well under way in the Commercial Technical Group? And in a characteristically efficient way, Laura Woodward and the Insurance Group already have a sufficient number of reviews submitted by their members to make possible the issuing of their first bulletin on Insurance books. Naturally the Financial review work is thriving since that is Miss Ferguson's own group, and pet. So we are really off to a fine start, and I hope to hear that all the Groups can report progress soon. Think how fine it will be when we have at Headquarters and in the possession of the Groups, a basic list of the best books on all important subjects, together with recommendations on new books, regularly contributed. Such lists will be in great

demand. My one great desire in this Book Review number of the Magazine is to arouse every member of S. L. A. to contribute to this work of book reviewing and to profit by it. If you accept the responsibility for furnishing a review, you will find that you make a much more intelligent study of a book, at the same time checking up on others in your library on the same subject, with the result of much wiser book selection in these days of reduced budgets. I hope very much that our reviews will surely avoid the hackneyed form that simply indicates contents and method of treatment, but will instead be real appraisals of books and contain reliable advice to purchasers

I had a long talk the other day about S. L. A. with a writer who contributes regularly to the more important business magazines. He knows the subjects that interest business men and understands their needs, and so I asked him how our Association could begin to tell our story to the world. We members of S. L. A. know that there will be new special libraries formed only as we are able to explain and illustrate the value of this application of library service. Business will have urgent need for this in the next few years. So that S. L. A. and what it stands for must be understood by the world. I asked this writer for his opinion as to what we might do effectively, inexpensively and soon. His reply was that we should sponsor lists of books, opinions of books. He believes that business men are in the mood to buy small collections of books to help them solve their everyday problems, but that they need advice as to which are best for their purpose and why. Surely, we special librarians are equipped to supply such lists and advice. If, — no, *when*, — we begin to work out this educational program for S. L. A., we shall certainly look to the functioning Book Review committees of our Groups for help. Will you all be ready?

MARY LOUISE ALEXANDER

Ideas for a Weary World

SPECIAL librarians will certainly wish to read a pamphlet just issued by Doane Eaton's Company, 445 West 41 Street (New York) entitled "Ideas for a Weary World," price \$1.00. They will read it with amusement but probably to good purpose, too. The author styles himself an *Information Counselor* but his methods and sources are those of any efficient reference librarian. The real purpose of his "Ideas for a Weary World" is to commercialize the value of library and information work and to make sources of information available to everybody anywhere. He is trying to foster a series of directories of sources of information to be made by associations, one to a subject, produced in quantities at small cost and broadcast to the world. There are many other ideas therein and certainly mixed up with so many personalities and so much "ballyhoo" that you may miss the worthwhile points

Perhaps librarians are too restrained in the kind of publicity they release. If so, we must be willing to learn and here is a chance to get an outsider's viewpoint toward our job. Mr. Eaton is sure that we need better business methods and a commercial viewpoint toward the worth of our informational services. Can it be that we need a touch of Barnum, too? — R. B. R.

The Librarian's Book Review

By K. DOROTHY FERGUSON, Librarian

Bank of Italy, San Francisco

TO BUY or not to buy, that's the question — which these days confronts not only librarians, but business men, executives, and the great class of serious readers, who sooner or later have to consider the purchase of books.

What aids are now available for the selection of books? Some professions have their literature fairly well reviewed such as law or engineering for which you will find very inclusive and authoritative book reviews. But it is the general student of economics, finance, and agriculture, who is left prey to the unscrupulous reviewer.

I will not review for you the indexes and the well known lists of periodic literature, but let us consider rather the various types of book reviews. There is the very short review, containing beside the author, title, and date, merely a phrase, which amounts to barely more than a secondary title, with publisher and price. Or, there is the prejudiced review, one written with the main purpose of selling books — giving a summary of some of the popular phases of the contents. But how often do we find a comparative review — this surely should form the main character of the librarian's book review.

By what other qualities should the librarian's review be distinguished?

1. It should give an insight of the contents so that the books under review will stand out clearly from others on the subject.
2. It should offer comparison with others in the same field.
3. It should enable us to decide whether the book studied is essential or replaces others already covering the subject; whether it supplements those already in use, and must be added to the collection, or whether it should only be bought by those librarians desiring all on the subject.
4. The review should consider if possible whether the book will endure, or whether the interest of the subject will be only short lived.
5. Finally, the reviewer should be quite frank in condemning a book which does not come up to the standard required of professional literature.

We have all had experience with books which have been written on popular subjects by those who are not students, or by those who have hastily thrown together previous magazine articles so as to catch sales while popularity and interest in a subject is at its height. These books should be promptly condemned because although the title may be catchy, and the author's reputation sufficient to make one presume that the books are authoritative and worth purchasing, these books are soon dead material on our shelves.

Why should the various professions expect to look to the special librarian for such reviews? We have by hard work and a wonderful interpretation of the word *service*, accustomed the professional men and women to look to us as to those trained by study and experience in the knowledge of source material and also in the knowledge of useful contacts whereby information not in printed form can be made available. These same professional men are now expecting us to answer that other query — "What is the best book on my subject?" Surely this should be as much a part of our daily work as to be able to locate through indexes any given piece of information.

But how many of us stand ready to come forth and give this information with a

feeling of sureness? I fear very few. And it is because of my own feeling of incompetency in this matter that I have so strongly urged that we undertake the work of fearless and honest book reviewing. Our own members need such reviews. Many are not in the big book publishing centers where books are easily examined. Many are removed from those larger and longer established libraries that have a more affluent budget and who therefore buy more freely. Too many of us lack the facilities for examining and comparing the new material in our fields. So to individuals as well as to the profession, these book reviews will be a much needed service, and for our Association one of the best advertisements we can give it.

I look forward to the time when publishers of the more serious magazines will turn to S. L. A. and its various Groups for authoritative reviews instead of being content with the log-rolling or high pressure sales variety, both of doubtful value for future and continuous selling.

Some Thoughts on Book Reviewing

By MARGARET JACKSON, Librarian

Hoyt Library, Kingston, Penn.

I DO NOT believe that I know anything about book reviewing which all your group who went to library school did not learn there. Perhaps experience counts here — some of us may know theories that we do not mentally grasp hard enough to apply.

In all my teaching of book reviewing I have centered what I had to say on two things learned from Mr. Dana:

Books which make men happier, wiser, and of more use to their fellow men are the best books after all. Unless a book meets one of these demands, it seems to me useless for a librarian to review it. We have or should have nothing to do with books which do not make men of more use to their fellow men and, to some extent, each one of us is his brother's keeper.

What the busy reader wishes to know about a book is:

What the book is about?

Authority of the author?

Whether for the student or general reader?

What part of the field it covers?

How it compares with others on the same subject?

I have learned too that a criterion to be used in reviewing a book may be found in "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." And that stands for reviewer these days, as well as for author. Carl Van Doren has said that immmental books are perhaps more dangerous than the so-called immoral ones. Is a book immmental, or immoral, or both which takes individual selfishness or sensuality, or coarseness as typical of life to-day? Is the post-war generation bearing false witness against itself in print whilst, in life, sacrifice, cleanliness and beauty still prevail?

From "The Writing of Fiction" by Edith Wharton I have personally found much help, and also from the chapter in Virginia Woolf's delightful "Second Common Reader" — *How Should One Read a Book?*

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The Convention—Why Go?

IMAGINE, if you can, a brilliant sunny morning — March 4th. Miss Cavanaugh received us in the Board room of the Standard Statistics Company — a room with dark panelled walls and casement windows that seemed to add lustre and elegance to an occasion, for this was not an ordinary day, nor an ordinary meeting. It was the beginning of the Bank Holiday and the meeting was called to discuss ways and means of carrying our S. L. A. through the year. Each member who came in through the doorway carried the morning paper with its headlines — and we wondered!

When the President and Secretary started the business of the day we could not but sense the importance of each item — and were impressed once again by the time and thought these officers of ours put into the affairs of S. L. A. What a hard year it has been for them to administer things in a large way, with ever diminishing finances. How little the rest of us can do, except to give them full appreciation, gratitude and moral support. Our only means of expressing this latter is, of course, the Convention. Can we not all begin or end our vacations late this year, going via Chicago to whatever Port of Fancy our vacation plans may point? There are so many reasons for going to Chicago's Century of Progress that we sacrifice nothing, even if we have to steal from a vacation in order to spend October 16-18th with our S. L. A.

EDITOR

Across the Secretary's Desk

AN EXECUTIVE BOARD meeting was held in New York on Saturday morning, March 4th, in the attractive Directors' room of the Standard Statistics Co. It was the fateful morning when the bank moratorium was declared in New York. The sum total of the individual cash assets at that moment was only a few dollars — and the members from out-of-town wondered if they could get home again.

Around a long table were gathered the Executive Board and the Advisory Council (which is composed of all local chapter presidents, chairmen of groups and of committees), twenty-one persons in all. You who always attend our annual Conventions would not have to be introduced to the officers of the Association. And those who read *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* must feel that you know Mary Louise Alexander, president, Adeline M. Macrum and Sophia J. Lammers, vice-presidents, Angus Fletcher and Mr. Frederick Robertson who continue as members this year, and Mr. Herbert Brigham elected as a new member this year. Miss Woodward, the treasurer, was absent.

Advisory Council members who joined in the discussions this month were Mrs. Fertig, vice-president of the Pittsburgh Chapter; Marion Mead, president of Illinois Chapter; Mr. Redstone, president of Boston Chapter; Miss Greenwood, president of New York Chapter, and the Commercial-Technical and Financial Groups were represented as well. The Editor and Advertising Manager of *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* and six committee chairmen completed your Association's representation. Those who were not able to attend received minutes of the discussions at

the meetings. The Advisory Council and Executive Board numbers 36 in all; at the March meeting 19 were present. The Secretary's part in the Board consists in sending notices, preparing the calendar, recording the proceedings and preparing the minutes of the meeting.

Many policies are discussed and determined by the Board. Actions resulting from such determination may be carried out by certain committees, or groups or through the Secretary's office. Plans are now being made for the annual Convention to be held in Chicago during the Century of Progress World's Fair. At the invitation of the American Library Association we are meeting with them this year so that our members may avail themselves of those meetings. Our Association will convene for only three days, Monday-Wednesday, October 16-18. A. L. A. begins the previous Saturday and extends to the following Saturday. We likewise wish every member to have time to enjoy the World's Fair itself. Committees will soon be at work planning an attractive program for the meetings. CONGRESS HOTEL is S. L. A.'s headquarters during the Convention. If you have any ideas for a convention, please pass them along to me and they will be used.

A Business Library Textbook based on the best practices of our special libraries secured through a Methods Clinic is being evolved, and within a year may be a reality.

A membership campaign is all set to be carried forward by loyal members. You shall read of that in another column. REBECCA B. RANKIN,

Secretary

An Opportunity

WORD has come from O. E. Kiessling, of the Bureau of Mines, that about two hundred sets bound, of "Mineral Resources of the United States," 1919 to 1927, have been placed at his disposal for distribution. These sets, of a market value of about twenty-five dollars each, were originally intended for official use, but have now been made available for outsiders. Mr. Kiessling, who wishes to distribute them in a manner most useful to the public, feels that technical and engineering libraries which have either incomplete sets of this reference work or no copies at all should be given priority in claiming them.

There are also, in addition to the sets mentioned above, a supply of odd volumes for the same years, requests for which will be entertained but not handled until the sets have been dispensed. Requests will be handled on a "first come, first served" basis, and the privilege is reserved of withdrawing the volumes from distribution at any time.

All applications, for sets or for single volumes, should be sent directly to O. G. Kiessling, Chief Economist, Division of Mineral Statistics, Bureau of Mines, Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C. — R. B. R.

Our Membership Campaign Program, 1933

By MARIAN C. MANLEY, Chairman

WITH S. L. A. as with the national government, local governments and individual businesses, the question of income for the year is vital. To "consolidate our position" as quickly and effectively as possible, a special membership drive is planned for the spring. The goal is the greatest possible increase in Active membership for each chapter. In order to score our local associations, let one Institutional membership be counted as three Active, and five Associate memberships as one Active membership, thus giving a fair common denominator for membership standing. Each Membership Committee member will be supplied with the lists of their respective chapter members showing their status by dues.

As a recognition of the work of the chapters in this field, a banner will be awarded to the chapter showing the greatest percentage of gain in active memberships in 1933 over 1932. The present holder of the record is Milwaukee, which showed a gain of 94% in Active memberships over 1931. The table by rank provides food for thought:

RANK IN ORDER OF INCREASE IN ACTIVE MEMBERS (OR EQUIVALENTS)

	1931	1932	Change	%
Milwaukee	16	31	15	94
Cincinnati	11	19	8	72
Pittsburgh	26	41	15	57
So. California	17	24	7	41
Michigan	35	41	6	17
Cleveland	19	21	2	10
Baltimore	15	16	1	6
Illinois	65	67	2	3
San Francisco	47	46	-1	-2
New York	319	296	-23	-7
Boston	95	84	-11	-11

The June issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES will give the standing of the various chapters in this connection. Since the banner will not be awarded until the October meeting with the dues as recorded up to October 1st, chapters will have an opportunity between June and October to advance their standing. Additional Institutional members are particularly effective in this connection. The banner will be held by that chap-

ter with the high record until the next convention, when it may retain its position or yield to another chapter.

While the first list shows the chapters grouped in the order of their percentage gain in membership, the list of members ranged in the order of percentage of Active members or their equivalent shows changes. In this list Montreal, our most recently organized chapter, through its many Institutional members, has the unique distinction of the equivalent of an active membership of 142 percent of its members by individual count. True to form, Pittsburgh is found well toward the head if we line up our locals, in the order of their rank, expressed in percentages of Active members (or equivalents) compared to total memberships:

Name	Total Members	Active Members or Equivalents	Percentage
Montreal	12	17	142
Pittsburgh	41	41	100
Illinois	73	67	91.8
Milwaukee	34	31	91.2
New York	368	296	80
Michigan	56	41	73
Baltimore	23	16	69
San Francisco	67	46	68
Cleveland	36	21	58
Cincinnati	32	41	46
Boston	196	84	42.8
So. California	57	24	42.1

As Miss Alexander said in the November issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES, "... most of us give the time we do to S. L. A. because we enjoy doing it and because it helps us personally. ... A chance to work on common problems and keep in touch with others who are accomplishing things, cannot but make us more effective in our own jobs." We know this and we know that we need not feel hesitant in offering the opportunity to others. To fully share in the work of the Association, we must do so. Let us all do what we can as individuals to foster this professional development.

Wanted!

THE University Library of the University of California is anxious to secure copies of the "Industrial Arts Index" for 1916 and 1917. Any one who has copies for sale, or who can suggest a possible source of supply, is asked to communicate with Harold L. Leupp, Librarian

New Members—January 1st to March 20th, 1933

INSTITUTIONAL

- E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & Co.
The R. & H. Chemicals Department
Niagara Falls, N. Y.
Mr. Marvin S. Carr, Ln.
- FITCH PUBLISHING Co., INC.
138 Pearl Street
New York City
E. C. Olsen, Exec. Vice-Pres
- UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LIBRARY
Berkeley, California
- RICHARD S. WORMSER
22 West 48th Street
New York City

ACTIVE

- MARY E. FURBECK
Public Affairs Information Service
New York City
- IRENE HALE HEWES
1605 W. Allegheny Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- JULIA IDESON, Ln.
Houston Public Library
Houston, Texas
- MARGARET LEE KEITH
Napa, California
- MILLICENT LEEPER
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- HELGA LENDE, Ln
American Foundation for the Blind
New York City
- MR. WAVE L. NOGGLE
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois
- EDITH M. PHELPS
H. W. Wilson Company
New York City
- MARION RAWLS
Art Institute
Chicago, Illinois
- RALPH J. SHOEMAKER
Public Ledger Library
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
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254 Barrett Street
Brooklyn, New York
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New York Times
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- DORA BIRNBAUM
191 S. Second Street
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- THOMAS BRACKEN
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- HELEN GRANT CUSHING
339 East 58th Street
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- MR. L. H. FOX
New York Public Library
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- JOHN GOETZ, Library
New York Evening Post
New York City
- LEONA HAWVER
High School Library
Hammond, Indiana
- ELSA J. JAECK
1440 South 59th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- WALLACE JONES
New York Times
New York City
- RICHARD KENDRICK
725 Lombard Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- BERTHA K. KRAUSS
4022 Cromwell Avenue
Los Angeles, California
- ANTOINETTE LESLIE
1623 Summer Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- JOHN A. MCCARTHY
Philadelphia Record Library
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- MRS. DOROTHY McNUTT
Public Library
Cincinnati, Ohio

MRS. ETHEL G. MARTIN, Library of
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

WILLIAM A. MATHEWSON
170 Hicks Street
Brooklyn, New York

DOROTHY T. MERROW
Kirstein Business Library
Boston, Massachusetts

MRS. EDITH G. NEWELL
1101 N. Cayuga Street
Ithaca, New York

LOUISE REID
611 West 110th Street
New York City

CLARE A. ROBESON
Sheppard Library
Boston, Massachusetts

ALEXANDER M. RONALD
14 Hobart Road
Newton Centre, Massachusetts

GERALDINE SCANNELL
Boston Public Library
Boston, Massachusetts

EDITH B. SKINNER
Free Library of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

HARRIET W. STEWART
Mercy Hospital
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

CHARLES STOLBERG
New York Sun
New York City

HARRIETT SWIFT
Boston Public Library
Boston, Massachusetts

MRS. CARMENINA TOMASSINI
Medical College Library
Cincinnati, Ohio

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SNIPS and SNIPES

Highlights and lowdowns. . . . Our Executive Board, including such out-of-towners as Marion Mead — who drove from Chicago in two days — Adeline M. Macrum, *pro tem* of Albany, Mrs. Fertig, acting head of the Pittsburgh Chapter, Mr. Redstone of Boston and Mr. Brigham of Providence, met in state in the Directors' Room of the Standard Statistics Company on March 4, 1933. Snooping about abut, we learned that several interesting things are in the works: For instance, three manuals will soon be ready to tell troubled chairmen —

How to run { a local chapter by Thomas Cowles
a group by Alta B. Claffin
a convention by Eleanor Cavanaugh

. . . And the Publications Committee will publish Mildred Pressman's "Annual index to current literature dealing with casualty insurance" which the National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Underwriters has issued for the last five years. . . . Marian (Betsy Ross) Manley plans a membership campaign which you just read about if you didn't skip. . . . N. Y. S. L. A. President Josephine Greenwood is going to gather statistics on unemployment among N. Y. Specials. . . . The best thing we turned up in our prying was that plans are on foot for a one-day Regional Conference on June 17th, at Briarcliff Manor. As our hero, Bert Lahr says, "Some fun!" Details later. . . .

K. D. F. tells all . . . K. Dorothy Ferguson writes to the curious "Tell them 'K' is only included for euphony. D. F. sounded bad." . . . As the only other K. D. F. we know, what do you say, Miss Frankenstein? . . .

Snippets. . . . Pittsburgh Chapter has nearly completed its Union List of Periodicals and reports a busy year under its acting president, Mrs. Fertig late of Buda Pest, and now librarian of the technical library at the Westinghouse Company. . . . S. L. A. has joined the American Association of Adult Education. . . . The Chase Bank Library received a unique gift the other day from the senior director of the bank, the Hon. Henry W. Cannon: eight scrapbooks of financial clippings from newspapers dating from 1866 to 1905. Yes, panics and depressions are well represented. . . . Library school students are afoot again. Those from McGill Library School came down

from Toronto to visit New York special libraries and Columbia Library students descended Morningside Heights for their semi-annual pilgrimage. . . . Municipal Reference Library Notes, Rebecca Rankin's brain child, became a monthly instead of a weekly publication. . . .

Society note. . . . The Business Branch of the Newark Public Library announces the engagement of its staff member, Mildred Clapp to Mr. Ralph Turner, Engineer. . . .

Touché. . . . Margaret Hatch, librarian of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company Branch in San Francisco, pleads guilty for herself and the California Chapter to President Alexander's recent charge of "notorious inarticulateness" on the part of the S. L. A. membership. But Miss Hatch makes noble amends: "I do want you to know that the San Francisco group appreciates SPECIAL LIBRARIES. . . . The national officers really should know how much their work is felt here. It is reflected in local activities." . . .

Poetry Department. . . . Charlotte Noyes from her DuPont Library sent out some overdue notices recently. In return she received from a chemist this pleasant improvisation on that old familiar theme — "Never even saw the book":

I have not stolen from your place this book —
Nor swiped, nor in other manner took;
Nay, I have never seen the blasted thing,
Know not its color, whether blue or ping.
In fact your book I do not even covet,
I have a private, pers'n'l copy ovvet.

Space grabbers. . . . It's impossible to keep the Newspaper Group from figuring prominently in this Department, what with Mr. Kwapil stirring-things-up and Marie Anne Walker playing stump-the-leader. On February 23rd, the N. Y. S. L. A. had a meeting at which Mr. Angus Fletcher was the speaker. He pointed out the antiquity of the newspaper library, the first mention of which appears in Ben Jonson's description "its several rolls and files of news by the alphabet and all put up under their heads." . . . The March meeting of the New York Association was newspaper night, and Dr. John H. Finley of the *New York Times* was the speaker of the evening. Rarely has the librarian been called so many pleasant things in a few moments. Dr. Finley — we quote unblushingly — named us

"Representatives of the Cosmos," "Enoch's Pillar," and the "Delphic Oracle!" . . .

Current events. . . . The Librarian-who-gets-about-abit was telling her Sunday School class of Sam Higginbotham who went to India to start model farms. "Higginbotham's a long name; you just remember 'Sam.'"

Small boy whose father sells bonds if and when, "What'd she say Sam's name was? Insull?"

Scopes. . . . Mary Cox went to Atlantic City for a short vacation and Margaret Withington returned to California from a long one. . . . Advertising Manager Gertrude Peterkin says there's noticeably more advertising on hand for SPECIAL LIBRARIES. (If you're anywhere near New Jersey around Easter time, drop in and see her in the play she's putting on — "Brarabas." She's understudying the Angel Gabriel. . . . *Bank Holiday* is libelous and a misnomer according to Mary Parker and other bank librarians. . . . Mary Louise Alexander will remember March 4th, for a while, at least. In addition to the general excitement of the inauguration and the bank holiday, she held an Executive Board Meeting and moved her library. . . .

Omniscient. . . . Newspaper dealer to his librarian-customer, after the California earth-

quake. "Excuse me, Miss, but lemme ask ja, ain't they doin' nothin' to try and stop these here earthquakes? . . .

Convention comment. . . . Headquarters — Congress Hotel; dates — October 16th-18th. . . . Our Association is extending a cordial invitation to ASLIB, our British confreres, to attend Convention at the Century of Progress. . . . If they come, they will see at least one familiar object. The "Royal Scot," most famous of London, Midland & Scottish Railway expresses, is going to be at the Fair in person. . . . And speaking of railroads, we read in *Billboard* that the Illinois Central Railroad is offering an easy purchase plan to Chicago. A small down payment, the rest of the ticket price, living and incidental expenses to be paid at the convenience of the purchaser. . . . If you're driving to Chicago, it won't be the Century of Progress' fault if you get lost. They're erecting 5,000 signs on the principal highways near Chicago to point the way. . . .

Membership census. . . . Cincinnati chapter, take a bow. You were the first group to complete your census returns New York and Chicago may take bows, too (but not such deep ones), for coming in second and third. . . .

They never would be missed. . . . The people who never work but always "go to business." . . .

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

NEWS from the Locals continues to come in suggesting such busy and active programs that we find it difficult to make selections of news items for these pages. It is too bad that we could not all tune in on such an occasion as BOSTON's March meeting when Boswell F. Phelps talked on "Business Without a Fly Wheel." But we can all respond to this request of George W. Lee: "A former special librarian, who was with us in Boston but now is at State Hospital, Osawatomie, Kansas, would appreciate books for the growing library there, including 'children's books for those of ten-year-old mentality'; also picture puzzles, etc. Mr. G. W. Lee will be glad to forward them for a 'book shower.'"

* * *

Eleanor S. Wilby writes that the CINCINNATI Chapter is in charge of arrangements for the SPECIAL LIBRARIES luncheon at the April

meeting of the Ohio Library Association. She extends us all such a cordial invitation that it is unfortunate we cannot give her a surprise party. Instead we hope to have a full report next month as they are going to discuss the effect of the depression on libraries.

* * *

Beatrice Bradley writes that: The CLEVELAND Chapter, at the invitation of the Newspaper Group, held a dinner meeting at the Cleveland News Auditorium, February 24th. Mr. Earl Martin, editor of the *Cleveland News*, gave an informal talk on "What a Newspaper Executive Expects of his Library." The speaker made an interesting picture of the organization and operation of a newspaper, displaying photographs and clippings in the course of his discussion to give an idea of the type of material which a newspaper library must have readily accessible.

The MILWAUKEE Chapter has been very practical minded, visiting the libraries of the various members and planning programs that would apply as directly as possible to library interests. They have delayed the publication of a Union List of Periodicals because so many libraries found it necessary to discontinue magazine subscriptions temporarily.

* * *

Esther Fawcett of PITTSBURGH indicates that they, too, have had their difficulties with magazine subscriptions, which they are trying to counteract by a Duplicate Magazine Exchange List. Suggestions for final disposal and routing of magazines in large companies will be appreciated.

* * *

The NEW YORK Association has had its usual busy year, but we give only the following high spots from Josephine Greenwood's interesting account: Last fall we met at Stevens Institute of Technology. Enid Hawkins, librarian, gave in detail the organization she has devised for what amounts to one-man supervision of a three-story building, accomplished in a large measure by just the right appeal to the student body of the Institute. "Books — the Best of 1932" were outlined by Margaret Jackson, librarian of the Hoyt Library at Kingston, Pennsylvania, in January. As always, her listeners gained much from her selection, charming analysis and comment. The proceeds of this meeting were turned over to the City Unemployment Committee. In February our usual joint meeting with the New York Library Club was held at the State Chamber of Commerce. Milton J. Ferguson, President of the Club, invited as guest speakers, Dr. Will Howe of Scribners' and Mr. Mark Sullivan, who told of pleasant evenings at the White House, talking over the preparation of "Our Times."

The Newspaper Group of our chapter has

been a source of much inspiration this year with their frequent luncheon and dinner meetings. And so when Marie-Anne Walker of the *New York Times* and Chairman of the Group invited our chapter to her own home so-to-speak, we gratefully accepted and set a date in March. It was a very delightful evening with Miss Walker introducing the associate editor, Dr. John H. Finley, who spoke entertainingly of his own experiences as a special librarian; and Mr. Charles McD. Puckette, assistant to the vice president, who discussed the possibilities of publishing a miniature *New York Times* for use in libraries. The sample copies were on rag paper and provoked a spirited discussion. Mr. Kwapil of the *Philadelphia Public Ledger* then gave a short history of the work of newspaper libraries throughout the country, and the meeting adjourned to let the 106 members who attended the meeting make a tour of the plant of the great *New York Times*. Is there any newspaper in all the world that can mean more to librarians than this great institution?

* * *

SAN FRANCISCO'S Bulletin announced no meeting for the month of March because all emphasis of work had to be put upon the April meeting of the California Library Association at Berkeley with a special libraries exhibit prepared by Mrs. Caya, and Mr. Cowles taking part in "The Challenge of the Times" — a symposium.

* * *

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA has been initiated into all the mysteries of modern bookbinding by a visit to the plant of the Pacific Library Binding Co. which from all accounts is revolutionizing the book binding industry. All California librarians enjoy listening to the president of this bindery because of his former association with the Training School of the Los Angeles Public Library.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

CIVIC-SOCIAL

Editor: Ina Clement

ECONOMY?

"PUTTING Knowledge to Work" has long been the motto of our organization. It is distressing to those of us who have toiled under this slogan to face giving up two valuable aids in our work — *The United States Daily* and the *State Law Index*. The former suspended publication with the March 6th issue. It was established

in 1926 and edited by David Lawrence from that day until date of suspension. The *Princeton Alumni Weekly* says: "Many tributes to Mr. Lawrence and his work have appeared in the press of the nation." The editor hopes to resume publication at a later date and the members of this group surely wish him an early realization of this hope.

How many times are you asked: "What do they do in other states?" To which you answer

with great satisfaction, "Let's see what the *State Law Index* tells us? We have this set from 1925—" (How you have sighed for earlier volumes!) Then what do you think of the following announcement? "The appropriation for the last biennium was cut to an amount which will make it impossible to publish the current volume of the valuable aid to better legislation, although the text has been prepared" . . . Do you not feel like exclaiming "Something must be done!" But what!

Note. — Before we could get the above into print the *United States Daily* appeared on our desk with the announcement that "a composite issue will be published hereafter for every six days of government action." The issue is dated March 6th-18th. We extend congratulations.

Alas, another item has to be chronicled. The March 15th issue of the *Municipal Reference Library Notes* announces that beginning with that number it will be a monthly publication, "published in the middle of the month on Wednesday — the usual day of issuance." This is too much. *Why not banish the depression!*

In the meantime the National Municipal League comes forward with a plan for the formation of "*Citizens councils for constructive economy.*" We quote: "The Citizens' Council idea grew out of informal conferences in New York, Chicago and Washington, following the Citizens Conference on the Crisis in Education, called by President Hoover in January. This movement is not, however, concerned with any particular service. It is an attempt to bring into existence Councils of local organizations interested in all of the services, in good government and in real economy." The proverbial silver lining is not hard to find. If we lose some things there is a possibility of some gain. Municipalities cannot suddenly become great welfare agencies without officials understanding more keenly problems that have perplexed welfare workers these many years, and social workers cannot fail to gain from this closer contact with civic leaders. Perhaps more thinking and more action will result.

In line with constructive economy, shall we attempt to know more about our own Group? Do you know a librarian working in our field who has not been economical enough to ally herself with S. L. A? There is economy of effort in organization. Tell her how S. L. A. has helped you. The Newspaper Group has given us a good example. Let us follow!

EMERGENCY EXCHANGES FOR UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

Economists are advocating the exchange of goods produced by and for the unemployed as a means of alleviating unemployment, and exchanges have already been organized in 29 states. Development of exchanges may be initiated by groups of the unemployed, as in Seattle (Washington), or by a relief organization as in Dayton. The growth of the movement has been greatest in the far west, Los Angeles County alone having over eighty exchanges. The Natural Development Association, Inc., with headquarters in Salt Lake City, has branches in several states, and includes within its production and exchange units, factory and farm products, and professional and commercial services. There are well organized exchanges throughout the mid-west, and exchanges are beginning to appear in various eastern towns and cities.

The printed material available on this subject ranges from a detailed plan for a nation-wide exchange system described by Professor Frank D. Graham in his book, "The Abolition of Unemployment," to pamphlets, bulletins and forms being used by active exchange organizations. Two very good articles surveying the history of the movement and describing existing exchanges are: "People Without Money" by Joanna C. Colcord, which appeared in the *New Outlook* for December, 1932, and of which reprints may be secured from the Russell Sage Foundation (New York); and "Self-help Among the Unemployed — The Return to Barter" in *Information Service* (105 East 22d Street, New York) for January 28, 1933.

Bibliographies giving references to material on specific projects, as well as to theoretical discussions and general surveys, have been prepared by the Library of the Bureau of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and by the Industrial Relations Section of Princeton University. A list of barter exchanges has been made by the Emergency Exchange Association, Inc. (52 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York). This organization is promoting exchanges throughout the New York area, and is acting as a national clearing house of information on developments.

Other sources of information are:

Mr. Hector Lazo, Marketing Service Division, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, D. C.

President Arthur Morgan, Midwest Exchange, Inc., Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio.

The Survey (112 East 19th St., New York) has contained several good articles on barter exchanges, and includes news items on this

subject in a regular department, "Unemployment and Community Action."

HELEN BAKER

CLASSIFICATION AND INDEXING

Editor: Emilie Mueser

CLASSIFICATION—HERE AND THERE

WE reprint an interesting reference to the D. C. which appeared in last February's issue of *The Library Association Record* (v. 3, p. 57): The following new feature, Mrs. Dewey tells us, is in course of development, and it is hoped that it may soon be completed for publication, i.e. a plan by which libraries of any country may give first place to their own country in those subjects on which locality has a specially important bearing—religion, language and literature, history and travel. The idea originated with William Alanson Borden, who was engaged in library work in India, 1910-13, and who entered into collaboration with the editor of D. C. to mould his idea into such form as would permit of its incorporation in D. C., which has been adopted on every continent and in many countries and which, being used more than all other systems combined, is obviously the vehicle by which this idea of Mr. Borden's, probably his greatest contribution to the library science of the world, can be most effectively conveyed to the world-wide range of libraries for whose benefit it was designed. The principal features of the plan had been agreed upon between Mr. Borden and the editor before Mr. Borden's death in November, 1931, by which the determination of minor details was thrown on the shoulders of D. C. editor, who will endeavour to settle them with a view to the greatest advantage of the greatest number.

A NEW DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION

The New Decimal Classification for "Literature" and for "History and Travel" by Thomas S. Dabagh and published in the *Wilson Bulletin* for February, 1933, offers a solution to the problem of arranging literature by form in libraries using the Dewey D. C. The New D. C. suggests reversing the language and form number putting the latter first, thus the Dewey D. C. 821 English poetry becomes 812 and 831 German poetry, would be 813. The new notation fits in and resembles the Dewey D. C. notation so that no confusion need result.

The suggestions made in reference to History and Travel are not so simple. The criticism of the Dewey D. C. 900 class is the separate sequences for travel and history materials, and the failure to provide a general class for each country and lo-

cality. It calls for a new group of divisions to be used with the geographic and period divisions now provided by the Dewey D. C. in classes 930-999. The new group would be a Subject division group and would be a secondary classification, the Geographic division being the basic or primary classification. The Period divisions would then become a tertiary classification and could be applied to each Subject division as desired.

MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION

The Classification of Library and Information Files developed for the Taylor Society by P. E. Henderson is an interesting example of a new business classification. It uses the alphabet for its main divisions; expansion being provided by the use of numbers in decimal sequence to express form or specific subdivisions.

The classification has four main sections A—General, B—Business, D—Administration and M—Management. In A we find subjects not specifically related to business or to the management of enterprises, as encyclopedias, dictionaries, history, natural science, etc.; B, includes Banking, Foreign trade, Insurance, Transportation and Public utilities; D, Scientific management, Industrial relations, Business finance, Inspection, Planning, etc.; and M, Plant equipment, Production, Accounting, Personnel management and Purchasing. Thus we have B, Business; BK Commercial; BKT Transportation; BKT6 Aerial transportation and BKT602 a handbook on aerial transportation.

A MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT CLASSIFICATION

Another classification that has come to our notice recently is a decimal classification scheme for municipal government material by Frederick MacMillan, secretary of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities (Madison, Wis.). The classification is limited in scope confining itself to government material, the notation ranging from 100 to 900.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND LANTERN SLIDES

The librarian, Etheldred Abbot, of the Ryerson Library, Chicago Art Institute has available at a nominal fee, reprints of the article "A Photograph and Lantern Slide Catalog in the Making," published in the *Library Journal* of November 15, 1932.

COMMERCIAL-TECHNICAL

Editor: Miriam Zabriskie

The following are comments from our Book Review Committee:

"THE AMERICAN RAILROADS TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM"

This is the title under which the Brookings Institution has announced the work of Dr. Harold G. Moulton and his research staff. The price will be \$3.00. The original report came from the National Transportation Committee and is still being distributed on request from the Committee on Public Relations of the Eastern Railroad, 143 Liberty Street, New York City. Editorials and digests of the report are to be found in *Annalist*, February 17, 1933, pp. 257-8, 261, 286; *Traffic World*, February 18, 1933, pp. 311-312; *Railway Age*, February 18, 1933, pp. 234, 247-250. "The points made comprise probably the most complete range of critical diagnosis which the railways have ever had from an unprejudiced outside authority." Regarding the separate, supplementary report made by Alfred E. Smith, *Traffic World* says: "Former Governor Smith adds zest to the findings by his separate concurring opinion in which, with characteristic vigor, he states his own opinions."

INSURANCE

Editor: *Geraldine Rammer*

ANNOUNCEMENT — A book review committee for the Insurance Group has been appointed, with Abbie Glover as chairman, assisted by Edith Flagg and Geraldine Rammer. This committee's recommendations will be mimeographed as a Bulletin under an attractive heading and distributed soon after April 1st. It is anticipated that such a Bulletin may list approximately fifteen items under each division of insurance — fire, life, surety and casualty. Has any one any suggestions?

WANTED — If you have a copy of Dunham's "The Business of Insurance" which you wish to sell, please communicate with the editor of this column.

PLANS — Mildred Pressman is chairman of a committee which is working on subject headings for an Insurance library. This is such a vital part of every insurance librarian's work that each member of the Group should assist the committee in every way possible.

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Some statistics showing the use of the library of the Insurance Society of New York and a three-page list of additions to the library are given in the Society's *News Letter* for January — "The Insurance Society of New York might have continued as some kind of organization — just what we do not know — but it never would have held the preeminent position it now holds if it had not been for the steady development of the Library from that night over thirty years ago, when the first box of books was unpacked and put on the shelves, right down to the present day."

MUSEUM

Editor: *Eugenia Raymond*

THE Fogg Art Museum Library recently acquired a reserve photograph study room, in which the slide files and catalogs are kept. This space was made available when the Naumberg rooms were moved into their new quarters.

Etheldred Abbot, librarian of the Art Institute of Chicago, is serving on the S. L. A. and A. L. A. Committees which are attempting to bring the work of the library before the public.

Mary B. Day, librarian of the Museum of Science and Industry, is one of a committee of five which has been preparing the Chicago Library Club directory of libraries in and near Chicago. The directory will include over 500 libraries.

The 1932 exhibition of Fifty Books of the Year, selected by the American Institute of Graphic Arts, attracted considerable attention recently at the Cincinnati Art Museum. The librarian gave gallery talks on the books and their printers, and attempts were made to bring interested readers into the library to see additional examples of fine printing.

The Brooklyn Museum Library has received 4,687 carefully chosen pieces of illustrative material for its lending picture file. These are the collection of the late Kate Mann Franklin, artist, lecturer and teacher. The material represents the accumulation of many years and is especially rich in color and design. This Museum also received from the executors of the estate of the late Colonel Michael Friedsam, President of B. Altman & Company, 595 books on art. His art collection was one of the best known in Greater New York and, upon its dispersal, went to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and to the Brooklyn Museum.

NEWSPAPER

Editor: *Joseph F. Kwapil*

THE Philadelphia Chapter's Newspaper Group of S. L. A. was officially organized at the Blue Lantern Tea Room, February 16, 1933.

The following officers were elected: Chairman, Frank Donohoe, *Evening Bulletin*; Vice-Chairman, Paul Foster, *Inquirer*; Secretary-Treasurer, Ralph Shoemaker, *Public Ledger*; Hospitality, Mrs. Marie Cassidy, *Evening Bulletin*; Membership, F. Heaton Shoemaker, *Public Ledger*; Board of Executives, Joseph F. Kwapil, *Public Ledger*; Fred Warrington, *Record*; Mrs. Helen Wells, *Evening Bulletin*; Frank Donohoe, *Evening Bulletin*; and Paul Foster, *Inquirer*.

It was unanimously agreed to meet jointly with the Special Libraries Council of Philadelphia.

EVENTS and PUBLICATIONS

Editor: Margaret Bonnell

THE Council on Foreign Relations has issued a "Foreign Affairs Bibliography," by W. L. Langer and Hamilton Fish Armstrong. It is a selected and annotated list of some 7,000 books published in the post-war period covering the whole field of current international relations—history, politics, economics, finance, international law and diplomacy, as well as related subjects such as civilizations and race conflicts, population and immigration problems, colonial problems, propaganda, modern warfare and disarmament. In addition to these more general phases, sections are devoted to all parts of the world, region by region and country by country.

The entries, which are classified under about 300 headings, give, in addition to full details as to author, publisher and number of pages, a brief note designed to indicate the nature of the book, its relative value and when possible the qualifications of the author. In the Preface the authors acknowledge the help of one of our members: "*In the work of classification and checking of titles we have received invaluable aid from Ruth Savord, the librarian of the Council whose expert knowledge and untiring effort made lighter the burden of organizing so much material.*"

Standards of Unemployment Insurance by Paul H. Douglas (Social Service Monographs No. 19 of the University of Chicago Press) is an outline of what a properly managed system of unemployment insurance would do and what features such a system should have. A particularly useful reference feature is the inclusion in appendices of the texts of the Wisconsin Unemployment Compensation Act, the Interstate Commission on Unemployment Insurance, the Ohio Unemployment Insurance Commission bill, and the American Federation of Labor's report on Unemployment insurance.

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"Unemployment Insurance" is the title of a pamphlet by an authority, Mary B. Gilson of Industrial Relations Counselors. The first half explains the British scheme. The remainder is given over to the situation in the United States, discussing reports of the Interstate Commission, the Ohio Commission, bills proposed before several State legislatures in 1933, and the opposition to such legislation.

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One of the most important features of the "1933 City Manager Yearbook" published by

The International City Managers' Association, 923 East 60 Street, Chicago, is the series of twenty articles covering the more significant events and developments in 1932 in the various fields of municipal administration.

An article on council-manager developments points out that more than one fifth of all our cities, with ten thousand or more population, now operate under the council-manager plan. This article also traces the growth of the manager plan, cities defeating proposals to adopt the plan, court decisions, legislation, and the county-manager plan. The greater portion of the Yearbook is devoted to the 1932 conference proceedings of the International City Managers' Association. One of the most important sessions was on the Technology of Retrenchment, and the Yearbook contains valuable papers under this heading. Price \$2.00.

* * *

A 200-year calendar made by the Ace Manufacturing Co., 280 Plane Street, Newark, N. J., meets very efficiently one of Miss Manley's reference problems at the Business Branch. It refers back 132 years and to any future date except that of the end of the depression, for 68 years, with any full month visible. Price \$5.00.

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SPECIAL LIBRARIES is referred to in a footnote to the chapter on "Scientific (Technical) Libraries" in a publication of the British Library Association, "The Year's Work in Librarianship, 1931." The chapter has been reprinted in pamphlet form and may be obtained from the author, H. P. Spratt of The Science Museum Library (London).

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"Unemployment Relief in the United States and Canada" is the title of a 12-page bibliography issued by the Russell Sage Foundation Library in December. The material is supplementary to Bulletin No. 109. References to public works projects and to unemployment insurance, as methods of alleviating unemployment, have been omitted. Price 20 cents.

• • •

The first annual edition of the "League Yearbook," a fully documented description of the organization of the League of Nations, the International Labour Office and the World Court and of their activities during the past year, is available from the World Peace Foundation, 40

Mount Vernon Street, Boston, Mass. This publication is not issued by the League of Nations and therefore is not due to global subscribers. Price \$3.50.

* * *

"The Heat Treatment and Annealing of Aluminum and Its Alloys," by N. F. Budgen, is a comprehensive monograph and the first published on the subject. It is obtainable from The Sherwood Press, Inc., Box 2617, Lakewood Branch, Cleveland, Ohio. Price \$7.50.

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Librarians who are building up or maintaining files of state documents will welcome a "Directory Chart of State Exchanges" which has been completed by Mrs. Mary E. Frankhauser, Librarian of The Michigan State Library. The chart represents very exhaustive and careful work in gathering and verifying information showing the sources from which publications of various states can be obtained. H. W. Wilson Co. Price \$1.25.

* * *

In the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* for November, Paul T. Homan of Cornell summarizes the proposals for economic planning and the literature. This summary covers fourteen of the recent publications dealing with planning including the Swope plan, and the ideas of Stuart Chase, Dean Donham and others.

* * *

"Guarantee of Industry," by the American Bankers Association Commission of Commerce and Marine, is the Kent plan for recovery, which proposes that the R. F. C. be utilized to carry out its operation. The individual banks would canvass their industrial clients for information on how much money they would need to resume operations on a 1927 scale, how many workers would be employed, how much raw material be purchased and the quantity and character of the increased production. This information would be coordinated by the Federal Reserve Banks as a basis for loans to be made.

* * *

"Foreign Dollar Bonds, 1933," by Albert W. Kimber, of White, Weld & Company, 40 Wall Street, New York City, presents the important particulars and provisions of issue of all foreign bonds payable in United States dollars heretofore sold in the American market and still outstanding on January 1, 1933, arranged alphabetically and indexed. Method of sinking fund operation has received particular attention. Note is made of defaults, "negative mortgage clause," income tax and transfer tax. The index is equivalent to

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a complete reference for titles, interest and maturity dates.

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Early life insurance official statistics for Massachusetts are reproduced in the appendices of a book published by the American Conservation Co. of Chicago, entitled "Elizur Wright: Bible of Life Insurance." Price \$5.00.

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"Morale: the Mental Hygiene of Unemployment," prepared for the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, 450 Seventh Avenue, New York City, by Dr. George K. Pratt, is recommended by social workers as an excellent pamphlet.

* * *

Volume two of the new Chemical Patents Index, published by the Chemical Catalog Co., contains C, D and E of the subject index, not A and B as stated in the note which appeared in our December issue. A and B of the subjects are included with the index of names in volume one.

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The Solar-Sturges Manufacturing Company at Melrose Park, Illinois, has developed a cooperative sales library for its salesmen. Each salesman contributes \$5.00 a year in semi-annual instalments. The company contributes an equal sum. A library committee of two salesmen and a representative from the main office selects the books.

Only one book is sent to a man at a time. With it a form is mailed stating the date the book will be due for return. Usually this is two weeks. On some of the longer books it is three weeks. The library contains books on selling, psychology, health, credits, advertising, public speaking, etc., but no fiction.

* * *

A timely report of the National Industrial Conference Board — "The Availability of Bank Credit" — gives statistical information from more than 3,500 sources on the extent to which individual American industries have been affected by the drastic liquidation of bank credit during the last three years. Two other recent titles are "Essentials of a Program of Unemployment Reserves" and "Taxation of Motor Vehicle Transportation."

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"A New Plan for Unemployment Reserves" is a recent report of the Employment Stabilization Research Institute, by Alvin H. Hansen and Merrill G. Murray. In 1928-29 Professor Hansen spent a year in Europe investigating the causes of economic instability and the economic consequences of unemployment insurance. Merrill G. Murray tested how various plans of unemploy-

ment insurance would work under conditions in Minnesota industries, and to what extent the reserves would withstand the strain of prolonged and severe unemployment like the present. Bryce M. Stewart of Industrial Relations Counselors was employed to uncover the provisions of various European plans which experience has demonstrated to be inadvisable or to merit adoption. Professor Hansen does not believe that unemployment insurance is an unmixed good, but reaches the conclusion that under modern conditions it is necessary. University of Minnesota Press, 50 cents paper, \$1.00 cloth.

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Blast Furnace and Steel Plant begins in the January issue its 16th annual review of iron and steel literature, a classified list of the more important books, serials and trade publications of the year, prepared by E H McClelland, Technology Librarian of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

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The "Union List of Periodicals" of the N. Y. S. L. A. is cited as an example of what may be accomplished by listing holdings of periodicals by groups smaller or more specialized than the large, well-stocked libraries of the country, by Karl Brown in *The Library Journal* for January 1. A description of the file started in 1922 by the Special Libraries Council of Philadelphia, which is in charge of Edith B. Skinner, is also given.

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"A Survey of a Retail Trading Area" in Illinois is published as No. 44 of the Bureau of Business Research, University of Illinois. The purpose of the study is to illustrate method and procedure as well as results which may be obtained from such a survey. Another bulletin — "Costs of Township and County Government in Illinois" — is an attempt to provide information upon which to base judgments as to the relative merits of certain types and forms of local government units.

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Financial Briefs is a new magazine digesting the current literature of business and finance. It is published in Bogota, N. J., by Daniel J. Lyons. Subscription \$3.00 a year, four months \$1.00.

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The Academy of World Economics, in Washington, D. C., has published as a pamphlet under the title "Gold; a World Problem," addresses given at the Institute of Public Affairs held last July by the University of Virginia.

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Alma Mitchell's Public Service Library was front page news (along with Prof. Auguste

Piccard) and the subject of the only editorial in a recent issue of *Public Service News*, the employees' magazine of the Public Service Corporation of New Jersey. Circulation and reference work in 1932 showed an increase over 1931, the previous busiest year — more than 8,000 books and 86,000 periodicals circulated, and 1,200 reference questions.

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Computation of approximate costs to individual firms of a system of unemployment benefits for their own employees is presented in "A Study of Labor Turnover in 14 Ohio Business Concerns in Relation to the Cost of a Hypothetical System of Unemployment Benefits," by the Bureau of Business Research of the Ohio State University. Price 50 cents.

* * *

"Employee Handbooks" is the subject of a recent report by the Policyholders' Service Bureau, Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., also the Director of Social Insurance Research prepared a recent "Memorandum" for the Joint Legislative Committee on Unemployment of the State of New York, which proposes a plan for paying unemployment benefits and training workers during a period of unemployment. These pamphlets may be had on application to the company.

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"Store Door Delivery" is the title of a 30-page annotated list of references prepared in January by the Library of the Bureau of Railway Economics, Washington, D. C. The list is chronologically arranged and goes back to 1912.

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"Democratic Influences in Industry" is a document of 100 pages, comprising the best single analysis of employer-employee joint ownership, control and management of industry available. It appears as the Proceedings of first annual conference of the Industrial Experimenters Associated, affiliated with the Bureau of Personnel Administration, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York. Price \$1.00.

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"Manufacturing Market Statistics," recently prepared by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce with the special cooperation of the Census Bureau, presents in compact, readily usable form the Census of Manufactures data for all industries showing such market indicators as number of plants, workers, wages and salaries, horsepower of equipment, material cost and value of output, by states, cities of 10,000 population and over, and major industrial areas.

A prominent feature of the new study is a plant-location section showing for the first time

on the basis of the 1929 Census of Manufactures the location by state and county of more than 200,000 manufacturing concerns representing a market for \$36,000,000 worth of materials, classed in 326 primary industry groups.

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"The Complete Bankruptcy Law of the United States (including amendment of February 11, 1932)" may be obtained as an 80-page pamphlet from the American Bankruptcy Review, 11 West 42nd Street, New York City.

* * *

The Mechanical Catalog, published by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, will carry in the 1933-34 edition a new "index to Manufacturers of Industrial Equipment, Materials and Supplies" which will include manufacturers with only one or a few products. These companies have not appeared in the past because their single or few products did not warrant them in purchasing the traditional minimum space of one page.

The Medical College of Virginia in Richmond has a new library building. Among the collection's 20,000 volumes are 545 sets of bound journals, a few of them complete for nearly a hundred years and many of them out of print. The library is also collecting and housing engravings, prints, portraits, photographs, letters, instruments and other articles having special significance in the health-service fields. The staff is headed by Dr. E. C. L. Miller as directing librarian and Florence McRae, librarian.

* * *

Encyclopedia Britannica articles and illustrations in each special field of the arts and sciences are being gathered together into a series of all-inclusive volumes so that they can be more conveniently read or used as handbooks. Two of these books are now ready — one on "Chinese Art," the other on "Painting." Obtainable at \$2.50 each from 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

Digest of Business Book Reviews

Compiled by the Staff of the Business Branch of the
Public Library, Newark, N. J.

Dahlberg, Arthur. Jobs, machines & capitalism. Macmillan, 1932. \$3.00.

"The diagnosis on which his proposed remedy rests emphasizes our failure to make increased productivity a benefit for all." *Barron's*, April 18, '32, p. 18. 480 words.

"Dahlberg goes to the very roots of our system of economy. More important still, for the layman, he has developed a flow sheet that shows clearly how raw materials, labor energy, finished products and purchasing power are related to one another." *Fact & Ind. Man.*, April '32, p. 34. 450 words.

"This book is likely to rank as the most intelligent study of what is the matter with us evoked by the current depression. The author, trained engineer, economist and sociologist, impartially analyzes the results of a capitalistic economic system and shows why, although this system is the best that offers, things have gone temporarily awry." *Food Industries*, Nov. '32, p. 380. 315 words.

See also: *Manag. Rev.*, Oct. '32, p. 318. 100 words; *N. Y. Her. Trib.*, Nov. 6, '32, p. 14. 700 words.

DeSchweinitz, D. How workers find jobs. University of Pennsylvania Press, 1932. \$2.50.

"The study brings together the results of an investigation into the methods by which some 4,000 hosiery workers in Philadelphia obtained their jobs." H. M. Diamond. *Amer. Econ. Rev.*, Sept. '32, p. 518. 600 words.

"Written primarily for the benefit of employment bureau officials, vocational counselors, personnel officers, and other persons who are interested in developing better organization methods whereby the worker might get in touch with his job." *Lib. Bull. of Indust. Rel. Couns., Inc.*, July '32, p. 25. 300 words.

"This is intended as a sample study to indicate the type of information needed in a public employment office regarding all industries." M. H. S. Hayes *Pers. Jour.*, Oct. '32, p. 187. 625 words.

See also — *Manag. Rev.*, Nov. '32, p. 350. 220 words.

Fraser, C. E. Analyzing our industries. McGraw-Hill, 1932. \$5.00.

"Believing that fundamental information about the set-up of leading industries and a thorough understanding of problems and trends are necessary to successful financial analysis and business management, the authors have undertaken to examine critically and constructively a series of important industries, analyzing the trends and future possibilities of each." *Barron's*, July 25, '32, p. 18. 185 words.

"For one who has not followed the troubled course of our major industries during the past ten years and expects to sell ideas in these fields, the book is invaluable. The style is similar to that of the Harvard reports, liberally supplemented with charts and graphs." *Class & Indust. Mark.*, Oct. '32, p. 46. 250 words.

"Of unusual interest is the complete treatment of industrial groups which have been but sketchily outlined in previous literature." *Mag. Wall St.*, Aug. 6, '32, p. 480. 400 words.

"When so great differences of opinion exist in the minds of economists, investors and business men, as to present status and future prospects of important industries, the book furnishes a real contribution to the study of a field in which there has been a marked scarcity of information presented in concise, non-technical form." H. A. Matthews. *Manag. Rev.*, Dec. '32, p. 384. 500 words.

Graves, L. M. Great depression & beyond. Brookmire Economic Service, 1932. \$2.00.

"After discussing briefly the business cycle and the general implications of previous depressions, the author traces the origin of the current business breakdown in the over-expansion of the world's industrial system." *Manag. Rev.*, Oct. '32, p. 319. 225 words.

"His discussion of the phases of the depression is remarkably clear, but the last section of the book, discussing the future, is not so clear. He thinks the creditor countries should, with their principal debtors, form economic unions, but sees no way in which this can be done." *Nat. Bus.*, Dec. '32, p. 54. 100 words.

Grayson, T. J. Leaders & periods of American finance. Wiley, 1932. \$4.00.

"Though one may feel that the author's appraisals sometimes depart from sound historical facts, one must conclude that he has done his work well and certain parts of it even brilliantly. Relying as he does, for the most part, upon secondary sources listed in a bibliography which fails to include some of the more recent scholarly treatises, accurate analysis becomes difficult." *Account. Rev.*, Dec. '32, p. 317. 925 words.

"The main purpose has been to show how our private finance developed from the firm basis of public finance which first arose in the brain of Alexander Hamilton, and then to describe the gradual evolution of American business enterprise through the century and a half just past." *Manag. Rev.*, Oct. '32, p. 318. 185 words.

See also — *Amer. Econ. Rev.*, Dec. '32, p. 317. 925 words; *Barron's*, June 27, '32, p. 19. 225 words.

Harwood, E. C. Cause & control of the business cycle. Financial Publishing Company, 1932. \$2.00.

"Advance comment on this book with so ambitious a title has been distinctly favorable, but to the writer it appears to be merely another of the numerous efforts to solve the economic puzzle as to the genesis and cure of depressions by financial legerdemain, while ignoring the fundamental factors of excessive land values communally created and vicious tax systems which leave an undue proportion of these values in private pockets while burdening and strangling the economic activities of the world." *Com. & Fin.*, Nov. 9, '32, p. 1342. 115 words.

"The entire theory is explained unpretentiously in a small volume which makes stimulating reading for the man who is interested in the relationship between banking and money policy and the phenomena of inflation and deflation." *Dun's Rev.*, Jan. 21, '33, p. 29. 100 words.

"Mr. Harwood has included an 'index of inflation' which is designed to portray the degree of inflation existing at any time. This index has been tested over the past few years and accurately revealed the underlying situation throughout the latter part of the boom and the present depression." *Bank Mon.*, Dec. '32, p. 760. 150 words.

Hoxie, G. L. Men, money & mergers. Macmillan, 1932, \$2.00.

"This book sets for itself the task of laying down fundamental principles with regard to the development of leadership, progress, and economic organization . . . It deals with generalities and unverifiable assumptions. It lays down sweeping historical statements and sociological propositions which it does not endeavor to prove even if it could." John Bauer. *Amer. Econ. Rev.*, Dec. '32, p. 741. 1,075 words.

"The book has an air of propaganda because the author draws his illustrative facts largely from the power industry

and frankly takes the rôle of its champion against the swarm of critics who have assailed it." *Mag. Wall St.*, Aug. 6, '32, p. 480. 700 words.

"It is a concise, logical and reasonable exposition of the general thesis that individual progress and individual happiness proceed best under private rather than governmental control and operation of industries. The book is particularly timely because it so evidently takes into account those changes in the economic situation which have been brought on by the current depression." B. C. Milner. *Manag. Rev.*, Dec. '32, p. 380. 850 words.

"The discussion is of a general nature. The electric power industry is treated in somewhat more detail, however." Margaret Reynolds. *Mid-West. Banker*, May '32, p. 13. 80 words.

"'Men, Money, and Mergers,' is in a way a misnomer. The book considers all these things, but it goes to the root of the subject and treats primarily of individualism versus government ownership." *Nat. Bus.*, Oct. '32, p. 52. 200 words.

Mills, F. C. Economic tendencies in the United States. National Bureau of Economic Research, 1932. \$5.00.

"The new measurements and factual material presented in this volume make it invaluable as a reference work, and their interpretation should prove stimulating to all who are interested in the course of recent economic events." *Barron's*, Dec. 5, '32, p. 18. 200 words.

"Here is an all-round study of importance and accuracy that will be one of the best indices of our changing civilization in years to come." M. E. Hare. *Credit & Fin. Manag.*, Jan. '33, p. 28. 210 words.

"Bridges the span between the previous study, 'Recent Economic Changes in the United States,' published by the committee early in 1929 and the report which the committee intends to publish in the future when the present economic cycle will have run its course. . . . The book appeals equally to the business man and to the student because of the easy readable style, in which it is written." *Dun's Rev.*, Jan. 21, '33, p. 29. 300 words.

"Analyzes, by means of hitherto unpublished measurements, these and other changes in the volume and character of production, prices, manufacturing costs, capital supply and other elements of the economic structure during the pre-war and post-war periods." *Manag. Rev.*, Dec. '32, p. 64. 375 words.

Mogensen, A. H. Motion & time study. McGraw-Hill, 1932. \$2.50.

"Though this volume deals entirely with the methods of studying the motions and minutes necessary to carry on production processes with view to reducing their costs, it has a peculiar interest and message for all designers and marketers of industrial equipment." *Class & Indust. Mark.*, Dec. '32, p. 38. 325 words.

"Students of motion study and managers who wish to learn what this method of analysis can do to reduce costs will find in this book a greater wealth of usable and practical material than has been brought together on this subject to my knowledge in any other book now in print." H. P. Dutton. *Fact and Indust. Manag.*, Dec. '32, p. 20. 275 words.

"A full explanation of each of the five general methods of measurement: process chart, clock, stop watch, motion study, and micromotion study. In addition to the theory of these methods, he cites actual adaptations which have been made in industry, and devotes the latter part of the book to the use of motion pictures in this work." *N. A. C. A. Bull.*, Dec. 1, '32, p. 366. 160 words.



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THE H. W. WILSON COMPANY
950-972 University Avenue
NEW YORK N. Y.

Nystrom, P. H. Fashion merchandising. Ronald, 1932. \$4.00.

"For anyone entering the fashion merchandising field, this splendidly organized presentation of the subject is invaluable and those who are familiar with most of the steps described will find the clear analysis helpful during this period of revaluation of store activities." *Bull. Nat. Ret. Dry Goods Assoc.*, Aug. '32, p. 581. 500 words

"Emphasizes the individual viewpoint of the subject almost entirely. . . . This book is a manual, the purpose of which is to guide students and executives in the proper method of merchandising to the fashion cycle." Ralph Cassady, Jr. *Jour. of Bus.*, Univ. Chicago, Oct. '32, p. 406. 800 words.

"Many marketing experts consider this book to be one of the best yet written on the modern application of psychology to business. It can be unreservedly recommended for study by all interested in marketing and especially by those concerned with the problems of present-day retailing." *Jour. Retail.*, Oct. '32, p. 93. 525 words.

"Describes the various methods of styling and the influences behind style. A further influence — and the most important — is, of course, what the public wants. Considerable space has been devoted to methods of analyzing consumer demand." *Merch. Man*, Aug. '32, p. 64. 300 words.

"Until a book on fashion is written from the standpoint of the store manager, this book will be useful in giving him practical and theoretical information on the subject." *Synd. Store Merch.*, Nov. '32, p. 38. 235 words.

"The purpose is to suggest lines along which differential advantages in the field of fashion merchandising may be legitimately created and promoted." *Text. World*, Aug. '32, p. 102. 150 words.

Seligman, E. A. A. Price cutting and price maintenance. Harper, 1932. \$6.00.

"Valuable chiefly as a source of information concerning the probable best means of circumventing the legal scruples of judges rather than as a convincing demonstration of the economic desirability of price maintenance." L. W. Cooper. *Amer. Econ. Rev.*, Dec. '32, p. 730. 1,200 words.

"An economic study, authoritative and impartial, of resale-price maintenance and price cutting related thereto." Leona Kohn. *Indust. Arts Ind.*, April '32, p. 111. 60 words

"A discussion of the historical and legal developments in resale-price maintenance. . . . The status of resale-price maintenance in foreign countries is also considered." *Manag. Rev.*, Jan. '33, p. 29. 450 words.

Taussig, F. W. American business leaders. Macmillan, 1932. \$4.00.

"New light was thrown on the problems of economic inequality — i. e., the differences in the earnings of individuals engaged in different occupations." *Jour. Bus. Educ.*, Dec. '32, p. 25. 325 words.

"An investigation of the social origins of our business leaders, and as to whether the proportion of each social class among business executives is the same, less, or greater than the proportion of that class to the population at large." *Manag. Meth.*, Nov. '32, p. 626. 550 words

"It will interest those who have been or are without aid in fighting their way to success, to know that 60 per cent of these executives received no help, financial or otherwise, when they started to earn their livelihood." *N. A. C. A. Bull.*, Feb. 1, '33, p. 892. 175 words.

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