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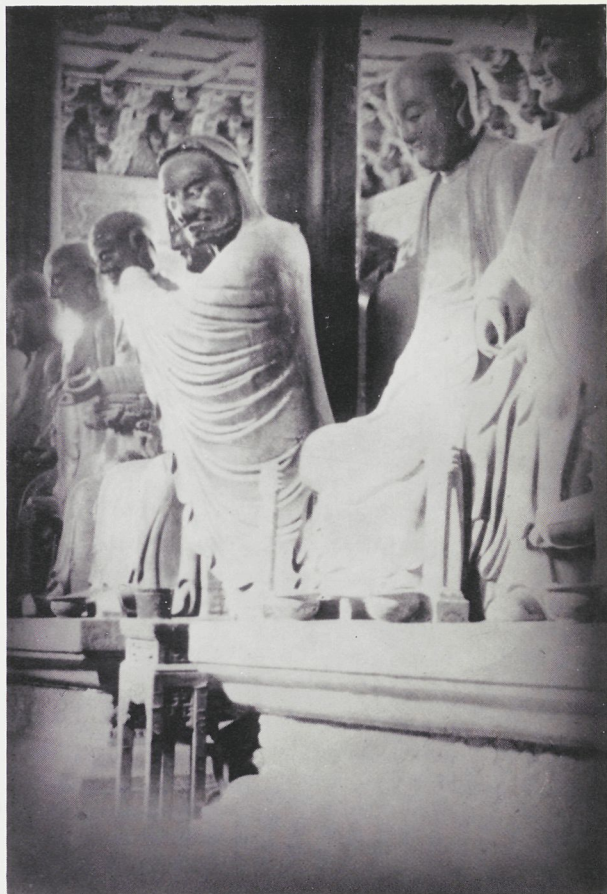
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"Marco Polo" in the Monastery of the Jade Green Clouds, Peking. (Note Caucasian eyes and beard.)

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Marco Polo, Mr. Gladstone,
and Other Buddhas

IN THE Monastery of the Jade Green Clouds, at Peking, there is a hall containing life-sized statues of 500 Buddhas. Among the multitude of images, each with the half-closed, almond eyes and dreamy smile of the typical *Arhan*, the Chinese guide points out one with “Western” features. This, he tells you, is none other than Marco Polo. Some scholars sniff at this attribution, but it is interesting that in Canton’s “Temple of the 500 Gods” one of the images is also dubbed “Marco Polo.” Against a background of missionary endeavor to make Christians of them, the Chinese respond with the retort courteous of claiming Marco Polo as a Buddhist saint. And this has been carried even further in Tibet, where travellers used to observe tin plates stamped with the effigies of Napoleon III, the Prince of Wales, and Mr. Gladstone—all popularly supposed to be Buddhas of more or less sanctity.

Professor Goodrich traces other more significant East-West interactions in his article (page 5). The recent exhibition in Butler Library—“Polo to Perry”—gave a lively visual interpretation of the same process. The other day, we noticed several East Asian exchange-students inspecting this exhibition with obvious interest. For us they seemed the latest ripple in the old ebb-and-flow between East and West—which has been going on ever since Alexander the Great’s conquest of India in 328 B. C.



Europeans as visualized by a Chinese artist (17th–18th century?). (From Berthold Laufer, "Christian Art in China," in *Seminar für orientalische Sprachen, Mitteilungen*. Jg. XIII, 1910.)

China's Acquaintance with the West

L. CARRINGTON GOODRICH

CHINA'S formal relations with the west started in B. C. 128 when a Chinese envoy travelled by land as far as the Hellenistic kingdom of Bactria. During the following century and a quarter many other envoys, military men, and merchants from China went over the same routes gathering knowledge of the peoples, customs, natural products, and geography of the regions touched, some of which has filtered down to us in records of the time. In the same period other envoys were going by sea, possibly clear across the Indian Ocean. It seems entirely possible that by the first century or two A. D. Chinese travellers were meeting Romans, certainly people from the Roman Orient, both in the ports and at inland centers of trade. One Chinese envoy, in the 90s, crossed central Asia and reached the mouth of the Euphrates. Recent finds of the French near Saigon suggest that some sixty years later Chinese merchants may have mingled with mariners from the Mediterranean at the capital of the ancient empire of Funan. Chinese silk was making itself popular in Rome in the time of Caesar Augustus, while—as a first century Chinese text proclaims—Chinese merchants were exchanging silk and gold for “brilliant pearls, glass, rare stones, and curious products.” Entertainers too were coming to China—jugglers from Alexandria, it is thought—along with Buddhist missionaries from India, Ceylon, and Iran.

Throughout the first millennium of our era contacts with the west of Asia, and even with Egypt, continued. The Zoroastrian faith, followed by such religions as Nestorian (or Chaldean) Christianity, Manicheism, Islam, and Judaism made some impact on China between 500 and 1100. The Chinese by 651 knew of Mohammed and his successes in Arabia, while Theophylactus

Simocotta of Byzantium about fifty years earlier was writing of the wars in the region of the Yellow River. A map drawn in 801 showed seven major routes from China to various parts of Asia.

A curious story, told by an Arab concerning his audience with the emperor of China in the 870s, gives some inkling of the knowledge of the rest of the world by the Chinese. T. F. Carter thus relates the anecdote:

“The emperor, after discoursing with considerable accuracy of the five kingdoms of the world—the Chinese, Turkish, Indian, Arab, and Greek—is said by the Arab narrator to have pulled from a box beside his throne pictures of Noah in the Ark, of Moses and his rod, of Jesus upon an ass, and of the Twelve Apostles. The surprising modernness of this Chinese emperor as seen by his Moslem visitor is illustrated by the fact that he marvelled at what Jesus accomplished in the short space of thirty months, he combatted the idea that there had ever been a universal deluge and laughed heartily when his Arab visitor tried to tell him that the world had been created only six thousand years.”¹

Another Arab relates that at about the same time (between 850 and 923) a Chinese scholar in Baghdad made a translation into his own language of Galen's sixteen books on medicine; what happened to his manuscript we unfortunately do not know.

Cultural Interchange as a Byproduct of Trade

Around the twelfth century China's maritime trade reached its apogee, with the result that the lands and islands from the Philippines to Egypt became known to the Chinese as never before. The Pharos of Alexandria and Mt. Etna in Sicily swam within their ken, if not through direct knowledge, at least through the tales of fellow travellers. A hundred years later the Mongol conquests produced a situation which opened up almost the whole of the then known world, and kept it open until 1368. In 1267 a Persian astronomer and geographer made a present to Kubilai of a ter-

¹ T. F. Carter, *The Invention of Printing in China and Its Spread Westward*, 1st ed. 1925, p. 91.

restrial globe, among other instruments, which must have been an eye-opener to the Chinese and Mongols at the court. Seven parts of it, in green, represented water and three parts, in white, land—astonishingly close to the correct ratio of 72:28. By 1330 a Chinese scholar was able to draw a map which included not only the whole of Asia, but Europe and Africa as well. About a hundred place names are given for Europe, about thirty-five for Africa, the latter already drawn in the form of a triangle. Chinese and Mongols established colonies in Tabriz, Moscow, and Novgorod. At the same time that Marco Polo was in China, a Nestorian (Uighur?), born in Peking, was visiting Byzantium and Rome, calling on Philip the Fair in Paris, and paying his respects to the king of England in Gascony (1287-88).

Of all places outside of China where Chinese and European savants probably mingled on an equal footing, the most significant may well have been Tabriz. The Persian historian Rashid-eddin, writing shortly after 1300, thus described his own city:

“There were gathered there, under the eyes of the *padishah* of Islam, philosophers, astronomers, scholars, historians, of all religions, of all sects, people of Cathay, of Machin (South China), of India, of Kashmir, of Tibet, of the Uigur and other Turkish nations, Arabs and Franks.”²

The people of Venice and Genoa were represented at Tabriz, as well as embassies from France, England, Aragon, and the Papacy.

In China itself several colonies of Europeans—merchants, craftsmen, missionaries, and envoys—sprang up and lasted a while. How much of an impression on the Chinese mind they made is open to question. Possibly those most appreciated by Ogedai, Mangu, Kubilai, and their successors were the Alans, good armorers and able fighting men from the Caucasus. Their guerrilla-type attacks against the Mongols made them redoubtable foes, perhaps the best encountered in all Europe, and when finally conquered they were incorporated into the bodyguard of the grand khan. At the time

² Carter, *op. cit.*, p. 128.

of the visit to Peking (1342) of the Papal envoy, John de' Marignolli, a native of Florence, they numbered thirty thousand. He speaks of them as "the greatest and noblest nation in the world, the fairest and bravest of men." Over twenty of them are immortalized in the solemn pages of the *Yüan shih*, the history of the Mongol dynasty. When they arrived in China they belonged to the Greek Orthodox church, but several generations later in 1336 they sent an embassy to Pope Benoit XII at Avignon asking to be received into the Roman Catholic communion.

This branch of the faith, as is well known, established a number of churches in the Orient between 1292 and the middle of the following century. In recent years several remains of their chapels, tombs, and sculptured monuments have come to light. There is the ruined Franciscan basilica at Nanking, lately restored, modelled after an ecclesiastical building in Avignon. There is the Latin tombstone in Yangchow of "Catherine, daughter of the late Sir Dominic de Vaglione" (possibly a merchant member of a family in the Genoa region), who died in 1342. And there are the stones crosses of Ch'üan-chou (Zayton), the thriving port on the south-east coast of China, so praised by Marco and Ibn Batuta.

Something of a curtain fell after the Mongols withdrew from China, but not entirely. That there were contacts with western Asia and Africa by land and sea is shown by the magnificent collections of Chinese porcelain of the XIVth, XVth, and XVIth centuries still preserved in Teheran and Istanbul, and by finds of XVth century manufacture (coins, textiles, and ceramics) preserved in the Kilwa Islands off the coast of Tanganyika, in Cairo, and elsewhere. Fleets on seven occasions between 1405 and 1433 reached out into the lands bordering the Indian Ocean and brought to Nanking and Peking both curious information and much pelf. Even the lore collected by Dante (1265-1351) and immortalized in his *Divine Comedy* finds its way into a strange piece of fiction published in China in 1597, through the medium of tales brought back by merchants and mariners in the early decades of the fifteenth century.

The Navigators and Maps

Beginning with the XVIth C., we come into a different world. In 1514 the Portuguese navigators touched the coast of China, followed in due course by the Spanish, the Dutch, the English, and the French, while the Russians met the Chinese far in the north, on the borders of Siberia. As a rule these early contacts were not happy ones, and the Chinese then suffering from attacks of Japanese (and Chinese) freebooters on the coast, Manchu and Mongol forays on their northern and north-western boundaries, and Muslim uprisings in the interior can hardly be blamed for regarding these sometimes uncouth and marauding "Franks" without enthusiasm. The missionaries, however, were of a different sort. After finally admitting a few at the end of the century, the Chinese literati and officials discovered them to be men of spiritual and moral worth, with extensive knowledge, and various technical skills.



Scroll painting by a Jesuit artist in China. (Illustration from Berthold Laufer, *ibid.*)

With the help of Chinese scholars the learned priests put much of this into writing. A modern student of his country's history has written :

"During the next two centuries [1600-1800], at least eighty Jesuits of various nationalities participated in translating into Chinese more than four hundred works covering fields of knowledge new to the Chinese. More than half these works relate to Christianity, about one-third are scientific literature, and the remainder concern Western institutions and humanities."³

Philosophy, ethics, government, education, linguistics, literature, music, geography, mathematics, astronomy, physics, geology, biology, medicine, and military science are some of the subjects covered. Ricci's translation of Euclid (in 1607), we are told, was regarded by the Chinese intelligentsia as "the crown of western studies." His treatise on memory (1595) pointed out that the brain, not the heart as the Chinese held, was the seat of memory. DeUrsis wrote an illustrated work (1612) on western techniques of hydraulics and (in 1617) on western pharmacology. In 1615 Diaz reported on recent discoveries made by Galileo (1564-1642) with his telescope. Trigault's attempt to reduce characters to Latin script (1626) excited a number of savants and led them to advocate an alphabetic system. The same Jesuit translated Aesop's *Fables*. As a result of these and other works, a Chinese minister of high degree in 1629 laid before the emperor (the last of his line) proposals for further translation of western scientific books and the construction of astronomical instruments (three telescopes among them). This memorial was approved and Father Terrenz, a brilliant Swiss scientist and linguist, was ordered to assist in the undertaking. Unhappily he died in 1630 just as the labors of the commission were in their initial stages and the dynasty was heading towards its fall.

One of the most memorable of early European contributions, one which was to be revised and copied time and again, was a map of the world. Ricci made the first in 1584 based in part on Ortelius'

³ Tsuen-hsuei Tsien, "Western impact on China through translation," *Far Eastern Quarterly*, XIII, 1954, p. 306.



Jesuit Missionary Adam Schall, surrounded by his astronomical instruments. (From the French edition of Kircher's *China Illustrata*.)

Theatrum Orbis Terrarum (1570) in part on the Mercator map of 1569, and—for Siberia and the eastern part of Asia—either on a well known Chinese encyclopaedic work entitled *Wen hsien t'ung k'ao*, published in the first half of the 14th century and republished in 1524, or on a Chinese geographical treatise named *Kuang yü t'u* which appeared in 1554. By 1608 this map had gone through eight editions and extensive revisions, (the 1595 edition of the Ortelius map and the Plancius map of 1592, were now available to Ricci) and was known in scholarly circles all over China and even in Japan. The contributions of this map to Chinese knowledge were manifold. They included: a) European discoveries, particularly the Americas, b) unified conception of the world, c) division of the earth into five zones, d) knowledge of meridians, e) many geographical terms and f) because of the textual comments on blank spaces of map, considerable information about peoples, fauna, and flora of distant regions. It also re-inforced the intelligence, received in the time of Kubilai Khan, of the sphericity of the earth. Before 1644 six different Chinese scholars had published geographical works based in part on Ricci's *mappamondi*. Two Jesuit successors to Ricci, Aleni in 1623 and Verbiest in 1674, likewise brought out world maps incorporating the latest information; and, as years went on, others reached the court. In 1937 the author saw one of North and South America, dated *Paris 1698*, hitherto unlisted, in a hall of the imperial palace. Father Benoit wrote in 1764 from Peking that three years earlier, on the occasion of the fiftieth birthday of the Manchu emperor Ch'ien-lung, he had presented his majesty with a new map of the world, 13 or 14 feet in length and 7 in height. The emperor was so pleased, he reported, that he charged the holy father to fashion two terrestrial and celestial globes to be placed beside his throne in the great audience hall.

Another contribution of some interest was the publication for use in the bureaucracy of certain vocabularies of the European languages most frequently encountered. The Chinese government had for centuries maintained a small group of clerks especially

trained to serve as interpreters in their country's official contacts with Central Asiatics, Koreans, Japanese, Burmese, and many other Asiatic peoples. The new vocabularies, six of them made for the Office of Translators in Peking (about 1748) and one for the magistracy of Macao (in 1751), are in the following languages: Portuguese, Latin, Italian, French, English, and German. Except for the English vocabulary they were probably drawn up with the help of western missionaries and provide approximately 2700 expressions in each language. The English one is far more compact, and was apparently compiled by an inadequately equipped Chinese without the aid of a European.⁴

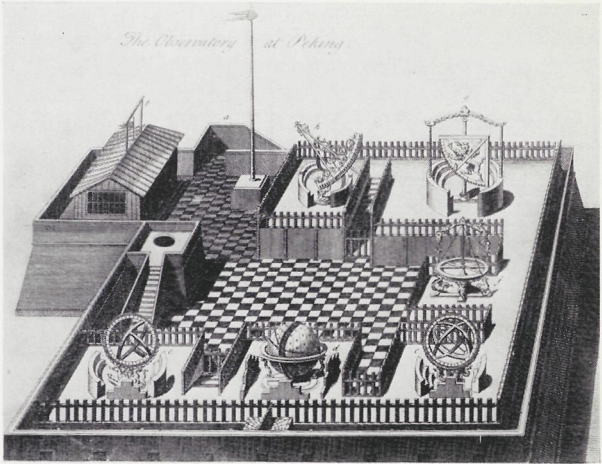
Meanwhile an occasional Chinese was making his way to Europe. Juan Gonzalez de Mendoza, an Augustine friar and native of Toledo, writing in 1585 of trade by sea reported:

"The desire of gain hath caused them to travel to Mexico, whither came the year past . . . three merchants of China with very curious things, and never stayed until they came into Spain and into other kingdoms further off."

Early Chinese Students in the West

In 1650 Father Martin Martini took a Chinese with him to Europe, a man whom he describes as "juvenis minime illiteratus," a by no means illiterate youth. A year later Michael Boym S.J. set out for Rome with two Chinese companions, one of whom arrived in 1652, returning in 1659. A certain Shen Fo-tsung reached Oxford in 1685 and was interviewed by the orientalist Dr. Thomas Hyde. In 1723 Father Ripa left China with four students. Years later (1732) they were installed in a college in Naples especially opened for the training of Chinese for the priesthood. In

⁴W. Fuchs, "Remarks on a new Hua-i-i-yü," *Catholic University of Peking Bulletin* No. 8, 1931, 91-102; C. R. Bawden, "An Eighteenth century Chinese source for the Portuguese dialect of Macao," *Silver Jubilee Volume of the Zinbun-Kagaku-Kenkyusyo*, Kyoto University, 1954, 12-33. Why a Russian vocabulary was not included is puzzling. A Russian office existed in Peking from around 1693 to 1862.



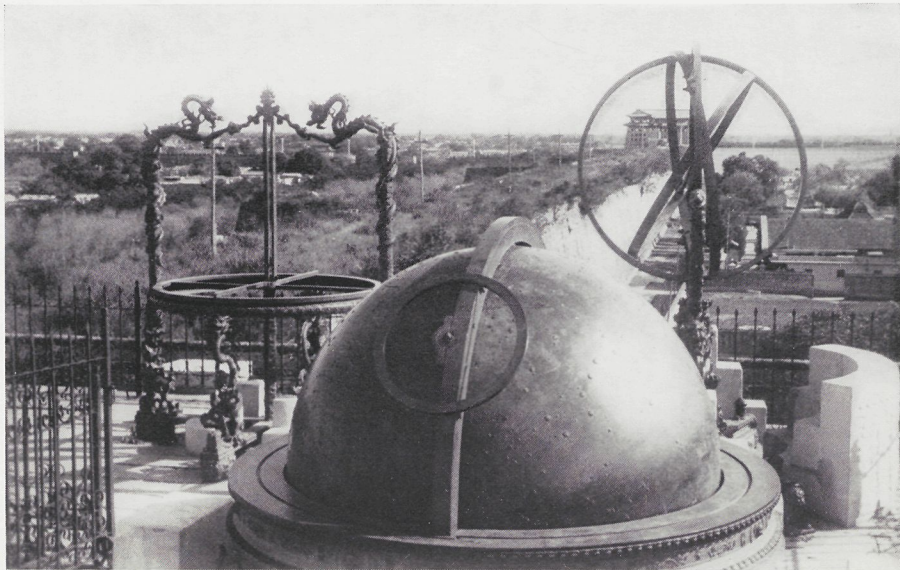
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. the stairs of the observatory | e. an armillary sphere |
| b. a retiring room for the observers | f. an azimuthal horizon |
| c. an aequinoctial sphere | g. a quadrant |
| d. a celestial globe | h. a sextant |

The Imperial Observatory at Peking showing instruments some of which were presented by Louis XIV and some of which were cast under Jesuit direction. (From Jean Baptiste Du Halde, *The General History of China*, volume 3, London, 1736.)

1740 a Jesuit took five others to Paris where they studied at the Collège Louis-le-Grand. Up to the suppression of the Society of Jesus in France in 1762, several Chinese followed in their train, going either to Paris or to La Flèche, and on the completion of their studies returning to China. Two, Kao Lei-ssu and Yang Te-wang, deserve especial mention. While still in their 'teens they left for France (1751) and studied French, Latin, and the humanities at La Flèche, theology at Paris. With the dissolution of the Society they fell under the protection of Mons. Bertin, minister of state, and remained "aux frais du roi." Though their formal studies ended in 1764, they were persuaded to stay on an additional year to study physics, natural history, and chemistry with

two members of the French Academy of Sciences, who, we are gravely told, were astonished at their progress. Next they learned how to make engravings; they paid visits to factories in Lyon, where silk, gold, and silver were processed; they journeyed to St. Etienne to see how nails, hardware, and firearms were turned out; and they inspected mines, farms, and such activities as bee culture, cattle breeding, and glass making in other parts of France. A truly well rounded education. On their departure early in 1765 Yang and Kao, who now bore such "Christian" names as Aloys and Etienne, were sent off with gifts from the royal family, including a little portable printing press, and with instructions from M. Bertin to keep him informed about China. This resulted in a number of communications—at least eighty-five in all—together with five sketches and three engravings, now preserved in a single volume in Paris. While these and others labored as churchmen in China, they must too have spread some of their knowledge of western Europe among their countrymen.

After the collapse of the dynasty of Ming (1644) and the advent of the Manchu the attitude towards the European scholar missionaries changed. In spite of a setback in 1664, brought on largely by Moslem astronomers who resented their superior knowledge, the highly educated Jesuits at the capital throughout the early decades after the reign of K'ang-hsi (1662-1722) received many favors and continued the introduction of important aspects of their own culture: in mathematics, astronomy, medicine, and music—to name a few—, besides assisting the court in mapping the empire and in conducting negotiations with the Russians on the northern frontier. In 1693 the emperor, grateful for a timely administration of quinine when he was at death's door with malaria, gave land in the capital for a church which was built largely in European style and to which Louis XIV also made donations of funds and furnishings. Trouble followed shortly thereafter when the Holy See and K'ang-hsi collided over the term for God and over the performance by Christian converts of sacrifices to Confucius and to ancestors (considered unobjection-



A photograph made in 1936 of the Peking observatory portrayed on page 14.

able by the Jesuits, but fulminated against by other missionaries). The Manchu emperor, never completely secure on his throne and watchful for signs of rebellion, could not brook this challenge to his authority. He dismissed both delegates from Rome (de Tournon in 1706, Mezzabarba in 1721) and from then on the representatives of the church in China fell on difficult times. More than that, the interest in Europe and its civilization lost most of its attraction. True, Castiglione had a following as a painter introducing certain western techniques, and he and Benoit helped in designing and constructing European types of structures and fountains at the palace outside the city. These contributions, however, were hardly felt beyond the court. The haughty dismissal of Lord Macartney by the emperor Ch'ien-lung (in 1793) was symptomatic of the times. The Chinese and Manchus by this date had grown to distrust profoundly the Russians in the north (to whom they had sent missions in 1729 and 1731) and the other western nationals in the south. A new interest in the west was not to come until the industrial revolution and the full force of the Protestant Reformation in Europe and North America made themselves felt in China. This occurred in the latter half of the XIXth century.



A section of the map of “Tartary, or the Kingdom of the Great Cham,” which portrays Marco Polo’s knowledge of the Pacific area. (From Abraham Ortelius, *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, Antwerp, 1570.)

The University's Source of Knowledge about China

Six Centuries of Books

HOWARD P. LINTON

ONE of the most gratifying things about the Columbia University Libraries these days, at least to those of us in the East Asiatic Library, is the current spotlight on the Far East. The "Polo to Perry" exhibit in Butler Library, and Professor L. Carrington Goodrich's article elsewhere in this issue, present a logical opportunity to discuss further the facilities for research into Chinese studies that are available at Columbia.

The days when a library's maintenance of Chinese books was considered an exotic indulgence have largely passed. It is still desirable, nevertheless, to take every opportunity to promote a fuller recognition of the tremendous storehouses of knowledge that exist in Chinese printed literature. That literature is indispensable for all studies of world history and culture, just as it is for finding workable solutions to some of the key issues of the world today. Chinese studies are on the increase: sound, scholarly studies, as well as popular ones which now find a publishing market because of the continued presence of the Far East in the newspaper headlines. There remains, even so, an enormous number of primary and secondary sources that should be explored, of topics that should be developed from them. Columbia's Chinese collection, especially strong—and in some cases unique—in the fields of the humanities and the social sciences, is admirably equipped to supply the facilities for such research.

Columbia's first recorded Chinese book, in the form of a trans-



Ambassador Wellington Koo, President Kirk, and Dr. Hu Shih, noted Chinese scholar, at the presentation of the Chinese Dynastic Histories to Columbia University, February 3, 1955.

lation of the New Testament, was donated to the University in 1824. The first major acquisition, however, was the monumental encyclopedia *Ch'in Ting Ku Chin T'u Shu Chi Ch'êng*, in 5,044 volumes. The gift was made in 1902 by China's Foreign Office upon the establishment at Columbia of the Dean Lung Professorship of Chinese (a chair now held by Professor Goodrich). In building up the collection, policies have of course changed with the years, apace with curricula, current events, budgets, and other influencing factors. The overall aim to provide a library of "general usefulness" for the humanities and the social sciences has, however, been adhered to as closely as possible.

The Chinese collection now contains 23,547 titles in 142,760 volumes,¹ and it forms the largest segment of the East Asiatic Library. Included in the figures are some 85 works in Manchu and Mongol in 568 volumes, and over a thousand periodical titles.

Most of the basic works are on hand. Over a decade ago, Professor Chi-chen Wang could report that "the Collection has . . . 214 of the 228 items in *A Union List of Chinese Books in American Libraries* by Charles S. Gardner, and 269 out of about 287 items in *An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Chinese Reference Works* by Ssu-yu Teng and Knight Biggerstaff. A check of C. S. Gardner's *A Union List of Selected Western Books on China in American Libraries* (1938) showed only 3 titles out of 371 not in the Libraries. Of the [Chinese] biographical works indexed by the Harvard-Yenching Institute, it has all the 33 Ch'ing items, 28 of the 30 Liao, Chin and Yüan items, 44 of the 47 Sung items, and 64 of the 89 Ming items." Representative files of learned journals and a good selection of general as well as subject periodicals are included in the holdings. In the category of generalia, we might also include the large number of *ts'ung-shu*, or collected works on various subjects. Three titles alone of this form of publication occupy over 7,000 volumes. Each item within these works is "analyzed"

¹ No differentiation is made, in the figures, between the "modern volume" as we know it in the West and the Chinese *ts'ê* or fascicule, a number of which may be enclosed within one wrapper or case.

—each has its own card in the card catalog, with reference to where it is to be located in the collections. Several hundred other *ts'ung-shu* (precise counting would be difficult, since there is disagreement as to the exact definition of the term) are contained in the Library.

The fields of history, geography, and biography are excellently represented, with some emphasis on Ming and Ch'ing dynasty periods (1368–1644 and 1644–1912). There are the various editions (with their supplements and addenda) of the twenty-four dynastic histories, recording events from the earliest times to the end of the Ming dynasty, as well as the standard non-official histories of the times. The Library possesses both the 1940 edition of the *Ming Shih-lu* (“Veritable Records of the Ming Dynasty”) in 500 volumes and a microfilm of the incomplete edition formerly in the National Library of Peiping. The 1461 edition, in 40 volumes, of the *Ta-Ming I-t'ung chih* (“Comprehensive Geography of the Ming Dynasty”) is another enviable possession. For Ch'ing studies, there is the *Ta-Ch'ing Li-ch'ao Shih-lu* (comparable to the *Ming Shih-lu*, but for the 1644–1912 period), published in 1937 in Tokyo in 1,220 volumes; the *Tung-hua Lu* (important documents chronologically arranged) in a number of editions, including an early manuscript one; and three editions of the *Ta-Ch'ing Hui-tien*, containing statutes for the Ch'ing dynasty.

The “veritable records” of a historical era were traditionally compiled by official historians of the succeeding era. The Republic of China (1912 on) therefore lacks the valuable *Shih-lu*. As Harvard's Professor Fairbank points out, “We face the difficult fact that the generation of the Republican revolution, who might have been expected to leave a rich body of memoirs on the stirring events of their youth, have never found a time when the revolution had come to an end to provide the leisure for memoirs.” The East Asiatic Library does, however, have a good selection of the extant modern historical studies.

It is unfortunate that no library in the country systematically collected materials, seemingly ephemeral at the time, that would be helpful nowadays for the understanding of China's swing to

communism and therefore for the knowledge of how best to handle the complex problems that have arisen in connection with the new regime there. Postwar days found libraries scrambling for these scarce materials. Columbia has had its share of success in locating and acquiring items of this sort so that it can now offer a quite representative group of books and periodicals, some of them unique in America, on the subject.

Lists of national and regional officials and of candidates who passed various examinations, covering the period from 1803 to 1925 (in varying degrees of completeness), form a body of great value to research into history and biography, as do the Peking and government gazettes for the years 1882 to 1928. *Nien-p'u* ("chronological biographies," described by Dr. Gardner as "often the only source from which can be extracted the dates of birth and death, usually ignored by the Chinese in favor of the date of the doctoral examination") and other forms of biographies constitute a still further unit of strength; the Library has over 500 of them in 785 volumes. The 2,000-volume collection of anthologies of belles-lettres (such anthologies are compiled according to localities) is important too for the biographical information concerning the authors represented in them.

Unique among libraries anywhere in the world, even in China, is the collection of *chia-p'u*, or family histories. Over 900 titles (in 9,750 volumes) of these works, issued in editions sometimes as small as eight and intended for deposit in family archives, are here in the East Asiatic Library. They remain an almost untapped source not only for their biographical data but also for information on many other subjects. It is hoped that the Library can one day publish a catalog of them.

Fang-chih, or gazettes of China's provinces, prefectures, districts, and towns, play still another important role in Chinese historical and cultural studies. We have an outstanding collection of some 1,426 of these local histories in roughly 6,000 volumes—figures which place Columbia well within the top ten libraries in the world for this category.

Fiction and drama holdings are strong, especially for the study

of 19th and 20th century Chinese literature. There are, apart from separate works and complete and selected compilations, unbroken sets of important literary magazines in which much original fiction and many translations from European works first appeared.

Materials for the study of fine arts are adequate, and include all the valuable publications of the National Palace Museum and of the famous private museums, together with the works of individual artists and painters. Archaeology and antiquities, important to any culture, are well covered. The Chalfant-Britton collections on early Chinese writing deserve special mention. They represent years of research by two of the most competent scholars in the field who, through decipherment and interpretation of Chinese characters inscribed thousands of years ago on oracle bones and bronzes, have contributed to the reconstruction of early Chinese language, history, and society.

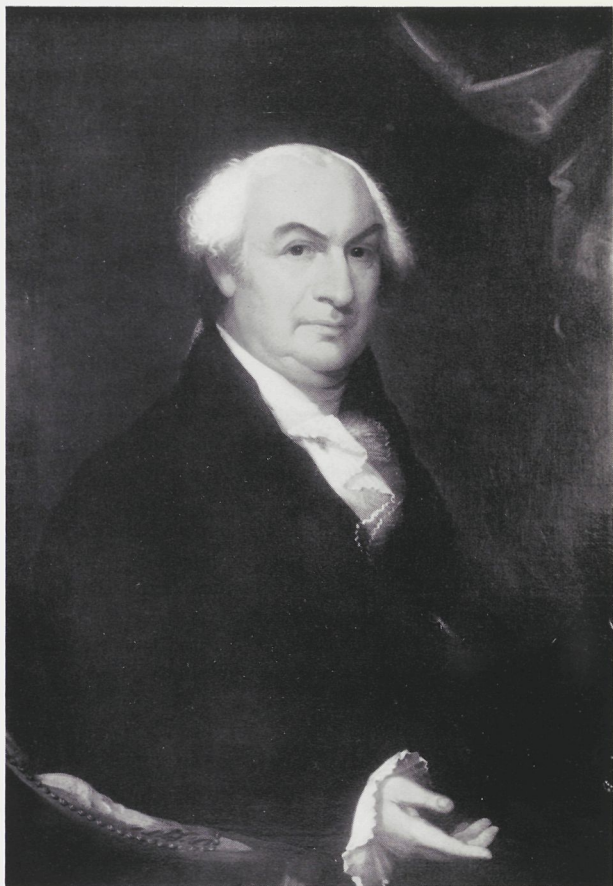
The "Treasure Collection" contains the Library's titles designated as rare books, some of them in manuscript. The earliest book here is a volume from the encyclopedia *Yü Hai*, printed somewhere between 1335 and 1340. It is beautifully bound in a "butterfly binding" and encased in a silk-covered portfolio. There are as well 211 Ming and 204 Ch'ing editions in the "T" Collection. Included are books in the palace and court editions, and those from libraries of famous collectors. Among them, too, are titles which Chinese rulers confiscated and burned during the 18th century to eradicate some of the effects of the earlier Manchu rule; copies of these titles are extremely rare in China.

The Library's holdings are of course cataloged and classified by subject. Accessibility to them is further facilitated by the numerous Chinese indexes, concordances, and other bibliographic aids. Western-language aids are also appearing in increasing numbers. The Department of Chinese, furthermore, offers a semester course in bibliography specifically for "practice in finding the sources and literature of Chinese history and in compiling bibliography for essay or dissertation." Among libraries of its type in America, the East Asiatic Library is recognized as having an unusually extensive program of compiling and publishing accessions lists, lists

of special holdings, and bibliographies on subjects of current interest as aids to research. These publications are distributed to about 250 scholars and institutions in the United States and abroad. Another valuable aid, compiled by a Library staff member, is the author-subject card index to eleven of the most important Chinese learned journals. It is hoped that this index, which is probably unique in this country, can eventually be published.

The importance of a given subject-collection to an institution can sometimes also be judged indirectly by the eminence of the faculty in that subject. Columbia University can be justly proud of the stature of its professors in the field of Chinese studies and of the contributions that they have made to it. The drawing power of the collection is further evidenced by the number of non-Columbia scholars, authors, and projects in oriental studies that have settled on Morningside Heights. Among the best known persons who have made substantial use of the Chinese books here are Dr. Hu Shih and Lin Yü-t'ang. The Chinese History Project, which has spent some 16 years in close proximity to the East Asiatic Library, has published its *History of Chinese Society: Liao (907-1125)*, and now, under the auspices of the Department of the Army, is conducting research on contemporary Chinese history. An East Asian Institute project has resulted in the publication of annotated bibliographies of Chinese and Japanese sources (mainly those available in the East Asiatic Library) for the study of the history of the Chinese communist movement. Most recently, there has been established at Columbia, within the School of International Affairs, a five-year project to compile biographical information concerning leaders of China from 1911 to the present.

This description of the Libraries' Chinese facilities, and of the uses made of them, is by no means complete. New materials are constantly being added. In addition to major accomplishments and discoveries, smaller ones are constantly being made to fill in the gaps in our existing knowledge. It is a source of pleasure to us that we are thus able to observe and to participate in this important research.



Gouverneur Morris
(attributed to Ezra Ames)

The Gouverneur Morris Collection

RICHARD B. MORRIS

THE acquisition by the Columbia University Libraries of the Gouverneur Morris papers* constitutes one of the most impressive additions in recent years to the archives of Special Collections. Of the nearly fourteen hundred items included in this collection a substantial part has never been published. Others have never been published accurately. For example, original holograph letters of George Washington among the Morris papers often vary in details from the published letters in the Fitzpatrick edition, which in many cases were based upon copies made by an amanuensis. These papers supplement in important respects the published material on Gouverneur Morris, notably Jared Sparks's *Life*, a three-volume collection published back in 1832. That edition represented only a sampling, and the editor took liberties with the manuscripts, changing phraseology, making deletions, and combining letters,—practices which would not be condoned by scholars at the present time. The correspondence to and from Morris supplements his illuminating diary owned by the Library of Congress and published in editions by Ann Cary Morris in 1888 and in a more accurate but less comprehensive form by Beatrix Cary Davenport in 1939.

* This collection, acquired by means of the Bancroft Endowment Fund, consists of 1,368 pieces, of which the majority are incoming correspondence, including such impressive lots as thirteen letters from George Washington, fifteen from Thomas Jefferson, five from Nathaniel Greene, twenty-one from Rufus King, five from Philip Schuyler, and two from John Paul Jones. Also present are many manuscripts of Gouverneur Morris's speeches and articles, including two of peculiar interest to Columbia—his bachelor's essay at King's College, "Oration on Wit and Beauty" (1768) and his master's essay, "Oration On Love" (1771).

A detailed list of the collection has been prepared and is available in the Special Collections Reading Room in Butler Library. The collection itself, however, is not as yet open to general use; individual papers may be consulted in line with definite research projects, but direct quotation is not permitted without written permission from the Director of Libraries, granted specifically in each instance.

—*Editor.*

The correspondence and papers illuminate the entire public career of Gouverneur Morris, from his days as an undergraduate at King's College through his years as a statesman of the Revolution, associated with Robert Morris in the conduct of financial operations for the national government, and covering the postwar years of the Confederation interlude, marked by Morris's crowning achievement in serving as stylist responsible for the final wording of the federal Constitution. Documenting his ministry to France, they provide important source material on the later course of the French Revolution, and tell us in addition much about Morris's business operations, about his staunch Federalism, and about his contribution to the building of the Erie Canal.

The Morris papers trace the course of Gouverneur's patriotism, his nationalism, and his special brand of radicalism. Upon graduating from King's College in 1768 he delivered an oration on "Wit and Beauty," in which he talked of "We who can boast the glorious title of free born Americans." Nevertheless, from his oration on the topic "Love," which he delivered when he received his master's degree from his Alma Mater in 1771, it is clear that the liberty Morris was adhering to was liberty under the British Constitution. "A Britain's love of his country," he declared, "is firmly fixed upon the solid base of freedom."

These sentiments explain why this aristocratic young man, member of a great landowning family which had held high office under the Crown, should initially view with repugnance riotous demonstrations against the government. Morris gained a certain notoriety when he commented on a mass meeting held in New York in 1774. In the course of a letter he referred to the mob as "poor reptiles," and suggested that if the disputes with Britain were to continue, "we shall be under the worst of all possible dominions. We shall be under the domination of a riotous mob." As late as 1775 Morris clung to his belief in the possibility of reconciliation with Britain. On June 30th, after drafting a plan of accommodation, he wrote John Jay, then a delegate to the Continental Congress, that "every reasonable man will be of opinion that provided our essential rights be secured on solid

foundations we may safely permit the British Parliament to use big sounding words."

Nevertheless, Morris did not become a Loyalist and moved sharply to the left. The course of events doubtless played their part, but in no small measure it would seem that his ardent patriotism stemmed from his admiration and friendship for George Washington, which started when the latter journeyed to Cambridge via New York, when Morris met him for the first time and began a lifelong friendship. Whatever the causes, no one can deny that Morris had changed. Among the Morris papers we find an oration delivered at the New York Provincial Congress in the spring of 1776 "on necessity for declaring independence from Britain." In the course of it he declared: "Power cannot safely be entrusted to Men, who are not accountable to those over whom it is exercised." Again, "As a connection with Great Britain cannot again exist without enslaving America, an independence is absolutely necessary." It is significant, too, that the tone of this address is extremely democratic and indicates a liberalization of his social outlook in a short two-year period. Morris now criticizes the "indulgence of a few in luxurious ease to the prejudice of their fellow creatures." Such luxurious living, he contended, encouraged "a general profligacy of manner" and was "criminal in the highest degree." This is a surprising comment from a young aristocrat. But, like other patriots of his time, he felt that "virtue" alone should be respected. Above all, he warned, do not trust Britain's peace negotiators. "Trust crocodiles, trust the hungry wolf in your flock, or a rattlesnake in your bosom. . . . But trust the King, his Ministers, his Commissioners, 'tis madness in the extreme!"

Morris's family showed the effects of civil war. Some members of it were Patriots, including Gouverneur and his half-brother Lewis. Others were Loyalists, including his mother, who chose to stay on her property for the duration of the conflict. Gouverneur's political views caused a sharp breach between mother and son. At the time of the death of his sister he wrote his mother in December, 1776, expressing his regrets at his inability to see her. "I know it is the duty of every good citizen or man to preserve

that post in which by a superior order he is placed." The worst that can happen in the struggle is death, but in dying for America and in defiance of her rights he would be "happier than the conqueror, more beloved by mankind, more applauded by his own heart." This was scarcely an affectionate letter of son to mother, more of a defiant political apologia.

Some of the most interesting letters in the collection comprise correspondence between General Philip Schuyler and Morris at the time of Saratoga. Along with Abraham Yates, Morris was sent by the New York legislature to confer with Schuyler after the fall of Ticonderoga. At least one of the letters of Schuyler to Morris in this collection has never been published. Morris and Jay were sent to confer with Washington and the Continental Congress, but arrived in Philadelphia too late to aid Schuyler, who twenty-four hours previously had been replaced by Gates. In a letter to Schuyler dated August 27, 1777, Morris showed how distressed he was with this decision. On September 18th he wrote the general:

Congress have a good Right to be displeas'd with you for painting your situation in its native colours. For it is impossible to be pleas'd with a man who puts one in bodily fear, but in revenge you will have the applause of your own mind and the pleasing consideration that posterity will do you the justice which it is to little purpose whether the present age either grant or refuse.

In the same year Morris was elected to the Continental Congress. One of his most notable contributions as a member of that body was his draft of the reply to the Earl of Carlisle's proclamation urging the states to make peace with Great Britain. The original fourteen-page draft which was adopted by Congress as its official answer to the Carlisle Commission is found in this collection.

A number of items deal with the peace negotiations culminating in the Treaty of Paris of 1783. Most interesting is John Jay's cipher letter, dated October 13, 1782, in which he informed Morris, then assistant to the Secretary of Finance, of his success

in negotiating as peace commissioner independent of the French government. In the course of the letter he declares: "Had I not violated the Instructions of Congress their Dignity would have been in the Dust. . . I told the Minister that we neither could nor would treat with any Nation in the World on any other than an equal footing."

Another outstanding historical find is the disputed receipt to Caron de Beaumarchais for one million livres, which was turned over to Morris by the French government when he was Minister to France.* There is also some correspondence from Alexander Hamilton on this million livres mystery. Many items illuminate the problems of the American minister in Paris during the Terror and in dealing with the French Revolutionary regime. Among them is a large dossier of correspondence on the Genet affair, which ultimately led to Morris's recall. On the personal side the collection includes letters from both the Comte and Comtesse de Flahaut. The Comtesse was Gouverneur Morris's mistress when he lived abroad.

Lastly, the collection contains a large number of documents illuminating Morris's shrewd business ventures, especially his real estate deals, and lets us see at close range one of the important entrepreneurs of the early national period and the nature of his operations. An impressive body of correspondence underscores Gouverneur Morris's role in the building of the Erie Canal. His interests in that project go back as far as 1800, and between 1810 and 1816 he served as chairman of the board of canal commissioners. Dying in 1816, he did not live to see that great project completed.

* This very hush-hush affair stemmed from the fact that the French government had assisted the American revolutionists unofficially by means of munitions to the alleged cost of a million livres, working through Beaumarchais. After the French Revolution the question was raised as to whether the debt had ever been repaid, all records of the previous government having conveniently disappeared. The presence in the Morris collection of a copy of Beaumarchais' receipt for payment, dated 10 June 1776, would seem to settle the issue in favor of the Americans.
—*Editor.*

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

Arnaud gift. Dean Leopold Arnaud presented two handsome publications. One of these is *Escuela experimental "Doctor Gabriel Carrasco,"* with the cover-title "El niño y su expresión," Santa Fe, Argentina, 1940. The other is a portfolio of five beautiful brochures, *Cargoes*, tracing the history and accomplishments of Lincoln High School from its origin in 1930 to the present time.

Author's manuscripts. Mr. Millen Brand (A.B. 1929) continued his practice of placing his manuscripts, documents, and correspondence in the Columbia library. Professor Allan Nevins, through the courtesy of his publishers, Charles Scribner's Sons, presented the manuscript of his *Ford: the Times, the Man, the Company*. Mr. Wilhelm Obkircher added substantially to the file of original scores of his musical compositions.

Coykendall bequest. From the estate of the late Frederick Coykendall (A.B. 1895; A.M. 1897) came a remarkable collection of 319 volumes, comprising chiefly English translations of Chinese and Japanese *belles lettres*.

Delafield gift. Brigadier General John Ross Delafield has presented Avery Library with a replica of a drawing by Frederick Catherwood, recording Catherwood's plan for the conservatory at Montgomery Place, now owned by General and Mrs. Delafield. This will be included in Avery's already large corpus of original drawings and documents dealing with Montgomery Place.

Dunn gift. Mr. Harris A. Dunn presented a magnificent volume containing two companion leaves of the very rare 1460 edition of

the *Catholicon* by Joannes Balbus—a work which many authorities consider to have been printed under the direction of Gutenberg. The volume contains extensive bibliographical discussions of the 1460 *Catholicon*, and has the added interest to Columbia of having been presented, on January 12, 1938, to Mr. Dunn's brother, the late Gano Dunn (E.E. 1891; M.S. 1914) "in recognition of his long and faithful service as member, director, and president" of the Society of Older Graduates of Columbia by his fellow members.

Ernst gift. Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Ernst (LL.B. 1939) continued their project of presenting selections from the publications currently being issued by the firm of Alfred A. Knopf. The most recent selection comprised 52 volumes, now on exhibition in the Butler Library Main Reading Room.

Fifty Books of the Year. The American Institute of Graphic Arts deposited a complete set of the 1954 selections for the annual "Fifty Books" exhibition. The Columbia University graphic arts collection now contains a virtually complete run of the selections, 1923 to 1954.

Friedman gifts. Mr. Harry G. Friedman (Ph.D. 1908), whose name is seldom missing from these listings of gifts, has presented six manuscripts and seven rare books since the last issue of the *Columns*. The current gifts comprise:

1. Document, "In Tribunali St. Laurentiis." Ms. on paper, 8 March 1786; with seal.
2. Document issued by Charles II of Spain. Ms. on vellum, 2 leaves, 3 March 1691, with imprinted seal.
3. Document on vellum, dated 1758, with leaden pendant seal of Pope Benedictus XIV.
4. Letter patent, granted by Ferdinand IV, King of Naples, to Diomedo di Meo. Ms. on paper, May, 1776, with seal.
5. Letter patent, granted by Ferdinand IV to Diomedo di Meo. Ms. on paper, 1768, with seal.

6. Letter patent, granted by Charles, King of Naples (later Charles III of Spain), to Diomedo di Meo. Ms. on paper, May, 1759, with seal.
7. *Diversarum gentium historiae antiquae*. Hamburg, 1611.
8. Dryden, John. *Aurenge-Zebe, or the great mogul*. [London, 1690?]
9. Dryden, John. *Essay of dramattick poesie*. [London, 1684?]
10. *The "400."* [New York, 1884?]
11. Galsworthy, John. *Soames and the flag*. New York, 1930. This copy, inscribed by the author, is number 315 of an edition of 680.
12. Grainger, James (M.D.). *A poetical translation of the elegies of Tibullus; and of the poems of Sulpicia*. London, 1759. 2 volumes.
13. *The Holy Bible*, 1613 (STC 2231). In common with most English Bibles of the period, this one has bound with it the following items: *The Booke of Common Prayer*, 1614 (STC 16341); John Speed's *The Genealogies*, 1614? (STC 23039); and Thomas Sternhold and John Hopkins' metrical version of *The Booke of Psalmes*, 1614 (STC 2548?).

A notable feature of the volume is its binding. This is of brown polished leather, simply tooled, but with portrait medallions of James I and his Queen forming the center pieces of the two covers. These are of silver, in unusually high relief. Also of silver, delicately chased, are the hinges and hasps which remain attached to the fore-edges of the covers (the clasps which formerly held the volume closed have been lost).

Hale gift. Professor Robert Lee Hale (Ph.D. 1918) presented a general selection of books from his library, including 239 volumes and 257 serials. In addition Professor Hale enriched the Law Library by his gift of a large number of law reviews and other legal matter.

Haneman gift. Mr. John Theo. Haneman (B.S. 1902 Arch.) presented a collection of 89 architectural books and pamphlets to Avery Library.

Henderson gift. Mrs. Harold G. Henderson (A.B. 1925 B) presented a signed autograph letter of her grandfather, Park Ben-

jamin, (26 October 1853) for inclusion in the Park Benjamin collection.

Houghton gift. Mr. Arthur Houghton, Jr., has presented a year's subscription to the publications of the new London publishers, the Lion and Unicorn Press. The first such publication has just been received, a translation into English of the 1553 Nuremberg edition of Wolfgang Fugger's *Handwriting Manual*. This work is doubly welcome at Columbia, inasmuch as a copy of the original edition is in the Plimpton collection.

Joffe gift. Mr. Judah A. Joffe has continued his generous benefactions. In the current period he has contributed five volumes, as follows:

1. Erasmus, *Lingua*, Lugduni, 1538.
2. Cato, *Disticha Moralia*, Venetiis, 1554 (edited by Erasmus).
3. Sallust, *Opera quae extant*, Lugduni, 1665.
4. *Beadle's Dime Book of Etiquette*, New York [1861].
5. Virgil, *The Aeneids*, Boston, 1876 (English verse by William Morris).

Lang gift. A complete file of the White Pine Series of publications containing drawings of historical buildings in America was presented to Avery Library by Miss Minette Lang, in honor of her architect brother, Eugene Jerome Lang (B.S. 1900 Arch.).

Lazrus gift. Mrs. S. Ralph Lazrus, knowing that Columbia lacked the first edition of Boswell's *Life of Samuel Johnson*, London, 1791 (we had borrowed her copy for our recent Johnson exhibition), located a superb example in the shop of a London dealer and had it sent to us as her gift.

Lenygon gift. Mrs. Francis Henry Lenygon made a substantial contribution towards the cost of slip-cases for the collection of her late husband's original drawings. This collection is to be kept in the Francis Henry Lenygon Memorial Room at Avery Library.

Morison gift. Professor Samuel Eliot Morison of Harvard University presented twelve 17th and 18th century works for inclusion in the Plimpton collection. These are books which Professor Morison, who recently completed his history of Harvard, believed students of that day were likely to have had in their possession.

Perkins papers. Miss Frances Perkins, former Secretary of Labor, has placed her papers, including correspondence, in the Columbia University Libraries. The collection, in 87 manuscript boxes, is housed in Special Collections. Miss Perkins has stipulated that, for the time being, access to her papers may be had only by her written permission.

Pitt gift. A small collection of original photographs of Grace Church, New York, was presented to Avery Library by Dr. Louis W. Pitt, Rector, through the kindness of Dean Leopold Arnaud.

Slade gift. Mrs. William Adams Slade presented two letters from James Truslow Adams to her husband, 3 June 1938 and 28 December 1948.

Stookey gift. Dr. Byron Stookey, Professor Emeritus of Neurological Surgery, presented his professional collection to the Medical Library. The collection comprises 64 monographs, 7 pamphlets, 290 bound journal volumes, and 504 unbound issues of journals.

Tindall gift. Professor William York Tindall (Class of 1925) continued his benefactions, presenting on this occasion Thomas Browne's *Pseudodoxia epidemica*, London, 1669; and the first edition of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson's *Sylvie and Bruno*, London, 1889.

Activities of the Friends

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

AS MANY of our members know, the Friends of the Columbia Libraries was activated at a large meeting which was held in the Rotunda of Low Memorial Library on the evening of May 1, 1951. The central purpose of our group has been and is the promotion and furthering of the work of the various libraries in the University.

The initial developmental work was performed by a Planning Committee which soon was expanded and became the Council. *Columbia Library Columns* was started as our official publication, a series of events has been held each year, and our membership has grown until it now numbers more than 280. The total of our cash contributions and of the appraised value of books and manuscripts which have been given has increased each year.

Because of the larger membership and because of the increasing activities and interest being shown by our group, it seemed to the members of the Council that we should have a somewhat more formal organization. To that end, I appointed Mrs. Franz T. Stone chairman of a special committee which would work with Dr. Logsdon's, Mr. Mixer's, and my assistance on the drafting of a Constitution and By-Laws. After careful study of the provisions in the same type of documents which have been adopted by other Friends of Libraries groups, Mrs. Stone drew up the preliminary draft of a Constitution and By-Laws which she presented for study and discussion at the May 19 meeting of the Council. Revisions which were suggested then were worked out in detail by Mrs. Stone, Mr. Lada-Mocarski, Dr. Logsdon, and me in the ensuing six weeks.

In July a copy of the revised documents was sent to President Kirk and Vice-President Krout for examination. On August 2 Dr.

Krout wrote to Dr. Logsdon as follows: "President Kirk and I have now had an opportunity to read the proposed Constitution and By-Laws for the Friends of the Columbia Libraries. Dr. Kirk asks me to tell you and your associates that the Constitution has his hearty approval. It should make more formal the organization which during recent years has done so much for the library resources of Columbia University. I hope that you will convey to the members of the Friends the deep appreciation of the University administration."

At the September 27 meeting of the Council Mrs. Stone presented the completed Constitution and By-Laws for adoption. After a motion to that end by Mrs. Baer, which was seconded by Mr. Benjamin, the Council voted unanimously for the adoption of these organizational documents. I want to express my appreciation and that of the members of the Council for the thorough and painstaking work which Mrs. Stone performed on this project.

For the current information of our members and for future reference as occasion may arise, the Constitution and By-Laws will be printed in *Columbia Library Columns* in the next issue. When they are published, I hope you will give them your thoughtful consideration.

AUGUST HECKSCHER

Meetings

Presentation of the Francis Henry Lenygon Memorial Room.

On Friday, October 28, Mrs. Francis Henry Lenygon, an active member of the Friends' Council, presented to the University as a memorial to her husband an 18th Century room from the London town house of the Earls of Warwick. The room has been reconstructed in the Avery Architectural Library. It will provide for students in the School of Architecture a fine exemplar of Georgian interior architecture and of the elegant but dignified period furnishings for which Mr. Lenygon, as an interior archi-

rect and decorator, gained such a distinguished reputation in Great Britain and the United States.

During the ceremonies short addresses were made by Richard H. Logsdon, Director of Libraries; the British Consul General, Mr. F. B. A. Rundall, on behalf of Sir Roger Makins, the British Ambassador; President Kirk; and the Reverend Roelif Brooks, Pastor Emeritus of St. Thomas Church. Among the guests invited by the donor were members of the Friends' Council, friends and colleagues of her husband, and representatives of the press. Contemplated among the future events for the Friends is the possibility of holding one or more meetings in Avery Library. In this way all may have the opportunity to view this charming English room, which was originally constructed about three decades before the founding of King's College (Columbia).

Readings and lecture by Robert Frost. Through the kindness of Dr. Russell Potter, who is Director of Columbia's Institute of Arts and Sciences and who is a member of our organization, the Friends were invited to be the guests of the Institute at the program, "An Evening with Robert Frost," which was held at McMillin Theater on Monday, November 7. This was a welcome opportunity to see and hear one of America's most popular poets.

The Comédie Française event. As this issue of the *Columns* goes to press, final plans are taking shape for the first large meeting of the Friends for the new academic year. The event will be one of unusual interest, for the entire cast of the Comédie Française has been invited to be our guests at a program and reception which will be held in the Rotunda of Low Memorial Library, at 8:30 p.m. on Monday, November 14. Eric Bentley, Brander Matthews Professor of Dramatic Literature, will speak on a topic related to the American and the French theater; Maurice Escande, senior member of the cast, will respond, and there is a much anticipated possibility that cast members will give some "readings" from their repertoire. A social hour with refreshments will follow.

Annual meeting in January. The first "Annual Meeting" of the Friends will be held in the Rotunda of Low Memorial Library at

8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 24. Highlight of the occasion will be an address by Herman Wouk, author of *The Caine Mutiny* and *Marjorie Morningstar*. A short business meeting will precede the address.

Bancroft Award dinner. For the benefit of members who wish at this time to make note of the date, we can now announce that the annual Bancroft Award dinner will be held on April 23. Invitations will be mailed in late March.

THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES

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Free subscription to COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS.

* * *

As a Friend of the Columbia Libraries you are asked to assume no specific obligations. We rely on your friendship towards our institution and its ideals. However, if members express their support through annual donations of books or other material, or cash, we shall have a tangible indication that our program to arouse interest in the pressing needs of the Libraries has been successful. All donations are deductible for income tax purposes.*

* Please make checks payable to Columbia University.

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*Articles printed in COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS
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Columbia Library Columns

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THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES
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Jacques Charon as the dancing master and Louis Seigner as the Would-Be-Gentleman in *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*.



C O L U M B I A
L I B R A R Y
C O L U M N S



The Example of the Comédie Française

*An address given at the Friends' reception for
the cast of the Comédie Française, Nov. 14, 1955*

ERIC BENTLEY

I N our New York weekly magazine *The Nation*, the issue dated July 31, 1879, appears a despatch from London above the initials XX:

The Comédie Française gives to-night the last representation of its extraordinarily successful series, and I am reminded that I am on the point of losing my opportunity for carrying out an intention long deferred, and making a few remarks upon this very interesting episode of the visit to London of the children of Molière. The first remark to be made is that this visit has been a brilliant, a complete, an unclouded success. It is saying little for it to say that it is incomparably the most noteworthy event that has occurred for many a long year in the theatrical annals of London. . . . But what I may say is that the episode will have been a memorable one in the annals of the house of Molière itself. Its members, individually, have refreshed their laurels and renewed their fame, and the beauty and power of the best French acting have affirmed themselves under circumstances which give an added value to the triumph. The appeal has been made to a foreign audience, an audience whose artistic perceptions are the reverse of lively, whose ear does not respond quickly to the magic French utterance, and whose mind does not easily find its way among the intricacies of French sentiment; and

yet the triumph has been perfect, and the Comédie Française and the London public have been thoroughly pleased with each other.

Mr. XX—better known as Henry James—goes on to say that there had been opposition in France to the idea of sending the Comédie abroad. “In this view,” James says, “the Comédie Française has no right to detach itself from French soil; it is beneath its dignity to wander off to foreign lands like a troupe of common strollers, to fill its cash-box and make barbarians stare.” And he adds that they never would have gone travelling except that the House of Richelieu was closed for repairs. I don’t know if there was opposition to the idea of an American visit in 1955. If there was, I can hardly imagine that it was on the same grounds. The huge enterprise of bringing five productions across the Atlantic seems calculated rather to empty the cash-box than fill it. Neither the Salle Richelieu nor the Salle Luxembourg is closed for repairs. And, indeed, looking more closely at the situation, one may ask in some bewilderment: why *did* they come? I have no inside information on the point. I assume that the wishes of Mr. Hurok had something to do with it. But why did he have such wishes? In the seventy—six years between the company’s first visit to England and its first visit to the United States, the world has changed so much that even the theatre has had to change a little. Among the changes, transportation across the Atlantic is not more important than the fact that transportation by boat has been brought within the reach of a much larger section of the population. New conditions bring a new psychology. People think no more of crossing the Atlantic today than Henry James’ generation thought of crossing the Channel. It is done. It is one of the things that are done. And perhaps the ultimate reason why the Comédie Française has crossed the Atlantic is simply this: today one does cross the Atlantic. I don’t mean there are political reasons for it, though there are. I don’t mean that public relations men are for it, though they should be. The motive is at once less rational and more immediate. It is

a matter of living the life of one's own time. Today everyone is going everywhere. Martha Graham has gone to Japan with Marcel Marceau on her heels. The iron curtain itself lifts when the theatre's velvet curtain calls: Bertolt Brecht's East German company goes to Paris, and the American *Porgy and Bess* will go to Moscow. In short, though in politics the national antagonisms are today as sharp as ever, in culture we are getting a first taste of a new cosmopolitanism. A cultural pattern, which we have not been wise enough to adopt because it is reasonable, is being imposed upon us by the very conditions of modern life. And life is hard for those nationalists who try to extend their politics into the cultural field. When Hitler shut his country off from the world for twelve years, there was no new German literature except abroad. The nationalism of Stalin has also been sterile, and the Russians are now beginning to talk again of cultural exchange. I don't know how much the "Geneva spirit" means in international politics, but it has at least enabled us to find out that the Russians have begun to feel out of things. They too would like passports, and by next year, who knows? the *caves* of St. German des Près may be full of bebopping bolsheviks.

It is possible, of course, to talk nonsense about our travels. Some people even imagine that we can abolish war by buying young people steamship tickets. Now wars cannot be avoided by removal of prejudices between people because wars are not caused by prejudices between people. As Giraudoux points out in a play that is now running in New York, no one hates war or loves his enemy more than the statesmen who take tea together at Berchtesgaden or Geneva just before wars start. In any case, it is not goodwill that sends us abroad but curiosity. And our interest is not in a foreign country in general—much less in its political relation to our own—than in our own profession or our own hobby and the way it is practiced somewhere else. And so, with due respect to ambassadors, consuls, etc., who make these things possible, the interest which we of the American theatre feel in the Comédie Française is a theatrical

interest, and at that no disinterested one. They interest us for what we can learn from them. If our eyes are admiring they are also envious and acquisitive.

The general impression that the Comédie Française makes on a sympathetic foreigner was also described by Henry James:

The *traditions* of the Comédie Française—that is the sovereign word, and that is the charm of the place—the charm that one never ceases to feel, however often one may sit beneath the classic, dusky dome. One feels this charm with peculiar intensity as a foreigner newly arrived. The Théâtre Français has had the good fortune to be able to allow its traditions to accumulate. They have been preserved, transmitted, respected, cherished, until at last they form the very atmosphere, the vital air, of the establishment. A stranger feels their superior influence the first time he sees the great curtain go up; he feels that he is in a theatre that is not as other theatres are. It is not only better, it is different. It has a peculiar perfection—something consecrated, historical, academic. This impression is delicious, and he watches the performance in a sort of tranquil ecstasy.

Never has he seen anything so smooth and harmonious, so artistic and completed. He has heard all his life of attention to detail, and now, for the first time, he sees something that deserves that name. He sees dramatic effort refined to a point with which the English stage is unacquainted. He sees that there are no limits to possible “finish,” and that so trivial an act as taking a letter from a servant or placing one’s hat on a chair may be made a suggestive and interesting incident. He sees these things and a great many more besides; but at first he does not analyze them, he gives himself up to sympathetic contemplation. He is in an ideal and exemplary world—a world that has managed to attain all the felicities that the world we live in misses. The people do the things that we should like to do; they are gifted as we should like to be; they have mastered the accomplishments that we have had to give up.

Much of what James says would still hold today, but perhaps not the remark about attention to detail. For, in comparison with our naturalistic American acting, the Comédie Française players seem happy to leave a great many details out. Our acting is busy; theirs is formal, sometimes to the point of the statuesque.

Our actors chiefly sit, and when they sit, they lounge. These actors chiefly stand, though, when they sit, they sit well. When our actors do stand, they look for a raised surface to place one foot on; then they lean sagely forward and place an elbow on the raised knee. The French actors stand erect. There is a similar story to tell about arms. To our actors, an arm is an instrument to lean on things with, and the things are not always inanimate: some of our actors find it hard to keep their hands off their colleagues or even off themselves, for one arm can keep the other busy, and of course our modern costume is provided with an escape from the whole problem—the trouser pocket, the naturalistic actor's first and last refuge. The French actors never seem to lean on anything, and as for clinging to each other's bodies, they hardly ever touch hands. They have taught their arms to cope with the circumambient air. One of our leading actors, faced with a classic script, once asked me: "But what is there for an actor to do?" He had noted the absence of cigarettes, drinks, food, spittoons . . . for of such is the kingdom of naturalism. The implicit answer in the work of the Comédie Française is: when there is nothing to do, do nothing. For example, there is a "meal" in *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* in which the actors neither eat nor pretend to. They just sit; for the focus of the action is elsewhere. Again, the American actor will say: "I can't stand there propping up the wall, give me something to do;" while these fine French actors, when the focus is not on them, will contentedly stand to one side doing nothing, and their doing so would never raise a question in any spectator's mind; it is part of the game.

When an actor exercises a much higher degree of selectivity, he inevitably throws a heavier stress on the things he does do. And to justify its omission of certain kinds of detail, the Comédie Française exhibits proficiency in certain forms of action as far removed from common behavior as playing the piano is from ringing a doorbell. Reading the first scene of *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* we think we exhaust in a moment the content of the



Dinner scene in *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*

stage direction: "takes his hand and makes him dance." Actually, the phrase is only related to performance as a signpost is to landscape. What we get is Lulli's music, and two carefully related dances: the dancing master's correct and attractive one, and M. Jourdain's bad, but carefully bad, imitation of it. In passages like this—and the play is made up of them—the French actors do things which our actors could not even learn during a long rehearsal period. For they attain a style which is the product of a whole career in this sort of work—and behind the individual career, the career of the institution. It is the story of the Oxford lawns—"just mow them for two hundred years, sir"—all over again.

If we agree that the art of the Comédie is inimitable we can also agree not to try and imitate it. When we admire what the other fellow can do, we must hope that our admiration provides us with the energy, not to do likewise, but to do differently. We can steal trinkets and ornaments, we can even steal the furniture, but we inescapably need a house of our own to accommodate the loot. In fact, only a strong culture can afford foreign influences, just as only a strong body can digest strange foods.

So I am not asking that we attempt the same style as the Comédie Française but only that, in paying tribute to the achievement of that great theatre, we be inspired by its example. Its example in point of organization is overpowering; and I almost decided to devote my few minutes to the topic of a national theatre. We hear a lot of twaddle in America about state-aided theatre which the sheer facts of the Comédie Française utterly refute—as, for example, that a state theatre is inevitably the cats-paw of politicians. But in the end I didn't think I should inflict such a lecture either on our French visitors or upon the rest of this distinguished gathering.

Yet Matthew Arnold's slogan "The theatre is irresistible: organize the theatre" is still pertinent, and I will permit myself one observation on this problem of organization. When the Comédie Française went to England in 1879, they took with

them the leading dramatic critic of the time, Francisque Sarcey. Asked why England couldn't have a Comédie Française, Sarcey replied (in substance): "Because when you transplant a tree you have to carry with it the soil the roots are sunk in, and the roots of the Comédie Française are in French history which cannot be lifted." For one thing, we might add, the Comédie Française has its origin in monarchical government, as does the subsidized theatre of Europe generally. The American experience has been different, and this means that, if ever we organize our theatre, we shall organize it differently. I cannot agree, however, with those who are content to leave the American theatre to competitive enterprise and who say that nothing ever was or ever will be done to organize it. During the past thirty years especially, there have been numerous attempts at organization—from the early Theatre Guild to the Federal Theatre. If most of them individually have declined and fallen, the degree of interest and support is larger every time, and in 1955 we may say that Organized Theatre is an accepted idea, even if it is not yet an established fact.

This university has announced its firm intention of playing a part in the organizing of the American theatre by way of building new theatres, enlarging its staff, extending its dramatic and theatrical studies, and perhaps even by setting up a professional repertory company. If the actors of the Comédie Française will come back in ten years' time, we may be able to show them something and not merely tell them something. In the meantime their example is before us, and I call it a triumph of organization not because of the size of the subsidy they receive, or because they have handsome buildings in Paris, or because they have kept going for a long time, or because the bureaucratic machinery is well oiled, nor even because they keep the national repertoire before the nation, though all these things are important. The triumph consists in the fact that the end-product is great theatre. And so I return from my brief excursion into sociology back home on artistic territory. I have spent some of the happiest evenings

of my life in the Salle Richelieu and the Salle Luxembourg in Paris. They were not social evenings. I was usually quite alone, and had just about enough money to pay for my favorite *straponin*. (I don't think I want to tell as many people as are here tonight just where it is. It's the best seat in the house, at any rate at the price.) If theatre is good enough, you can even bear to be alone. I was carried for those two hours into the world of Racine, Corneille, Marivaux, Labiche, Claudel, and above all Molière. So, you see, I have my own reasons for wishing students to go to Paris, even if they won't manage to abolish war.

It has been a thrilling experience to see some of the same actors in New York. It would be invidious in the presence of our guests to pick and choose much between performances. If I do mention two names, let them be taken as representative and not exclusive; the work of these two happens to have been a revelation to me. I refer to the comic acting of M. Jacques Charon and what we might call the comic directing of M. Jean Meyer. We hear a great deal in our time of the *commedia dell'arte*, and we imagine that that theatre was possessed of an unequalled dexterity, lightness, grace, and speed. These are perhaps the characteristics of great comic theatre of any place or time. At any rate, such is the great comic theatre which our friends have been showing us during the past couple of weeks. And I cannot but think that, beyond the delight of the moment, such theatre will have a fructifying effect on the theatrical life of this country.



Class on 19th Century French Dramatists, March 16, 1893 (Brander Matthews at extreme left and Albert Payson Terhune at extreme right).

Epitaph for Brander Matthews

MILTON SMITH

I MET Brander Matthews in September of 1916, when I came to Columbia as a graduate student and as a teacher in the Horace Mann School. The first course for which I registered was his "Shakespeare." I knew him until his death on the last day of March, 1929, in the beginning as his student, and later as his friend and colleague, and as a guest in his home and at his table. During the many hours I spent with him, at his lectures, in meals at the Faculty Club, and in visits—some of them during his long final illness—to his home, I cannot recall an occasion when his talk was not stimulating and exciting. And there were few moments when he was *not* talking. He himself loved to tell about the time at dinner when a young lady said, "Pardon me, Professor Matthews, for interrupting you, but—." "My dear young lady," he said instantly, "don't apologize. Wherever I am, nobody can talk without interrupting me!" My experience bears out the truth of this statement.

Brander talked because he had a lot to say. This doesn't mean that he just babbled on. To him, talking was an art to be studied. Sentences should be well-formed, clear, and interesting. Talk should be informative, but also gay and amusing. He worked on his lectures from this point of view—and they showed it. They seemed to us instructive, delightful, and completely spontaneous. But I remember one occasion when he forgot where he had stopped the preceding week, and so repeated the last half hour of the previous lecture. In the repetition, there were—it seemed to me—the same pauses, the same sudden recollection of what he said to Rudyard and what Rudyard said to him, the same little jokes, the same witty twists and turns of thought. Above all, there was in him the same unforced enthusiasm. So far as I know,

nobody ever told him of his error. The lecture was as interesting the second time as it had been the first.

I realized then why Brander was such an exciting teacher: he was a good actor. I hope I am making the point that this lecture was not something prepared long ago which he repeated unchanged year after year. No doubt it had been prepared originally long ago. But by now, it had been perfected by virtue of having been played to many audiences. Behind its apparent casualness was a wonderfully clear and logical arrangement of ideas. He had, by now, polished every sentence. When a sentence didn't work the way he thought it should, he experimented with it. In short, he was, in a true sense of the word, even as a lecturer, a superb raconteur. And he worked hard at it, both in the classroom and out of it.

Among the many stories he told superbly was one that he called "The *Conscientious* Deadhead." (In reading the title, you *must* emphasize "Conscientious," and I trust it isn't necessary to explain that a Deadhead is a term for someone who goes to the theater on a free ticket.) I heard Brander tell this story a number of times over the years to various people. Each time, at first, it was a little different, slightly shorter, and better received. Finally, he found the form he thought worked best, and thereafter he told it word for word. Here it is: "A man goes to the theater to see a play written by a friend of his, and afterwards he describes how he liked it to a mutual friend. During the first act, he says, he applauded and the audience sat still; during the second act, he sat still and the audience hissed; and during the third act he went out and bought a ticket and came back in and hissed." To witness Brander's polishing of the story was an education in composition.

It is probably not necessary to say that he did the same thing when he wrote. The final result was always so clear and witty and easy to read—and looked so easy to write—that certain of his contemporaries could not believe that a man who wrote so well could be a scholar. Perhaps this doubt was a high form of praise. Anyway, thirty-five or more books, many of them by

eminent scholars who had been his students, were dedicated to him. He himself wrote 220 papers, books, and pamphlets in whole or in part.

In 1926, I wrote a little textbook on play production and with great diffidence asked him—by now he had retired—if it might be possible for him to write an Introduction. He immediately agreed and I gave him my manuscript. A few days later, he handed me several sheets of yellow paper, on which the Introduction was written in ink in his distinctive penmanship. It contained a number of his own corrections, consisting of one word to replace another, or a phrase moved to a different part of the sentence, or a new sentence inserted to supplant the one previously written. As in the case of all good writers, the reason for each change was instantly apparent, and each change was an improvement in clarity and style. (He never would use a typewriter, but wrote everything with a pen. He wore old-fashioned starched round cuffs until the day he died.) As he handed me the Introduction, he said, "This is a very *good* Introduction. The reviewers won't have to read the book! The first paragraph tells them just what they should say about it." (P.S. Many of the reviewers didn't read the book, and Brander's Introduction was quoted widely without credit as a review.)

Brander Matthews was a sophisticated man, but he was not a cynic. He had firm convictions, but he was not opinionated. Having spent much of his youth in France, he was bilingual, and he knew the literary men and the literature of both Europe and America as few of his contemporaries did. Most of the distinguished literary men of his times were his acquaintances, and many were intimate friends. I sometimes wondered if the happiest occasion of his life hadn't been the dinner given in his honor on December 20, 1893. At least, he remembered and talked about this event even in his last days. The names of the guests made a roster of American authors, but what Brander never tired of reporting was the speech of Mark Twain. Brander had been born James Brander Matthews, but early dropped the first name, "be-

cause nobody important has more than two names." This was the subject of Mr. Twain's speech. "Everybody," he said, according to Brander's report, "knows B-R-A-A-A-N-N-D-E-R Matthews. What has he done to make him so famous? Written a lot of books? No. Made a lot of speeches? No. He has taken a word, Brander, which isn't even a *name* at all, and he has made it a household word! B-r-a-a-a-n-d-e-r!"

Brander was buried, on Long Island, on a beautiful, warm, and sunny day early in April. On the way back, one of his friends said, "I'm glad it's such a fine day." "Yes," said another, "as Brander would have said, it's a good day for planting." And he would have said it. And he would have liked having it said.

In the nearly thirty years since his death, I have been almost daily reminded of Brander. Not, I think, just because I work and teach in a building that bears his name. Not because his picture hangs in my office and looks over my shoulder. Not even because I constantly recall his voice as I lecture, and hear myself using a word or a phrase, or repeating a thought, that I learned from him. I think it is because he was the first—and almost the only—teacher who always created for me great intellectual excitement. The past lived so vividly for him, that he made it live for me—and for all of us. So, thanks, Brander. You gave us, your students and friends, many happy hours of intellectual stimulation; you aroused our undying curiosity about the plays you talked about, and the theaters, and the books and the men, both living and dead; you made vivid the glory of spoken and written language; and you gave us ten thousand laughs. You would, I think, like this to be your epitaph.

The Editor Visits The Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum

THE Reference Room of the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum is in Philosophy, and the Exhibition Room is in Low Library, but the Museum isn't part of the Library, it's part of the English Department!" This complicated description of the whereabouts of the object of our visit did not deter us, however; we enjoy the small adventures to which wanderings around the campus give rise. Hesitating before a tall brick structure we asked a bright-looking student if this were Philosophy Hall. He pointed with a grin at a statue of Rodin's "Thinker" which stands before it. "There's your answer!" So, up to Room 602, where we found a lady briskly putting the place, obviously just painted, to rights. It was the librarian, Miss Else Pinthus, of whose enthusiasm for the Brander Matthews collection we had already been told. It was no exaggeration: as soon as she learned our mission, her delight in Brander Matthews and all his works positively shone forth. The chairs were left standing on the table, the duster was dropped, and Miss Pinthus moved happily around showing us the latest foreign theatre magazines, the collection of theatrical photographs and lantern slides, the playbills, and the books on the stage—ancient and modern, foreign and domestic,—all of which add up to a very outstanding collection in the field of the theatre arts.

Brander Matthews, the founder of the collection, is the subject of another article in this issue. He was Columbia's first Professor of Dramatic Literature, and gave to the University many of the books and other objects in the Museum. Other notable bequests, including those of G. C. Odell, Woodman Thompson and Joseph Urban, have since been added.

Professor Odell was Brander Matthew's successor, and Miss



Fifteen-foot high puppets which Robert Edmund Jones and Remo Buffano created for Stravinsky's opera *Oedipus Rex*. In foreground is a model of Theater of Dionysius where Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex* was originally performed.

Pinthus seemed especially fond of his monumental work, *Annals of the New York Stage to 1894*. "You can find the most amazing things in it!" she confided, patting one of the fifteen stout volumes.

The telephone rang, and a conversation ensued which again aroused Miss Pinthus's enthusiasm. "That was an off-Broadway theatre—about an exhibition in our Museum: Dr. Wells will be pleased." She was anxious that we meet her chief, Henry W. Wells, curator of the collection—and a visit to the Museum was arranged for the following week. She regretted that her brother, Dr. Kurt Pinthus, was not around: he has done much to improve the European collections of the Museum.

Miss Pinthus grew sad as she demonstrated how inadequate the space was for her ever-growing library. As we left, we noticed that rooms devoted to Slavonic Literature collections were indeed all around her. "They are growing even faster than we are—and they are winning!" She waved good-bye with the duster, ready to resume the cleaning operations we had interrupted. We carried away a picture of her in her island of the theatre arts, resolute against a rising sea of Slavonic Literature. . . .

* * * * *

The Exhibition Room of the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum is No. 412, Low Library. It is quite an experience to step from Low's cavernous, somber corridor into the color and fantasy of this room. Facing you hang two huge puppets with bizarre mask-faces—created for Stravinsky's opera *Oedipus Rex* by Robert E. Jones and Remo Buffano. Nearby dangles another giant puppet: a pale and grotesquely elongated Knight of the Mancha. A placid Ethel Waters, portrayed by Lester Polakov in *The Member of the Wedding*, returns the puppets' sardonic stares. High on the wall are several groups of French shadow-puppets, with the primitive, cut-out look of iron weather-vanes. The exhibition cases, when we visited, were bright with the water-color stage and costume designs by Woodman Thompson. The climax of this riot of drama and color came in a display of pages from

a French album of entomology, depicting the enormous, brilliant-hued butterflies from which Woodman Thompson took inspiration for many of his color-schemes.

In the midst of all this splendor was its contriver. Dr. Wells—tall, with a distinguished academic look—mildly beamed through his spectacles at the invader of his lunch-hour. But it was soon apparent that here was a curator who would give up more than a meal for the Dramatic Museum. Whereas many librarians rest comfortably on the laurels of one or two exhibitions or special events a year, Dr. Wells has something for every month—for every week, even, if one counts the Tuesday afternoon play—recitals from phonograph recordings followed by lively discussion periods. (Room 412 Low Library; 3:45 p.m.) In the next few months, a meeting is planned for a new organization of theatre scholars in America participating in international theatre study; then there will be a “mixed-bag” of exhibitions: Donald Oenslager, Mozart, and off-Broadway theatres—the last-named accompanied by a conference.

As the curator told us of these activities we were examining some of the miniature theatre models for which the Museum is famous. Also, we noticed Woodman Thompson’s designs for the sets and costumes from *The Warrior’s Husband*, the play which brought Katherine Hepburn to the notice of the public and launched her on a fabulous career. Dr. Wells showed us some of the 1932 press notices, and our own memories of K. Hepburn’s



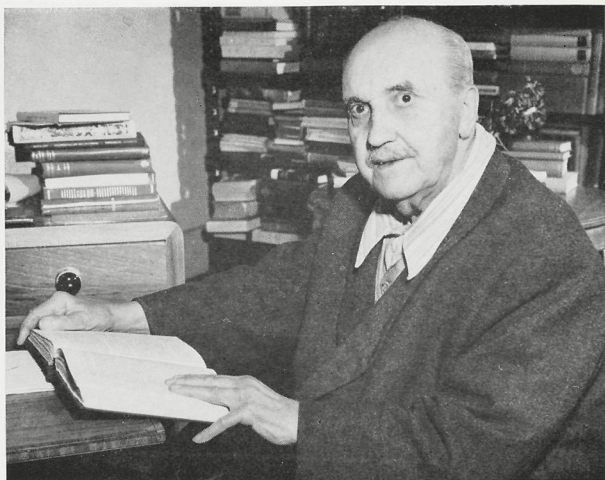
Antiope in *The Warrior’s Husband*:
Costume design by
Woodman Thompson.

energetic Antiope were revived by Percy Hammond's comment: "Scores of leggy young women swarm over Mr. Woodman Thompson's striking scenery"!

"Don't go till I have shown you the mask collection," said Dr. Wells, opening a drawer and revealing a strange assortment of masks from different parts of the world. He selected a grotesque West African one—and suddenly slipped it on. It met the obstruction of his glasses, balanced precariously, then was whisked off. The moment of fantasy dissolved, and we focussed again on the composed features of the professor. But it made us think that beneath the curator's scholarly exterior there must be real empathy for the theatre's world of illusion. And undoubtedly this in turn has had much to do with making the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum such a lively presence in a sober academic community.



The Convent of the Little Company of Mary in Rome where Santayana spent the last years of his life.



George Santayana in his room in the convent.

The "George Santayana Collection"

DANIEL CORY

THE "George Santayana Collection" now housed in the Columbia University Library comprises everything bequeathed to me by Santayana in his Last Will and Testament, and released to me in Rome by the Spanish Consul in December, 1953—a little more than a year after his death. Immediate access to his literary MSS and personal effects had been delayed pending the probation of the Will in Boston. During my twenty-five years of close and happy association with Santayana, in the capacity of disciple, part-time secretary, and confidant, he had from time to time given me by hand various MSS and keepsakes, but the Columbia "Santayana Collection" includes everything, holographs, little personal effects, and books studied with his inimitable marginalia, that was left in his room at the clinic of the "Little Sisters of Mary" in Rome. As he had resided in this establishment for the last twelve years of his life, and assembled and retained there everything that was of interest to him (either literary or sentimental), it is obvious that this body of Santayanese is of considerable bulk and value. I am extremely grateful that my friend Corliss Lamont has relieved me of the responsibility of disposing of this collection in an appropriate manner, and it is due to his promptness of action and generosity that the Columbia Library is now enriched by a holding of incalculable interest to all future students of a great literary master and profound thinker.

To begin with, there are several complete holographs of important works, such as the large Volume I of his autobiography *Persons and Places*. This is the MS that became a Book-of-the-Month Club selection, and is considered the most important part of one of the finest autobiographies of this century. Then there

are the original MSS of the *Realm of Spirit* (perhaps the most personal and original of the four volumes of the *Realms of Being*), and *The Idea of Christ in the Gospels*. And the well-known reply to his critics—*Apologia Pro Mente Sua*—may now be studied at leisure in the original unexpurgated holograph.

Santayana was in the habit—especially in his later years—of composing alternative drafts to many chapters of his more difficult books. The serious student will find in this collection numerous “early drafts” or “fragments of chapters” of such books as *Dominations and Powers*, or the *Realm of Matter*. These “drafts” or “fragments” were finally rejected for various reasons. Sometimes he found that they did not fit into the aesthetic structure of the whole, or were defective in tone and style, or simply tautological. A rare opportunity is now offered for tracing the subtle processes of elimination and refinement of expression that are part and parcel of the craftsmanship of a literary artist.

A batch of Note-Books is another interesting feature of the collection. For over fifty years Santayana used to carry some sort of writing pad in his pocket, and when strolling after luncheon in the country around Oxford, or in the public parks of Spain or Italy, he would often sit down for a period and jot down the ideas that were circulating in his mind at the time. The germs, or even first drafts, of poems and plays, dialogues and fragments of his autobiography, were developed in this way. Some of these Note-Books contain absolutely original writing, which was later either abandoned or radically altered before being published.

If some day a book is written about Santayana’s Harvard days, there is a host of material in the Columbia archives for the ambitious research student. “College skits” and poems written for special occasions when he was a student, and then, a little later, the fascinating, beautiful holographs of various “Addresses” given in America when he was an Instructor in the Department of Philosophy. Among the latter are such little-known papers as “The Young Philosopher’s Catechism,” “The Photograph and

the Mental Image," "Moral Symbols in the Bible," and the more mature splendid essay on "Emerson the Poet."

It is always absorbing to discover a distinguished thinker's intimate reactions to the work of his outstanding contemporaries, and in this connection the elaborate marginalia to be found in Dewey's *The Quest for Certainty*, in Bergson's *Les Deux Sources de la Morale et de la Religion*, and in Heidegger's *Sein und Zeit*, are especially rewarding. Surely here are three inviting opportunities for the hungry candidate for a Ph.D.!

To round off the "Santayana Collection" and give either the curious admirer or the serious student a more personal impression of the man, there are some fine photographs of Santayana at various ages, and some of his more cherished keepsakes. Among the latter are a large Gold Medal from the Royal Society of Literature, and some special first or de-luxe editions of his own works. There is also one rare book of considerable value: an early translation by Longfellow of the *Coplas de Don Jorge Manrique* (Allen and Ticknor, Boston, 1833). This book was given to Santayana by his half-sister, Susan P. Sturgis, and is especially interesting because it contains Santayana's own corrections in fine ink of Longfellow's Spanish Translations. I understand that these corrections were made by him at a rather early age—say, twelve: but of course Spanish was his first and native tongue.

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

Authors' manuscripts. Mrs. Henry Beston (A.M. 1916) presented additional manuscript material relating to her novel, *Mountain Bride*, published under the pen-name, Elizabeth Coatsworth. Mr. Millen Brand (A.B. 1929) continued his policy of depositing his correspondence, journals, and literary writings as these can be released from his files. Through Miss Marjorie Griesser of the Viking Press and Professor James Gutmann, we have added the original manuscript of *Under Whatever Sky* by the late Professor Irwin Edman. Wilhelm Obkircher continued his practice of lodging in Special Collections the typescript and manuscript copies of his music and literary work; most recently received was his *Sammlung der Gedichte*, 1928. Professor William A. Owens presented the manuscript of his recent novel, *Walking On Borrowed Ground*.

Baum material. A member of the Class of 1916 presented funds to be used for the purchase of certain unique materials for inclusion in the current Library exhibition of the works of L. Frank Baum. The gift included 27 original drawings by W. W. Denslow, illustrator of *The Wizard of Oz*, 3 original drawings by John R. Neill, the illustrator of the later Oz books, a first edition of Baum's *Dot and Tot*, 1901, with a page of the original manuscript, and other items.

A member of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries presented funds for the purchase of Baum's very scarce technical manual, *The Art of Decorating Dry Goods Windows*, 1900.

Mr. John S. Van E. Kohn, a member of the Friends, presented a scarce printing of some of the songs from the stage version of *The Wizard of Oz*, ca. 1904.

Clark gift. Professor Donald L. Clark (Ph.D. 1920) presented 12 volumes of poetry and fiction, mostly autographed copies of works by current authors.

Composing Sticks. The *Ballston Journal*, through Mr. C. H. Grose, Jr., presented a notable group of seven antique composing sticks to the Graphic Arts Collection, some of them being of the fixed-measure variety used widely in the production of magazines and newspapers in the days of hand composition.

Ernst gift. It is a pleasure to record the continued interest of Mr. Richard C. Ernst (LL.B. 1939), who has again presented a selection of the publications of the firm of Alfred A. Knopf. These are currently on display in the main reading room of Butler Library.

Friedman gift. Mr. Harry G. Friedman (Ph.D. 1908) has continued his generous gifts, presenting *Frauenzimmer Almanach*, Leipzig, 1797; Ronsard's *Songs & Sonnets*, 1924, with a presentation inscription from the translator, Curtis Hidden Page, to the sculptress, Estelle Rumbold Kohn; and Laurentius Valla's *Elegantiarum Latinae Linguae*, 1557, in its handsome contemporary roll-stamped calf binding.

Gottscho-Schleisener Archives. Mr. Samuel Gottscho and his son-in-law, Mr. William H. Schleisener, have established at Avery Library the Gottscho-Schleisener Archives of original architectural photographs, comprising 3718 items covering 221 architectural projects executed in America during the first third of this century.

Healy gift. Mrs. David Healy presented a collection of 215 volumes in the fields of history, political science and literature.

Henderson gift. A signed autograph letter from Park Benjamin, 13 November 1864?, was presented by his grand-daughter, Mrs.

Harold G. Henderson (A.B. 1925B). The letter is destined for inclusion in the Library's Park Benjamin collection.

Hitchcock gift. Mrs. Ripley Hitchcock, a member of the Friends, presented a collection of interesting memorabilia, including manuscripts, photographs, certificates, and published writings, of her brother, the late Charles Chapin Sargent, Jr. (A.B. 1897).

Kates gift. Mrs. David Kates presented a valuable collection of books on music in German, from the library of her father, the late Edward Turkisher.

Lovat Fraser. A collection of some thirty-five broadsides and pamphlets featuring the illustrative work of Claud Lovat Fraser, together with a copy of the limited edition of his biography, autographed by the authors, John Drinkwater and Albert Rutherford, was presented anonymously by a member of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries.

Lyons gift. Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Lyons presented a charming collection of pieces for tea service to be used for occasional entertainments at Avery Library.

Miller gift. Mrs. Edgar Grim Miller, Jr., presented large and important collections relating to medicine, languages, political science, history, literature, and the arts. They are from the libraries of her husband, the late Edgar Grim Miller, Jr. (Ph.D. 1913), and her son, the late Edgar Grim Miller III (B.A. 1949, M.A. 1954).

Nevins gift. Professor Allan Nevins, a member of the Friends, has continued his generous benefactions. During December he presented nine files of his correspondence, 1945-1953; mimeographed scripts (sometimes containing matter otherwise unpublished) of Harry Truman's *Memoirs*, Upton Sinclair's *Lanny*

Budd Flies Again, and Carl Sandburg's *Always the Young Strangers*; a large carton of copies of Grover Cleveland correspondence; two additional diaries of Brand Whitlock (plus a considerable body of his correspondence); and a substantial file of letters to A. S. Hewitt. In addition, Professor Nevins has presented some 35 books, including thirteen volumes of bound newspapers.

O'Connor gift. Dr. Lillian O'Connor (Ph.D. 1952) presented ten reels of microfilm of the *Manila Tribune*, the daily English-language tabloid published by the Japanese during their occupation of the Philippine Islands in World War II. This is a most notable acquisition, covering the entire period of the occupation except for a break of six months.

Prentis gift. Mr. Edmund A. Prentis (E.M. 1906), a member of the Friends, presented to Avery Library a three-dimensional model of an 18th-century American church and rectory, with scale figures, landscape and accessories.

Sprague gift. Mrs. Frank J. Sprague, a member of the Friends, enhanced the recent exhibition honoring the centenary of the first publication of John Bartlett's *Familiar Quotations*, 1855, by presenting three scarce editions. We were thus able to display every edition of this notable work issued during the compiler's lifetime.

Steese gift. Mr. Edward W. Steese, last owner of the architectural firm of Carrere and Hastings, has presented to Avery Library a collection of 145 original drawings of works executed by that firm.

Thompson bequest. Avery Library was one of the beneficiaries of the will of the late Woodman Thompson, noted stage designer

and lecturer in Dramatic Arts at Columbia, who bequeathed 887 books on architecture and the related arts.

Turner gift. Mrs. Kenneth B. Turner presented 363 medical works, comprising a portion of the professional library of her late husband.

Van Amringe collection. Columbiana has received from the estate of Miss Emily Bülow Van Amringe six boxes of photographs, correspondence and memorabilia relating to her father, John Howard Van Amringe (A.B. 1860), longtime Dean of Columbia College. The collection includes many important letters and documents relating to the Dean and his social and public life and particularly the years he spent as a Yale undergraduate. An original marble bas-relief by E. A. Kunze, and a plaster copy of the William Ordway Partridge bust came with this gift as well as many family letters and occasional verses written by Dean Van Amringe and President Butler.

Wilbur gift. Mr. Robert L. Wilbur, a member of the Friends, presented a valuable collection of phonograph records and books.

Wouk papers. Mr. Herman Wouk (A.B. 1934) has presented all of his manuscripts and other papers relating to his literary work, with the exception of those pertaining to his most recent novel, *Marjorie Morningstar*. A more detailed analysis of this noteworthy gift will appear in some future issue of the *Columns*.

The Wizard of Oz and Other Books By Baum: A Centennial Exhibition

IN CELEBRATION of the Centenary of the birth of L. Frank Baum who created the Oz stories, the Columbia University Libraries have arranged a special exhibit on the third floor of Butler Library where it will be on view until March 16. But there is far more than Oz here, for Baum was a prolific writer. We have tried to bring together for display the complete published works of our subject, exclusive of his voluminous contributions to magazines, many of which were later issued in book form. Columbia's own holdings form the nucleus of the show, but several scarce and even unique items have been borrowed from other libraries and private collectors, some far afield.

Baum is undoubtedly best known as the author of the Oz books, but he also produced a large number of other fairy tales and stories for older boys and girls. Although his primary contribution was to children's literature, there are exhibited here several novels for adults as well as a number of journalistic ventures (the first of these an amateur newspaper published when Baum was only fifteen). There are even two technical books on surprisingly specialized subjects.

Baum was born near Syracuse, New York, on May 15, 1856, and here he spent most of his childhood. He later moved to Aberdeen, South Dakota, then to Chicago, and finally to Hollywood, California, where he died on May 6, 1919. Although he had done a good deal of previous writing and had produced several successful children's books, Baum's fame was assured with the publication of *The Wizard of Oz* in 1900. The popularity of the Oz books never waned, and from that time until his death, Baum wrote a total of fourteen stories about the land of Oz. His fertile imagination was not exhausted by Oz, however, and in

other books for children he created several other marvelous fairy-lands. During this period, he also produced many long series of books for older boys and girls, written under various pseudonyms. Although somewhat staggering in number, and certainly good enough stories of their kind, they never reach the level of inspiration that we find in those books where the author's creative fancy was most free. Especially in the land of Oz does Baum's imagination most delight both children and adult readers.

A printed catalog is being prepared for sale.

Constitution and By-Laws of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this Association shall be the FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES.

ARTICLE II — PURPOSE

The purposes of the Friends organization are to promote and further among the alumni and the public an interest in the Libraries of the Columbia Corporation, to provide ways to give them a fuller understanding of the role of the research library in education, to serve as a medium for encouraging gifts and bequests in support of the Columbia University Libraries, and generally to assist Columbia University in showing through exhibits, programs, publications and by other means the resources of the University and its Libraries.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

Any person interested in the purposes of this Association shall be eligible for membership.

ARTICLE IV — GOVERNMENT

Section 1. The government of this Association is entrusted to a Council which shall consist of fifteen (15) members. In addition the Director and Assistant Director of the Columbia Libraries shall be members of the Council ex-officio.

Section 2. The first Council shall consist of the fifteen members of the Council of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries now existing.

Section 3. The terms of office of the Council shall be for three (3) years except that at their organization meeting the Council shall select by lot five members thereof whose term shall expire at the date of the first annual meeting and five members thereof whose term shall expire at the date of the second annual meeting and five members thereof whose term shall expire at the date of the third annual meeting. Any vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term by appoint-

ment by the chairman with the concurrence of the remaining Council members. Council members whose terms expire shall be eligible for re-election.

ARTICLE V — NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting, the chairman shall, with the concurrence of the Council, appoint a Nominating Committee of three (3) members whose duty it shall be to confer within ten (10) days after their appointment and nominate candidates for membership in the Council to be balloted at the next annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI — OFFICERS

The officers of this Association to be elected by the Council with the advice of the President of Columbia University shall be a chairman and a vice-chairman. In addition the Assistant Director of Libraries shall act as Secretary-Treasurer *ex-officio*. Officers are elected for a term of two years or until the expiration of their term on the Council if not re-elected. The officers with the Director of Libraries may act on behalf of the Council whenever necessary.

ARTICLE VII — FUNDS

All funds received by the Association shall be deposited by the Treasurer in the Funds of Columbia University to be credited to the Special Account of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries. Subject to Columbia University policy such funds shall be disbursed on the order of the Director of the University Libraries or by his delegated agent under policies established by the Council of the Friends.

ARTICLE VIII — AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended at any time by the written consent of not less than ten (10) members of the Council. Any such amendment shall be effective immediately and be in force until the next annual meeting, at which time a two-thirds vote of the membership present is required for ratification of such amendment.

ARTICLE IX — CONSTRUCTION OF CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

In respect to all questions of construction of the Constitution and By-Laws, the decision of the Council shall control and be binding.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I — MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 1. The Friends shall meet in the month of January each year for the election of Council members and the transaction of other business. This shall be considered the Annual Meeting. The exact date of this meeting shall be determined by the Council and at least ten (10) days' written notice given the membership.

Section 2. A Special Meeting of this Association may be called at any time by the Council and shall be called by it upon the written request of twenty-five (25) members specifying the object of such meeting. A notice of each Special Meeting stating the object or objects for which it is called shall be mailed by the secretary to each member at his address as it appears on the records of the Association at least ten (10) days in advance of such meeting.

Section 3. After proper notification, members present shall constitute a quorum. Notice of an adjourned meeting shall be sent to all Council members.

ARTICLE II — COUNCIL MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of the Council shall be held whenever called by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman upon at least three (3) days' notice. Those present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. The Council shall make rules for its own government.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Admission to membership shall be by invitation of the Chairman, following nomination by the Council at any regular or Special Meeting of the Council.

Section 2. Membership may be revoked by action of the Council.

Section 3. There shall be the following classes of membership*:

Annual

(Any person contributing not less than \$10.00 per year, except that officers of administration, officers of instruction, and officers of the Libraries of Columbia University may be elected Annual Members without any stipulated dues)

Contributing

(Any person contributing not less than \$25.00 per year)

* All contributions are deductible for income tax purposes. Make checks payable to Columbia University.

Sustaining

(Any person contributing not less than \$50.00 per year)

Benefactor

(Any person contributing not less than \$100.00 and up per year)

Honorary

(This membership to be by special action of the Council for outstanding services given to the Libraries of Columbia)

ARTICLE IV — COMMITTEES

Section 1. At the beginning of a new Chairman's term of office he shall with the concurrence of the Council appoint the following Standing Committees:

1. Columbia Library Columns
2. Program Committee
3. Bancroft Award Ceremony Committee
4. Membership
5. Memorial Books

ARTICLE V — POLICY

Section 1. At the end of the fiscal year after expenses of the Friends organization are met the net receipts may be used for acquisitions, or for such other library purposes as the Council may specifically authorize.

Section 2. All matters which might affect University policy or which might be affected by University policy shall be cleared with University officials through the Director of Libraries.

ARTICLE VI — AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended at any time by the written consent of not less than eight (8) members of the Council. Any such amendment shall be effective immediately and shall be in force until the next annual meeting, at which time a majority vote of the membership present is required to ratify such amendment.

Activities of the Friends

ANNUAL MEETING. The first Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries was held in the Rotunda of Low Memorial Library on the evening of January 24. August Heckscher, Chairman of our group, presided.

During the short business session with which the meeting was opened, Mr. Heckscher stated that with the larger membership it had seemed to the Council that we should have a somewhat more formal organization and to that end he had appointed Mrs. Franz Stone as chairman of a committee which would draw up a proposed Constitution and By-Laws. After a study of the documents which were submitted in May, the Council suggested a few revisions. The revised documents were approved by the President and Vice-President of the University and by the Council at its September 27 meeting. Copies were sent to all members of our organization for examination in early January.

Mr. Heckscher said that the principal item of business at the Annual Meeting was consideration of adoption of the Constitution and By-Laws. He then called on Mrs. Stone who read the following resolution which she had prepared:

“Whereas, there has existed for a number of years a group of persons, which has been known as the ‘Friends of the Columbia Libraries,’ interested in the promotion and furthering of the work of the various libraries in Columbia University; and

Whereas, by reason of the increasing activities and interest shown in the work of such group, it appears desirable for the group to have a somewhat more formal organization and, to that end, the adoption of a constitution and by-laws appears to be advisable; and

Whereas, a form of constitution and by-laws has been prepared, suitable to the purposes and objectives of the group,

Be it resolved that a voluntary, unincorporated association, to be known as the ‘Friends of the Columbia Libraries’, is hereby created by the persons present at this meeting in person or by proxy, and

Be it further resolved that the constitution and by-laws in form submitted to this meeting be, and the same hereby are, adopted as

the Constitution and By-Laws of the association, and that the affairs of the association hereafter be conducted in accordance with such Constitution and By-Laws."

Mrs. Stone said that pursuant to this resolution, she moved that the Constitution and By-Laws be adopted. The motion was seconded. In the discussion, one member asked whether all classes of contributions listed in the By-Laws are deductible for income tax purposes. The Chairman said that he understood that they were. There being no further questions, the Chairman called for the vote. The Constitution and By-Laws were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Heckscher said that Article IV, section 3, of the Constitution states that the terms of Council members shall be for three years with the terms of office of one-third expiring each year in January. At a meeting of the Nominating Committee (Mr. Lada-Mocarski, Chairman) on January 19, the names of the eleven active Council members were drawn by lot, with the following results:

Terms to expire in January, 1957

Mrs. Albert M. Baer	Mrs. Donald F. Hyde
August Heckscher	Valerien Lada-Mocarski
Plus one vacancy	

Terms to expire in January, 1958

C. Waller Barrett	Norman Cousins
Henry Rogers Benjamin	Mrs. Arthur C. Holden
Plus one vacancy	

Terms to expire in January, 1959

Mrs. Francis Henry Lenygon	Mrs. Franz T. Stone
Dallas Pratt	Plus 2 vacancies

Under the terms of the Constitution, Council members will be eligible for re-election upon expiration of their terms. Mr. Heckscher said that the four vacancies on the Council will be filled in the near future.

Presentation of Herman Wouk's papers and address by Mr. Wouk. Mr. Heckscher then called upon Dr. Logsdon, the Director of Libraries, who spoke of the activity of a University committee headed by one of our members, Professor Donald Clark, which has taken steps to interest authors in placing their manuscripts in the Libraries. Dr. Logsdon also summarized the discussions which Mr. Baughman and he had had with Mr. Wouk (Columbia College '34) with regard to the possibility of the latter's presenting his collected papers to the University. Mr. Wouk was pleased with the idea and on December 22 transferred title of his manuscripts including *The Caine Mutiny*, *The Caine Mutiny Court Martial*, some of his early novels, and the motion picture scenarios of some of these works. Dr. Logsdon presented the document of transmittal to Vice-President Krout.

Dr. Krout said that he welcomed the opportunity to say a word of gratitude to the many people who had made the evening a possibility. He said that the marked development of university libraries over the past years has been due in many regards to groups like the Friends of the Columbia Libraries. He wished a long and prosperous life to the Friends.

Speaking then of Mr. Wouk, he said that the latter's name has been added to the list of honored Columbia alumni who have made it possible for us to have original manuscripts of their writings. What especially interested him in connection with Mr. Wouk's magnificent gift was the fact that the items presented were largely long-hand drafts. "These may be more important in the future than the printed volumes — which Mr. Wouk understandably hopes will always be available — because they show the passages which he later changed or deleted. No one else in the world will have these. Unfortunately in the past, all too often such original drafts were not saved."

Dr. Krout introduced Mr. Wouk who spoke with wit and with feeling about his relationships with the University and with the late Professor Irwin Edman. A tape-recording was made of his address and we hope to have the privilege of printing it in the next issue of *Columbia Library Columns*.

THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES

PRIVILEGES

Invitations to exhibitions, lectures and other special events.

Use of books in the reading rooms of the libraries.

Opportunity to consult Librarians, including those in charge of the specialized collections, about material of interest to a member. (Each Division Head has our members' names on file.)

Free subscription to COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS.

* * *

The By-Laws provide the following classes of membership:

ANNUAL. Any person contributing not less than \$10.00 per year, except that officers of administration, officers of instruction, and officers of the Libraries of Columbia University may be elected Annual Members without any stipulated dues.

CONTRIBUTING. Any person contributing not less than \$25.00 a year.

SUSTAINING. Any person contributing not less than \$50.00 per year.

BENEFACTOR. Any person contributing not less than \$100.00 and up per year.

HONORARY. This membership to be by special action of the Council for outstanding services given to the Libraries of Columbia.

Checks should be made payable to Columbia University. All donations are deductible for income tax purposes.

OFFICERS

AUGUST HECKSCHER, *Chairman*

MRS. DONALD HYDE, *Vice-Chairman*

CHARLES W. MIXER, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Room 317, Butler Library, Columbia University, New York 27, N. Y.

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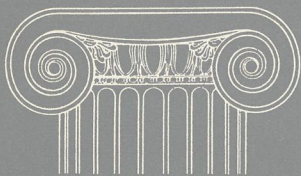
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NORMAN COUSINS

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AUGUST HECKSCHER



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COLUMNS



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RICHARD H. LOGSDON is Director of the Columbia University Libraries.

HERMAN WOUK, Columbia College, '34, is the author of *The Caine Mutiny*, *Marjorie Morningstar* and other recent books.



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Columbia Library Columns

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THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES
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Vice President Krout, Mr. and Mrs. Wouk, and Dr. Logsdon looking at part of the *Caine Mutiny* manuscript.



C O L U M B I A
L I B R A R Y
C O L U M N S



On Being Put Under Glass

HERMAN WOUK

On the evening of January 24, 1956, Herman Wouk presented the manuscripts of his books and plays to Columbia University, at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries. He delivered the following address in the Rotunda of the Seth Low Memorial Library at Columbia, where a glass-cased exhibition of the manuscripts had been prepared.

I HAVE been growing increasingly uncomfortable in this room as the moments go by. For the first time in my life I see my work under glass. This is not precisely a pleasant feeling. I have half a notion that in one of these empty cases I should be under glass, that I should be horizontal, with my arms folded and with a well-worn-down pen in my hand. *Requiescat in pace!*

I am grateful to Columbia, for thinking that the manuscripts of these novels are worthy of preservation. It is a generous compliment, and rather unexpected; because, for one thing, my work so far has been so frankly designed to entertain. Now, according to some thinkers on the subject of modern literature, that would exclude my work from the category of serious writing. One is told

(or it is at least strongly implied) that novels can be serious or they can be entertaining; they cannot very well be both.

Of course, that was not always believed. Anyone who knows the literature of the past two hundred years knows that in the 18th and the 19th centuries the best fiction was the best entertainment. I need not argue the point; I need but mention names: Fielding, Scott, Balzac, Dickens, Thackeray, Trollope. These were all in the first instance entertainers. What substance and worth was in them had to be included in a frame of beguiling narrative.

In those days the novel held somewhat the position that the movies and television do today. It was the popular form of amusement. Actually it was a little shameful, a little light-headed to read novels. You remember Lydia Languish in *The Rivals*, hiding Smollett's new book under a mattress, when the old lady came in to see what she was doing. Well, all that changed toward the end of the 19th century, did it not? Critics began to take the novel seriously and even to write novels. I think in a way it is too bad that as an art form the novel ever did take a bath and a shave and put on its critical gray flannel suit and become admitted to respectability. Because it was then that the false split between the serious novel and the entertaining novel took firm hold.

It is true, of course, that many trivial novels are entertaining and no more; but it by no means follows—and this is the logical conversion so dear to some—that all entertaining novels are trivial. The young writer in our time has to hack through a real jungle of critical solemnities to arrive at what fiction is all about. I suggest that the object of fiction—and it is the same object that Mozart had in music and Michaelangelo in sculpture—I suggest that the object of fiction is to capture a glimpse of abiding truth in a form that will charm. Charm is not enough, of course, to admit a novel into the category of valuable things. But I think that fiction now—as in the past, and for as long as it will retain its identity as the art form we know—in the first instance has to please. For thinking that way and for pitching my work within that frame, I know I will always be roundly slammed by some critics. But I think too that

the common reader, whose verdict is the one that matters in the long run, will punish me when I work badly and will reward me when I work well.

The presence of Irwin Edman, my old teacher and friend, is very heavily with me this evening. I feel compelled to say something that I might almost be saying directly to him if he were in the first row, which is where he would be if he were alive. This is a sort of closing of a circle, a rounding of a turn in my life. I feel a bit as though I am at an oral examination before the spirit of the University which gave me the intellectual orientation I have, and as though I have to render something of an account.

I was sent out as a product of the University. Irwin might say to me: "Well, Herman, what about your work so far? Can you face the University with what you have done? Beyond its acceptance with the public, what of its intellectual responsibility? What of its place in the life of the mind?"

I know I am of small consequence in the intellectual community, but I hope I have not been untrue to the basic task of the intellectual in our time and in our land.

We do not have intellectuals, it seems to me, in the conventional sense. Our society is not so stratified. People's jobs are not set so sharply apart and, too, we do not have the European tradition stretching back hundreds of years of the "learned group," the monks who did the studying and preserved the life of the mind while the life of the world went on in the hurly-burly outside the monastery walls. Was Lincoln an intellectual? Was Jefferson? Was Franklin? Was Mark Twain an intellectual? In the conventional sense, was Thoreau? Was Dreiser? Was Whitman? It seems to be the mark of the American intellectual that he must be in the hurly-burly and part of it; that he must bring the life of the mind into the market place.

He has, I think, in the United States, a clear-cut job to do. With all deference—and understanding all the time that what I say here is random speculation—it seems to me that the intellectual in the United States is the challenger, the one who is constantly ques-

tioning the complacent ideas, the values that are taken for granted at the hour. In the old societies, the intellectual had the function of justifying the established order; curiously, in the Soviet Union the intellectual has reverted to that position, has he not? He must justify the ways of the Politburo to man. Here, where we have an open society, where we may do as we please, and, where under God's blessing, things are going so very well, thanks to our natural riches and to the wonderful energy that our people have—here the great danger has been, conventionally, generation after generation, excessive self-satisfaction. Dickens reported it venomously but accurately in *Martin Chuzzlewit* and his *American Notes*. Mrs. Trollope reported it. All the European visitors since then have commented on our satisfaction with things as they are and with our values as they stand. Therefore, peculiarly in the United States, the intellectual seems to me to have always been challenging, arguing, asking questions, breaking the familiar molds. So, for instance, Thoreau turned his back on the marvellous industrial world springing up about him and went to live in the woods for thirty cents a day, sustaining his life with his two bare hands, to make a protest against the complacency he saw. I will not labor the point; I think it is very clear.

Well, I too have tried in my thinking to challenge existing values, to throw a question at the unspoken complacencies of the time. The wonderful thing about Irwin Edman was that in a way I was challenging him, and he knew it very well; and yet he encouraged me to do so. Irwin's intellectual views are quite clear in his work. He was an aesthete of stature; he was a teacher second to none. His philosophical position was that of the toughest-minded naturalistic skepticism. With Irwin this was not merely a fashionable view of life; it was his life. The fact that it was the prevailing view did not make him a conformist, though he was not a rebel either. He had worked his philosophy out for himself, and he maintained it brilliantly. This same naturalistic skepticism has become in our time—in other, lesser hands—a rather wheezy and pettish iconoclasm; flaming youth, one might say, with hardening

My name is Willie Keite. I
 played a small but, I think, ~~rather~~^(Seward)
~~important~~^{(at the start, on} part in the Mutiny, especially ~~on~~^{(at the start, on}
 the night of the typhoon. It has come to
 my hand to write the story of the ~~Mutiny~~.
~~mainly because I see that no one else has~~
~~done so, and the truth of the matter is~~
~~likely to be lost; and it should not~~
~~be lost.)~~ If I write it as a personal memoir,
 and become ~~unpleasantly~~^(Seward) garrulous about
 myself in the process, I ask the reader's
 indulgence. ~~Most of all I am setting~~
~~this tale down for my son to read~~
~~when he is a few years older. I want~~
~~him to know the ~~fact~~ what his father~~
~~did in the years of the ~~great~~^(war) War, and~~
~~I have not spared to include ~~my~~^(certain) jollies,~~
~~because I think he can learn from them~~
~~to be wiser than his parent, and to~~
~~have ~~more~~^(in eye) than I did to a sensible~~
~~view of existence, and, in the ~~words~~^(words) of~~
~~the ~~Prophet~~^(Prophet) to a remembrance of his~~
~~Creator. You will find me ~~speak~~~~
 writing of myself in the third person,
 first because of my ~~importance~~^(lesser role) in the
 broad picture of the Mutiny, and second
 because the Willie Keite of those days

of the arteries. Lately it has developed a few heart murmurs of orthodox belief in economic and psychiatric dogmas. It is beginning to smell much more of the 1920's than of the 1960's. Of course, skepticism itself is an old stable philosophic position; like the hourglass silhouette, it comes and goes. The particular brew of Mencken, Freud, Marx, and Dewey (all four misunderstood and shallowly paraphrased) which has passed so long for genuine sophistication, remains today the most popular intellectual position, at least in writing circles. The professional philosophers have never thought much of it; but even as fashionable patter I believe its vogue is now waning.

I have never been attracted to it. Long ago I found myself drifting in the opposite direction, toward an outlook that presumed to take seriously some familiar religious concepts. They seemed to correspond with truth as I saw it; they liberated my mind for creative effort. The influence of that brilliant American literary dictator, Mencken, was all-pervasive, and I knew that my ideas were practically treason, but I could not help thinking them.

All the time this was happening, I was seeing Irwin constantly. He was amused, of course, and interested, and I think a bit surprised to see the way my mind was working. But he urged me to go on, encouraged me in the way I was going. He used to say that a man had to find and strike his own note.

It is still not quite intellectually respectable even to consider a religious position, I know. It has become a little more respectable in the past few years; but the change as yet does not cut very deep. Perhaps for that very reason, I think I could in honesty make this report to Irwin if he were here tonight. "*I have tried to remain unblinded, Irwin, by the fashionable formulas of the clever ones. I have tried to see life as candidly as I could. I have not conformed so far as I know in my writing, in my thinking, or in my living, to the received patterns of the hour.*"

When I started to write novels, the choice was to imitate William Faulkner or Ernest Hemingway or John Dos Passos or James Joyce. Those were the gods of the hour. Had I written my first

novel in any of those styles or in a jumble of all, that would have been quite acceptable. But the fact that I had discovered the 18th and 19th centuries, and had found well-springs of technique and narrative power and wisdom in those novels, should have been a piece of tough luck for me. I should have turned my back on them and followed the current trends. I did not. I thought that my work might be ridiculed, but I wrote as I understood. And I live as I understand.

As a result, my work has gone very much against the grain of current criticism. And in my outlook and in my personal life, I guess I seem something of a non-conformist freak. But I think that in these ways I have been true to what I was taught here at the University.

Something too much of this. The topic seems to be me this evening, and so I have spoken to you candidly and perhaps a little too long on that subject.

I have been writing for ten years. I am forty. The work that I have done lies in these exhibit cases. They are museum pieces. Very good. These plays and these novels were all experiments. I made dreadful mistakes in all of them. I was groping for my tools and trying to find my note. But I hope on the whole they are not bad work. Several of these writings pleased audiences and readers, and each was the best I could do at the time. The failures and the successes were produced with equal concentration and labor.

It seems to me that when I leave you this evening and return to my study, I will be starting on my first novel.

Honor-Books — To Express Appreciation

HELENE G. BAER

AN article in the February, 1954, issue of *Columbia Library Columns* announced a Memorial Book plan by which deceased friends and associates might be remembered with a gift fund to the Columbia Libraries. This would be used for the purchase of books. The Friends of the Columbia Libraries commissioned the distinguished calligrapher, Norman Krinsky, to prepare a specially designed bookplate which can be inserted in the volumes, inscribed with the name of the person who is being memorialized. Many Friends have taken the opportunity to commemorate departed friends in this thoughtful way.

Now, we have an additional plan under which friends, relatives, or others may be honored on an anniversary or for some other special reason. It came about in this fashion. A graduate of Columbia College, '01, received a unique present for his seventy-fifth birthday: notification that two of his friends had given funds to the Libraries for the purchase of books in his honor. Here was a man who "had everything" — but nothing that he received on that festive day pleased him more than this tribute to him and to his Alma Mater. Impressed by the pleasure which this gift gave, the Friends have developed procedures whereby any individual who would like to do so can make such testimonial gifts. An adaptation of the handsome Krinsky bookplate has been prepared for use in these Honor Books.

The procedure for making such gifts to the Libraries parallels that which has been in effect for Memorial Books. The Friends will presently receive a leaflet which shows the bookplates. By filling in the form on the back of the leaflet, it will be possible, when an appropriate occasion arises, to honor a friend with a gift which will live for years in the hands of those who use the Columbia Libraries.

Meet Columbia's Supervising Librarians!

RICHARD H. LOGSDON*

OUR purpose here is to present an overview of the organization and services of the Columbia Libraries. We should enjoy taking you on a tour of our facilities, meeting those in charge, much as was done with the Council of the Friends one day in 1952. Since that seems not practicable at the moment, we shall offer a "verbal tour," in the course of which we shall talk of them, their work, their collections, and how everything is supposed to fit together to meet the total library needs.

Avery (Architecture), Fine Arts, and Music Libraries

An architect by training, James Van Derpool came to Columbia in 1946 to be Librarian of the Avery architecture library and to



James G. Van Derpool, Librarian of Avery and Supervisor of the Architecture, Fine Arts, and Music Libraries

serve as Professor with seats in the faculties of Architecture and Library Service. He served previously at the University of Illinois as a member of the Fine Arts faculty, and from 1939-46 as Head of their Department of Art. He holds degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Harvard, and studied at the American Academy at Rome and the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. A long term interest in the history and bibliography of architecture led him to make teaching a second

* An article (with portrait) about Dr. Logsdon, Director of the Libraries, was printed in the February, 1955, issue.

responsibility in order to devote most of his time to developing the resources and services of the renowned Avery Library. In 1948, as Columbia's library organization moved further toward a subject-divisional arrangement, Mr. Van Derpool's responsibilities were enlarged to include general supervision first of the Fine Arts Library in Schermerhorn, and later of the Music Library in the Journalism Building.

It has been said that Avery is the ranking architectural library of the world and is sometimes referred to as the National Library of the profession. Rather than to stand solely on these claims we will tell you briefly what Avery is and of our efforts not only to maintain its reputation but to strengthen the basis upon which it rests. Its collections contain the published literature of architecture and the allied arts from the 15th century to the present, as well as manuscripts, original drawings, prints, photographs, extensive holdings in the field of planning and housing, and files of over twelve-hundred architectural periodicals, including over two hundred and fifty current journals published in fifteen different languages. It has also the most extensive periodical index in its field. A copy of almost every known architectural incunabulum has been acquired.

Although primarily a graduate research library serving scholars throughout the nation, its use can best be described as qualitative rather than quantitative. Users expect to find the rarest books in the field as well as comparative editions and commentaries, and while their research may begin elsewhere it generally ends here.

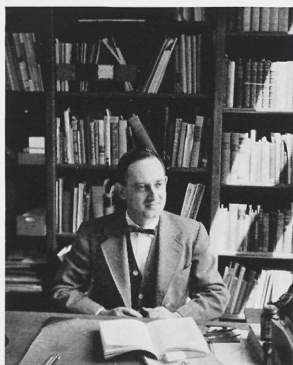
The Fine Arts Library, located in Schermerhorn next to the Avery building, is especially rich in the fields of modern European painting and sculpture, Italian, Flemish, and Dutch painting, French and Italian illuminated manuscripts, and Chinese art. There are also many facsimiles of prints and drawings and an extensive group of periodicals and other art books in Russian.

The Music Library, the third major unit of this Division, is located in the Journalism building on the West side of the campus. The collections go well beyond journals and microfilms, the typi-

cal stock in trade of a library, to include music scores and recordings. Unusual collections include the Anton Seidl library of orchestral scores; the Edward MacDowell collection of first editions and manuscripts; the Judah Joffe collection of discs and cylinders representing a history of phonograph record manufacturing from its beginning to 1925; and finally the Béla Bartok collection, on permanent deposit, of manuscript materials relating to European folk music.

Engineering, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics Libraries

Columbia has had a long and illustrious record of accomplishment in Engineering and the physical sciences beginning with the



Russell Shank, Librarian of Engineering and Supervisor of the Physical Science Libraries

establishment of the School of Mines by Thomas Egleston in 1864—the first school of its type in the U.S. The present Engineering Library, named for Professor Egleston, is located on the main floor of the Mines Building. Quarters are crowded, awaiting construction of a new Engineering Center and Library. Russell Shank, Engineering Librarian, came to Columbia in 1952 from the Milwaukee Public Library where he served as Personnel Officer. Previously he was Assistant Librarian of

the Engineering Library at the University of Wisconsin, and earlier, a member of the professional staff of the University of Washington Library. Mr. Shank holds engineering and library science degrees from the University of Washington and a graduate degree in Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin. He regularly teaches a course in engineering library

techniques and occasionally teaches a summer course for the School of Library Service. Following the practice of associating related libraries together administratively, Mr. Shank has a general responsibility also for the Chemistry Library in Chandler, the Physics Library in Pupin, and the Mathematics and General Science Libraries in Low. These, together with the extensive holdings of the Medical and Natural Science Libraries, represent a wealth of scientific information from early beginnings to electronics, atomic fission, automation and operations research. The products of American industry in all of its aspects are fully documented in Egleston's collections of trade catalogs and house organs. These represent virtually every important manufacturer whether currently active or long deceased.

Law and International Law Libraries

At this point it should be mentioned that the Columbia Libraries are organized in six divisions which are based on a grouping by related subject fields. This, the third to be described, is the only division housed in one building, although technically it has been necessary to store a substantial part of the collection in the Butler and Low Libraries. Present crowded quarters will be improved when the new Law Center and Library, recently announced, are a reality.

Miles O. Price, Librarian of the Law and International Law Libraries, came to Columbia in 1929 from Washington, D.C., where he had been serving as librarian of the science library of the U.S. Patent Office. Pre-



Miles O. Price, Librarian of the Law and International Law Libraries

viously he had served on the staffs of the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois libraries. He holds degrees from the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois, Columbia and Temple, the latter an honorary LL.D. received in 1954 for his contributions to Law librarianship. His *Effective Legal Research* is a standard text in legal bibliography. In addition to his library responsibilities, Mr. Price teaches the course in Legal Bibliography for the School of Library Service, and lectures frequently to students in the Law School.

Columbia's School of Law, established in 1858, has long held a respected position, nationally and internationally. Such a reputation is simply not possible over a long period of time without a comparably strong library. Beginning immediately after the first world war, collections and services were expanded rapidly, aimed at achieving substantial completeness in fundamental Anglo-American Law and in building up substantial collections of foreign law, particularly for France, Germany, Austria, Italy and Spain.

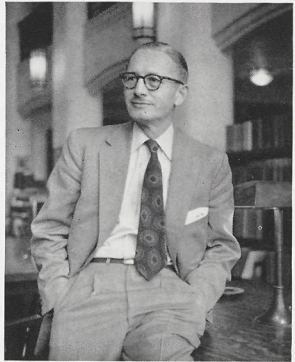
Distinctive in many of its resources and services, the Law Library takes special pride in the completeness and utility of its card catalog—particularly for its analysis of foreign law. For many years, the influences of techniques and procedures developed at the Columbia Law Library have spread well beyond the campus.

Medical and Natural Science Libraries

The modern period in Medical Education and research at Columbia began just over 25 years ago when the College of Physicians and Surgeons moved to its present site at 168th Street and joined with Presbyterian Hospital to create the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. Other hospitals and institutes have been brought into the Center so that today it is doubtful if any Medical Center in the world exceeds Columbia's in the range and extent of research, experimentation, and education. The Medical Library serves as the nerve center of information for a research, teaching

staff, and student body exceeding 7,000. Four of Columbia's professional school programs—Medicine, Dental and Oral Surgery, Public Health, and Nursing—are located at the Center. The total clientele of the Medical Library alone exceeds that of many universities.

The Library operation is under the direction of Thomas P. Fleming, who came to Columbia in 1937 from the University of Minnesota, where he served as head of the acquisitions and binding operations and taught in the Library School. Previous to his experience at Minnesota, he served as Assistant in Charge of Departmental Libraries at the Western Reserve University in Cleveland. He holds graduate degrees in both Library Science and Biology from Western Reserve University. In addition to his present responsibility as Medical Librarian and Supervisor of the Medical—Natural Science Libraries, he serves as a Professor in the School of Library Service and in the Faculty of Medicine. A lifetime interest and experience in building research collections in general and science collections in particular is put to daily and continuing use with his staff and readers in meeting the needs of the Medical Center and Schermerhorn science libraries. The latter include the Geology Library, the Map Collection, the Psychology Library, and the Botany-Zoology Library.



Thomas P. Fleming, Librarian of the Medical and Natural Science Libraries

Special Collections

Columbia's division of Special Collections, located on the 6th, 7th, and 8th floors of Butler Library, comprises a multitude of functions and a variety of material, the common characteristic

being the need for special care or handling with respect to arrangement, preservation, or use. Rare books, manuscripts, and archival



Roland O. Baughman, Supervisor of Special Collections

collections predominate, although a substantial body of material is represented in separate collections such as the Gonzalez Lodge library of classics; the American Type Founders Library of graphic arts materials; the Seligman Library on the history of economics; the Plimpton collection of early books and manuscripts, primarily representing the implements of education; the Smith collection on the history of mathematics; the Park Benjamin collection of New York

City literature, 1830–1860; the Epstean collection on the history of photography; and the Spinoza collection, which represents the lifetime collecting activities of two scholar-specialists and which is virtually complete for the period covered. A recent list of collections of correspondence and original materials identified some two hundred different groups, including such recent acquisitions as the Gouverneur Morris papers and the Santayana manuscripts.

Roland Baughman, Supervisor of this division, came to Columbia in 1946, leaving his post at the Huntington Library where he had served since 1924. He is known to Friends of the Libraries through his regular contributions to *Columbia Library Columns* under the heading "Our Growing Collections." Initially responsible only for Special Collections, his supervisory duties were enlarged first to include the Columbiana Collection and more recently the Library of the School of Library Service, which is housed adjacent to Special Collections.

Mr. Baughman's work extends generally throughout the campus inasmuch as Special Collections contains materials in almost all subjects of a literary or historical nature, the use of which has tripled in the last ten years. He is also responsible for the exhibit program in the Butler Library, which, with the help of a member of the Friends organization, has recently reached a new high in activity and sustained interest.

Butler Division

The Butler Division of the University Libraries is the sixth to be mentioned here, and is the largest of the divisions serving readers as opposed to the back-of-the-scenes work of the Technical Services units. It comprises those libraries, except Law, Fine Arts and Music, which manage the literature of the humanities and the social sciences, approximately one half of the Library's resources. There are ten separate departments in all, representing general reference and circulation services, and the principal facilities and services for Columbia College, the Graduate School of Business, Graduate School of Journalism, General Studies, and the twenty-one departments of instruction in the Graduate Faculties of Philosophy and Political Science.

The Supervisor of this division, William L. Williamson, came to Columbia in 1954 from the University of Chicago where he has been working toward a doctorate in the Graduate Library School. He holds degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Emory, and



William L. Williamson, Supervisor of the Butler Division

Columbia. His experience includes service on the staff of the Atlanta Public Library and Baylor University where he was Assistant Librarian, and later Associate Librarian and Acting Librarian.

The various collections and services which make up this division deserve separate and detailed description, but, in view of space limitations, this will have to await another opportunity.

Acquisitions, Binding, and Photographic Services

This division is the business side of the Libraries, handling procurement whether by purchase, gift, or exchange. It resembles a



Erle P. Kemp, Supervisor of Acquisitions, Binding, and Photographic Services

business operation but with one difference so significant as to all but destroy the analogy. Whereas mass production techniques are based on volume handling of identical items all of which are in production, a research library is precisely the opposite, in that it is dealing usually with single copies of an almost infinite range of items, each with precise specifications, many of which may be out of print and available only in the "second hand" market. It is not

generally realized that it takes as much or more know-how and office man-power to procure a copy of a government leaflet as a grand piano or for that matter, a gross of grand pianos. This is all the more significant when it is realized that something over 300,000 different units of material come into the libraries every year.

Erle P. Kemp, Supervisor of the Acquisitions Division, came to Columbia in 1952 from the University of Miami where he had

served as Serials Librarian. He holds graduate degrees from Columbia University and is a candidate for the Doctor of Library Service at Columbia.

In 1953, a year after Mr. Kemp's arrival, responsibilities of the Acquisitions Librarian were enlarged to include the Binding Department and the Department of Photographic Services; the former handles contracts and flow of work with commercial binders, produces pamphlet bindings locally for thousands of items yearly, and handles the preparations work for all of the books and journals going into the Morningside Heights libraries except Law.

The Department of Photographic Services provides a micro-filming and photostating service for the entire campus, and the preparation of photographic prints and slides for teaching purposes.

Cataloging

This division of the University Libraries has the responsibility of maintaining bibliographical control over the accumulated three million volumes which make up the Columbia Libraries, and of integrating new acquisitions into the collections. Some 150,000 pieces are processed by the department annually. The operation involves preparation of some 365,000 catalog cards annually, which, if laid end to end, would stretch from City Hall to Stamford, Connecticut, roughly thirty miles. Here too, the essential characteristic is the range and diversity of literature, representing essentially all subjects, languages and countries of origin. Although large quantities of material must be handled, each



Altha E. Terry, Supervisor of Cataloging

piece has its distinctive specification as far as entry, classification and subject analysis is concerned.

There are fifty-three staff members in the division, most of whom work in the central cataloging office in Butler Library. Branches of the division, however, are located in the Medical and Law Libraries. The Union Catalog in Butler, representing the cumulative value of many years of staff work, is the most important single asset on the balance sheet of the Libraries. For insurance purposes it has been determined by cost studies that its replacement would take a staff of fifty people nearly 8 years and would involve an expenditure of \$1,154,000.

Altha E. Terry, who heads the Department, is the senior member of this supervisory group in terms of length of service on the staff. In the years since she was appointed as a cataloger in 1916, she has held various administrative positions in the unit and has, with her colleagues, developed procedures for keeping under bibliographic control the incoming publications which have increased so markedly in number and complexity.

She is a graduate of Vassar and has received two professional degrees from Columbia's School of Library Service.

Central Administration

We have now come full circle in our hypothetical tour and are back in the environs of Room 315 Butler, the area known generally as the "Library Office." For our purposes this includes the full range of work normally associated with the administration of a system of libraries including personnel, public relations, supplies and equipment, budget and budget control, payroll certification, space assignment, as well as the offices of Director and Assistant Director of University Libraries.

Charles W. Mixer, Assistant Director, came to Columbia in 1946 from the U. S. Naval Academy where he had served as Librarian from 1938. Previously he had served as a staff member of the Washington, D. C., Public Library, and the Library of Con-

gress. He holds degrees from Harvard and Columbia Universities and served for a while as an Editorial assistant for Ginn and Company.

Mr. Mixer served first as Assistant Director for administration, 1946-48, with responsibility for personnel, budget, supplies, equipment and space utilization. With organizational changes in 1948 he undertook responsibility for the Technical Services. Further changes in organization which took place in 1953 extended his work still further to include primary responsibility for activities related to (1) the Controller of the University; (2) the Department of Buildings and Grounds; (3) Public information; (4) Personnel policies; (5) the University Purchasing agent; and (6) Friends projects and activities. However, in addition to these broad areas of direct responsibility, the combined work of the Assistant Director and Director is interchanged freely throughout the year as particular circumstances suggest. The whole idea has been to establish the concept of an Office of the Director staffed to make decisions and to implement them regardless of the availability of any particular officer, thus using everyone in the Library Office to the fullest.

Our present pattern of organization dates from July 1, 1953. At that time it was stated that there is no one perfect organization for all time but rather a choice of the more promising alternatives at a given time. The present plan was designed to achieve a maximum of autonomy of operations of divisions consistent with a coordinated library system. Meetings of Divisional Librarians are held monthly, with department heads and unit supervisors joining us



*Charles W. Mixer, Assistant Director
of University Libraries*

quarterly. Every effort is made to have significant questions of policy clear this group.

Our only regret as we come to the close of this tour is that we could not have had you meet all 410 members of the library staff, for the success of the operation rests with their work.

Photographs by Lisa Basch

Gilbert Highet comments on Libraries

No library is useless. The smallest local collection of books may contain unique treasures or inspire a genius. Every library is an assertion of man's durable trust in intelligence as a protection against irrationalism, force, time, and death. A town or church or school without an adequate collection of books is only half alive. Indeed, libraries are far more necessary now than benefactors like Carnegie ever imagined, because, in the constantly growing flood of useless and distracting appeals to our surface attention—rapidly written magazine articles, flimsy and fragmentary newspapers, and torrents of talk, talk, talk pouring from the radio—they provide a place to rest, be quiet, step off the moving platform of the Moment, and think. (From *Man's Unconquerable Mind* by Gilbert Highet. Copyright, 1954, Columbia University Press.



THE recent Julius Caesar exhibit was intended to commemorate the 2000th anniversary of his assassination on the Ides of March, 44 B.C. Professors Moses Hadas and Gilbert Highet agreed to pose for the above picture, assuming in all innocence that librarians can add. Before the exhibit opened local papers carried stories that we were one year too early. Reporters asked whether, in the light of developments, the show would go on. It did, with admission on the labels that our choice of dates was debatable. Never have we had so much publicity! *Time*, *Newsweek* and the wire services carried the word across the land. Publicity with a smirk, but still publicity! The Exhibitions staff took it all in stride. Roland Baughman stubbornly wonders, if chronologists can eliminate the "zero year," what *won't* they do?— and he reserves his final decision until astronomers and nuclear chemists bring in their verdicts.

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

Authors' manuscripts. Mr. Millen Brand (A.B. 1929), Professor Talbot F. Hamlin (B. Arch. 1914), Mrs. Helen Train Hilles, and Mr. Wilhelm Obkircher added significant materials to the Library's increasing stock of authors' manuscripts. Professor Hamlin's contribution, presented to Avery Library, was his study of Benjamin Henry Latrobe; Mr. Brand and Mr. Obkircher added to materials which they had already presented, and Mrs. Hilles contributed a considerable packet of literary criticisms by Professor Mabel Louise Robinson of manuscripts that had been submitted for her comment.

Barnouw gift. Professor Adriaan J. Barnouw presented a rare illustrated book, *Prael-Treyn verrykt door ry-benden. . . Mechelen [1775?]*, with numerous engravings depicting various equipages of a procession.

Barrett gift. Mr. C. Waller Barrett presented a superb run of 29 rare editions and variants of the published writings of Stephen Crane. Included in the gift, which was inspired in part by our plans for a Crane exhibition, are: the rare first state of *The Red Badge of Courage*, 1895; an almost unbelievably pristine copy of Crane's first novel, *Maggie* "by Johnston Smith," [1893]; and one of three known copies in full vellum binding of *The Black Riders*, 1895.

Mr. Barrett is also lending us, for use in the exhibition, all of his own Crane material, including association copies, original manuscripts, letters, excerpted writings for magazines and newspapers, and contemporary criticism.

Benjamin gift. Mrs. Harold G. Henderson (Miss Mary A. Benjamin, A.B. 1925B) has presented four letters and one invitation by various presidents of Columbia.

Berol gift. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred C. Berol have given a collection of books, magazines, etc., numbering almost four hundred pieces, comprising a nearly complete accumulation of the published work of the famous book illustrator, Arthur Rackham. The collection



“Jack and the Beanstalk”; original pen and water-color drawing by Arthur Rackham. This drawing was published in black-and-white in *English Fairy-Tales Retold by Flora Annie Steel* . . . London: 1918. Presented by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred C. Berol.

was formed by Sarah Briggs Latimore, who, in collaboration with Grace Clark Haskell, published a definitive bibliography of Rackham in 1936. This gift by Mr. and Mrs. Berol contains the extremely rare *To the Other Side* by Thomas Rhodes (1893), the first book to contain drawings by Rackham (his earlier work had

been for magazines); a copy of the limited edition of Irving's *Rip Van Winkle* (1905), with an original water color drawing by Rackham on the half-title; the scarce and costly *Peter Pan Portfolio* (1912); and an original water-color drawing of "Jack and the Beanstalk," which was used as an illustration in Flora Annie Steel's *English Fairy Tales*, 1918.

An exhibition of this remarkable collection, which in all probability could not be assembled again, is being planned for the fall of 1956.

Cuddihy gift. Mr. John M. Cuddihy (M.A. 1948) presented sixteen items of significance in the field of philosophical studies.

Eagles gift. Mr. Homer M. Eagles presented a number of volumes of the transactions of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, together with publications of the United States Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines.

Fahs gift. Mr. Charles B. Fahs continued his past benefactions by presenting a number of books and periodicals, mainly in the area of East Asian studies.

Farrelly bequest. Through the bequest of the late Theodore Slevin Farrelly, a number of books, periodicals, maps, and similar materials relating to Alaska were received.

The Federalist Papers. Through the generosity of a member of the Class of 1916, funds were presented for the purchase of a unique copy, uncut and in the original boards, of *The Federalist*, New York, 1788. The two-volume set is of the first edition, and it bears the autograph of its original owner, Isaac Roosevelt (great-great-grandfather of Franklin D. Roosevelt), on the title-page of Volume I. Of high interest to Columbia scholars—especially Professor Richard Morris—are the annotations made by Isaac Roosevelt to indicate the authorship of the various sections of the work.



The Federalist . . . New York: 1788. 2 volumes. The first edition, in the original boards, uncut. With the autograph of Isaac Roosevelt, great-great-grandfather of Franklin D. Roosevelt, on the title-page. Presented by a member of the Columbia College Class of 1916.

Friedman gifts. Mr. Harry G. Friedman (Ph.D. 1908) has continued his generous gifts of rare and useful books. To be acknowledged at this time are twelve valuable items, including several

works produced from the early 16th (possible the late 15th) through the 18th century.

Greve presentation. Members of the family of the late Henry C. Greve (B.S. 1952) donated to the Egleston Library his collection of nearly a hundred current textbooks and monographs in the field of engineering.

Healy gift. Through that weird alchemy of the editorial process which transmutes the names of people between copy and finished printing, Mrs. Charles Healy's generous gift of 215 volumes in the fields of history, political science, and literature was credited in the February issue of *Library Columns* to Mrs. David Healy. We are indeed sorry that this mischance occurred.

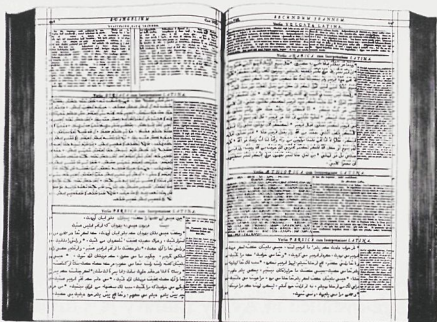
Hibbitt gift. Mrs. George W. Hibbitt presented twelve volumes of Brander Matthews' writings, nine of which bear the author's presentation inscriptions to Mrs. Hibbitt's father, the late Professor Ashley H. Thorndike.

Houghton gift. Mention was made in an earlier issue of *Columbia Library Columns* of the gift by Mr. Arthur Houghton, Jr., of a year's subscription to the publications of the Lion and Unicorn Press of London. The second of the projected three titles has reached us: *The Life of John Wilkes, Patriot.*

Lenygon gift. Mrs. Francis Henry Lenygon has crowned her long series of gifts to the Libraries with the presentation of an early 18th-century panelled room from the town house of the Earls of Warwick. As re-installed in Avery Library it is to be utilized as a place for the study of rare books, manuscripts and drawings in the Avery collections. A fine antique Siena marble mantelpiece and an early 18th-century carved breakfront bookcase, antique damask window hangings, and several fine pieces of old china are included

in the gift. A full description of the room, its contents, and its purpose is planned for a future issue of *Library Columns*.

In addition to the articles already mentioned, Mrs. Lenygon has also presented to Avery Library a delightful collection of original 18th-century carved wood mouldings from various noted English mansions.



English Polyglot Bible, edited by Brian Walton. London: Thomas Roycroft, 1657. 6 volumes. The Bible text is given in Hebrew, Greek, Chaldaic paraphrase, Samaritan, Syriac, Arabic, Persian, and Ethiopic versions; Latin Vulgate, and various other Latin translations. *Presented by a member of the Columbia College Class of 1916.*

London Polyglot Bible. During the 16th and 17th centuries four great polyglot Bibles were issued in various parts of Europe by as many scholarly presses. The Columbia Libraries already possessed the first two of the series (the so-called Complutensian Polyglot Bible sponsored by Cardinal Ximinez and produced at Alcalá in Spain in 1517, and Plantin's monumental edition of 1572). Now through the gift of a member of the Class of 1916 funds have been received for the purchase of a beautiful copy, in its original binding, of the famous English Polyglot Bible, issued by Thomas Roycroft in 1657. Because of this generous gift only one of the series remains a lacuna at Columbia, LeJay's Paris edition of 1655.

Matthews gift. Paterno Library received 55 volumes relating to Dante, the gift of Mr. Herbert L. Matthews (A.B. 1922).

Mead gift. Approximately 800 issues of periodicals, principally in the field of anthropology, were received from Dr. Margaret Mead (A.B. 1923, A.M. 1924, Ph.D. 1929).

Nevins gift. Professor Allan Nevins added substantially to his past gifts by presenting a number of early volumes of New York newspapers, additional correspondence from his own files, and other materials. Of prime interest are two volumes containing the manuscript diary of Brand Whitlock, to be added to the series already presented by Professor Nevins.

Pegram gift. Dean and Mrs. George B. Pegram (Ph.D. 1903) presented some fifty books and pamphlets, comprising mainly Columbia University Press books and volumes issued in the National Nuclear Energy Series.

Prendergast gift. Miss Eleanor Prendergast (A.M. 1927) presented 33 printed works and 3 typescript volumes of material concerning the political life of William A. Prendergast, former Comptroller in New York City.

Putnam papers. The daughters of the late George Haven Putnam, Mrs. Joseph Lindon Smith and Miss Bertha Haven Putnam (Ph.D. 1909), presented manuscripts and documents, including correspondence, by and relating to their father.

Russell gift. Mrs. Albert L. Russell, a student in the School of Library Service, presented four beautiful volumes printed by Victor Hammer at his Anvil Press in Lexington, Kentucky. The volumes, each containing one of the four Gospels, were produced during 1954 and 1955.

Russell bequest. Through the good offices of Miss Mary M. Kenway and Miss Margaret Morison, executors, the estate of the late Miss Sarah B. Russell presented an outstanding group of 19th-century children's books, numbering more than three hundred. The books, which are to be housed in the Children's Historical Collection of the School of Library Service Library, largely comprise pleasure reading of the period—mainly stories for young girls—and there are a number of toy books with movable features. The collection, which is for the most part in remarkably good condition, is gratefully received, for many of the items are of the sort that seldom outlasts the happy mishandling of children.

Ruutz-Rees bequest. Through the bequest of the late Caroline Ruutz-Rees (A.M. 1907, Ph.D. 1910) approximately 800 volumes were received, to be added to the 2,000 which were reported earlier. The bequest brings to Columbia an extraordinarily well-rounded collection, with emphasis on philosophy, history, and literature.

Wright gift. Professor Ernest Hunter Wright (Ph.D. 1910) presented Littré's useful *Dictionnaire de la Langue Française*, in five volumes.

Activities of the Friends

Meetings

THE series of Friends' events for this academic year came to a culmination on Monday, April 23, at the Bancroft Awards dinner in the Men's Faculty Club. The high point of the program was the announcement by President Kirk of the names of the winners of the prizes for the two books judged by the Bancroft Prize Jury to be the best in the field of American history published during 1955: *Last Full Measure: Lincoln the President* by J. G. Randall and Richard N. Current, and *Henry Adams* by Elizabeth Stevenson. He then presented the two \$2,000 awards to Miss Stevenson and jointly to Professor Randall's widow and Professor Current. Certificates were presented to Mr. Edward H. Dodd, Jr., President of Dodd, Mead and Company, and to Mr. George P. Brett, Jr., President of The Macmillan Company, the publishers respectively of the two books.

The principal speaker of the evening, Oscar Hammerstein II, gave an enthralling and optimistic report on the vitality of the stage today, pointing out that although there are many fewer legitimate theaters now than there were, say, twenty years ago, drama via the stage, motion pictures, and television is reaching more people than ever before. "Shakespeare who was so successful in writing for those in the pit and those in the boxes, would," he said, "have been delighted if one of his plays could have been performed to an audience of forty million people on one evening, a possibility which exists today."

August Heckscher, Chairman of the Friends, was master of ceremonies.

Finances

It has been customary in the May issue to record for our membership the total amount which has been contributed by the Friends during the twelve-month period which ends on March 31. During the past year there were \$4,470.50 in unrestricted contributions and \$13,977. for specified purposes, making a total in cash gifts amounting to \$18,447.50. Especially notable among these were the following: from an alumnus of the Columbia College Class of 1916, \$10,000 for a copy of the first printed edition of Marco Polo's *Travels*, \$1,350 for a copy of *The Federalist*, and \$375 for The English Polyglot Bible; from the Roger Benjamin Fund, \$1,000 for the N. M. Butler Centennial Fund for the renovation and expansion of the general library; and from the Four Oaks Foundation through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Hyde, \$1,000. The total cash gifts of the Friends over the past two years now amount to \$80,124.98.

In addition, the Friends have enriched the Libraries' holdings by presenting during the past year books, manuscripts, and collections which have an estimated valuation of \$29,543. This brings the total value of such gifts since January 1, 1951, to \$144,605. The major items have been described in "Our Growing Collections," a regular feature in *Columbia Library Columns*.

The comparative figures for contributions by our members (including some which came in during the period from December, 1950, to April 30, 1951, when activation of the Friends' organization was planned) are as follows:

	<i>Cash Gifts</i>				
	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>For special purposes</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Book and manuscript gifts</i>	<i>Total value of gifts</i>
1950-52 (Dec., 1950-March 31, 1952)	\$4,348.00	\$41.00	\$4,389.00	\$2,515.00	\$6,904.00
1952-53 (April 1-March 31)	4,423.00	4,132.98	8,555.98	43,653.00	52,208.98
1953-54 (April 1-March 31)	3,166.00	13,223.50	16,389.50	53,643.00	70,032.50
1954-55 (April 1-March 31)	2,413.00	29,930.00	32,343.00	15,251.00	47,594.00
1955-56 (April 1-March 31)	4,470.50	13,977.00	18,477.50	29,543.00	47,990.50
	<u>\$18,820.50</u>	<u>\$61,304.48</u>	<u>\$80,124.98</u>	<u>\$144,605.00</u>	<u>\$224,729.98</u>

As of March 31, our membership is 290.

THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES

PRIVILEGES

Invitations to exhibitions, lectures and other special events.

Use of books in the reading rooms of the libraries.

Opportunity to consult Librarians, including those in charge of the specialized collections, about material of interest to a member. (Each Division Head has our members' names on file.)

Free subscription to COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS.

* * *

The By-Laws provide the following classes of membership:

ANNUAL. Any person contributing not less than \$10.00 per year, except that officers of administration, officers of instruction, and officers of the Libraries of Columbia University may be elected Annual Members without any stipulated dues.

CONTRIBUTING. Any person contributing not less than \$25.00 a year.

SUSTAINING. Any person contributing not less than \$50.00 per year.

BENEFACTOR. Any person contributing not less than \$100.00 and up per year.

HONORARY. This membership to be by special action of the Council for outstanding services given to the Libraries of Columbia.

Checks should be made payable to Columbia University. All donations are deductible for income tax purposes.

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