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ABSTRACT

An American librarian cast himself in the role of a user and made a series of relatively disciplined visits to a substantial number of middle-sized and middle-aged British university libraries during 1966-67 to study the provision of services and the use of materials and resources in British academic libraries. After two months of preliminary exploratory activity, it was decided to visit a number of libraries with bibliographies in hand to be searched before conferring with librarians. General reactions and impressions are described. The search of 52 titles listed by the contributors to "The Historiography of the British Empire Commonwealth" provided a test of access devices in the libraries. A "Time in Type Test" of 74 titles mainly selected in North America from a large group of references accumulated over several decades was also utilized. The complete listing, with comments is appended. (AB)

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REACTIONS: THE BRITISH ACADEMIC LIBRARY  
FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF ONE AMERICAN  
USER.

COMPLETE REPORT TO THE POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL  
OF LIBRARIANSHIP, UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD,

BY

DONALD C. DAVIDSON, SENIOR VISITING RESEARCH  
FELLOW (FULBRIGHT), 1966-1967

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## I. Introduction

"THE PREFACE The Reader is not to expect here an Elaborate, Methodical, or Just Treatise, for the entertainment of the Learned; but will find a collection of several Memoirs, such as may be all of a considerable use to those who are not Proficients in this kind of Knowledge."

William Holder, A discourse concerning Time (London, 1694), p.2.

"What happens within that psycho-physiological process that takes place when a human mind confronts a literary store or the bibliographic tools that are intended to be the keys to it?"

Jesse H. Shera in Journal of Documentation, v.21, no.4: p.243 (December, 1965).

The first quotation above is appropriate to these later memoirs more for its initial modesty than for its second part suggesting considerable usefulness. Why quote a book on the subject of time? Because the bibliography of 'time' was central in the activity of the Fulbright year here reported by one member of a two-man team.

Just as the quotation from Holder was discovered naturally in the British searches in the literature of time, so was the quotation from Dean Shera located naturally in a search for professional comment on a brisk Sheffield morning (November 21, 1966). The discovery was reassuring, for it supported one's own conclusion about a problem to investigate--and it described the

problem as important, the prime one indeed among the three main ones facing librarians. Fundamentally the question of the "psycho-physiologic process" underlay the concern felt by the sponsors of the interlocking Fulbright project on matters of "access", a word much used in British library circles during this period.

The title reads: "Reactions: The British academic library from the viewpoint of one American user." The key word in the title is the last one, "user", for this is a report on how an American librarian cast himself in the role of a user and made a series of relatively disciplined visits to a substantial number of middle-sized and middle-aged British university libraries during 1966-67. It is doubtful if there were assessable results pertinent to understanding the "psycho-physiologic process." Perhaps the rationale and the methodology employed nevertheless will interest students of librarianship as much as the conclusions reached objectively within the limits of the methodology and emotionally in responding to the working conditions encountered in the various libraries visited.

Reactions, the first word in the title, reflects the fundamental question that must have been asked when British university librarians were formulating their charge to the Fulbright appointees to be invited to study "the provision

of services and the use of materials and resources in British academic libraries." The fundamental question can only have been: how would a couple of American university librarians react to British university libraries? Both the Fulbright announcement quoted above and the two British sponsors made it clear that the British curiosity about the Americans' reactions was centered upon the effectiveness of the British university libraries' collections as collections, and their effectiveness in use. "The value and efficiency" of library collections was the question as more precisely pointed up in the first sentence of the document prepared in March, 1966, by sponsors Kenneth Humphreys of Birmingham, and Wilfred Saunders of Sheffield.

Arthur T. Hamlin, headquartered for the year in the University Library, Birmingham, and this writer, with an office in the Postgraduate School of Librarianship, Sheffield, had done some thinking about the opportunity before receiving the sponsors' statement of one possible approach. The first month in England was taken with more detailed consideration of this and other approaches. The one of dividing the task vertically and interviewing productive scholars about libraries in relation to individual scholarship, as had been suggested, was tested, but a horizontal division of the task and a library-centered

focus seemed more appropriate to the interests, concerns and capacities of the two visitors. We kept closely in touch with each other, visited many but not all the same institutions, and report separately. Mr. Hamlin took an administrator's keen looks at organizational matters and at library reference collections, while this writer looked most carefully at access devices, notably catalogs.

An examination or a series of examinations of the methodology of productive scholars as envisioned by our sponsors remains an area in which study seems desirable. Some conclusions were reached relating to the possibility of library school student papers in this area. A brief outline of procedure, from the professional preparation of a questionnaire to the interview technique with which a questionnaire might be combined, is being suggested to Mr. Saunders.

The complexity of the problem of "access" is immediately apparent, and explains the decision not to develop answers in conferences with productive British scholars but to take a more personal and patterned approach to a series of British libraries. This meant that one person was to repeat the same approach pattern at a group of libraries, rather than working with a number of academic library patrons, each of whom would have a different way of getting into library resources. This decision also

admitted the overwhelming complexities of individual specializations to be encountered in the researches of the varied individuals who might have been selected.

The definition of problem is the first stage in only some research projects; parallel exploration of technique is permissible and desirable in the formulating stages of other research programs. It took almost two months to "settle in", talk with sponsors, acquire a preliminary acquaintanceship with British libraries--and to decide that one viable approach for the remaining six months of the year was to visit a number of libraries, bibliographies in hand to be searched before conferring with librarians.

In retrospect these preliminary two months assume a greater importance than was recognized at the time. The British librarians, like all the rest of us, it can now be seen, were concerned with the question of what really happens in the interface of a person with a library and its access devices. As well, during the first two months the procedures to be followed were modified slightly in initial applications at Swansea, Sheffield, Birmingham and Leeds.

The Fulbright Fellows had been invited to attend the fall meeting of the Standing Conference of National and University Libraries (SCONUL) at University College, Swansea.

This came immediately after the meeting of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) in Scheveningen, Holland. Both meetings served to introduce the Fellows to a substantial number of British librarians, and the SCONUL program centered upon key problems. It would be difficult to think of a more effective orientation to British libraries.

The generous hospitality accorded a foreign visitor to British libraries was immediately apparent, and much was learned at morning coffee time, over lunch tables in Senior Common Rooms, at tea and elsewhere. In the normal visit the second day was one in which these pleasures were enjoyed.

The letter which preceded each visit to a library asked permission to visit on two days, by the second of which the visitor should have taken soundings from the catalog--and in the process had some reactions of a somewhat broader type--and would therefore be ready to impose upon the Librarian, or someone he might designate, to talk about the particular library and what might seem rather superficial aspects of cataloging, acquisitions, and scholarly use. On the first day the hope was to spend virtually all the time at the catalog in the role of a library user. It was explained in advance that the first day would be devoted to searching for half-a-dozen subject



entries and some six-dozen author entries in an area of personal interest which strikes across a large part of any subject classification, from astronomy to zoology. This subject might be described, roughly, as the history of popular time. The basic bibliography, a-building for two decades, from which these samples had been selected, was and is a constantly growing agglomeration of 4" x 6" slips and cards; the supplementing of this from the British libraries visited is an essential part of the user, worm's eye, or microcosmic view which was implicit in this approach (the "Time in Type Test" described below in Part IV). In addition there was a more static list, a less personal one selected for the notes on contributors to The Historiography of the British Empire Commonwealth (Duke University Press, 1965, Robin Winks, editor). This latter list has a more readily identifiable curricular significance than the one on "time" (the "British Empire Test" described below in Part III). The prefatory letter proceeded next to explain that the more material found in moving from author to author, or from newly found author in subject catalogs back to name catalogs, the longer the test would take and the more pleased I would be.

The equipment for the two tests was standardized. There was an individual sheet for each library on which the 74 titles and 6 subject headings in the Time in Type

Test being searched were listed. To be more sure that each item was listed there was a column in which to enter an "O" as well as one in which to enter a "V", as appropriate, followed by a larger column for entry of the call number and an even larger space for recording comments and discoveries. The British Empire Test was performed on a table based upon a xerographic copy of the contributor section of the Winks Bibliography in which their major scholarly contributions were listed. This was simpler to do, as there was less concern about other titles by a particular author. "Other" entries located were also entered.

A black pen was used for the first search, while a red pen was necessary for the second search so often found to be necessary because of the lack of local union catalogs. Ad hoc methods of checking and entry were used when three or more alphabets confounded the visitor.

Two pads of 4" by 6" slips were also part of the standard equipment. On one pad notes were made as they suggested themselves on questions not only about the all-important and basic tool, the catalog, but also about conditions of light, noise, mobility, safety, height, and almost anything indeed observed or felt as a user. The other pad was for "Discovery Slips" and recorded simple bibliographic details about items possibly not

already in the basic bibliography; an impulse to bring the total bibliography to England had been resisted, a decision sometimes regretted, but more often found to be wise for the purposes of the test. The catalog searches produced an additional list of sound entries on time some three times the size of the base list. Other "Discovery Slips" gave information about the interests of listed authors in subjects other than "time". Discovery items made were noted on the work sheets as well as on 4" by 6" slips.

Another type of entry was used for questions to spring on the Librarian. What if there were critical comments to record? In such a case the record was headed M I L, shorthand for "My Ideal Library", and could take the form of praise--or, by stating the positive of a condition not to be praised, the reverse. These "M I L" notes were used, in part, in the preparation and titling of the Annual Lecture to the Yorkshire (East and West Ridings) group, University and Research Section, The Library Association, delivered Thursday, 27 April 1967, at the University of Bradford. The lecture entitled "My ideal Yorkshire academic library; a composite view by a visiting American user" appeared in The Library Association Record, vol 70: pp 6-9, 22, (January, 1968). In that talk the main conclusions about access were reported.

In reporting at Bradford stress was laid upon the emphasis in this entire testing process upon an intermediate ground of the often unschematized, unpredictably needed, horrifyingly diverse corpus of historical literatures. On this ground the researcher is normally at work as an individual, not as the member of a team. This is in accord with the training and teaching experience of the reporter. While his professional life has been primarily as a practicing librarian he had sustaining and sustained interests in the historical significance of the book, stimulated initially by his first full-time professional job, as Educational Adviser at the Henry E. Huntington Library in San Marino. This interest in the book in history crosses the professions of historian and librarian. The bibliography of "time" came about because of this fundamental concern with the book in history. Methodology inevitably is basically historical, and no claims are made about facility in, or the use of, techniques which belong fairly exclusively to a science or a social science.

Arthur T. Hamlin finished his report first, and thus set the design for this report. For this, among other things, I am grateful to him. It enables me to move directly into description. One of our basic agreements was to concentrate first on the established civic universities, old enough to have fairly good collections, but not so old as

to be the slaves of their own history. The list of such libraries visited varied slightly, partly as a result of geographical location. Mr. Hamlin's group had a hypothetical center somewhat to the south as might naturally be expected from the location of the respective bases.

The American Library Association was fortunate to have Mr. Hamlin on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean at the time of the Florence flood. It asked him to go to Florence and to return for a report at its midwinter meeting. He did both--nobly. The benefits of his Florence visits and reports were widespread.

In Sheffield there was the much appreciated opportunity of being a library school student by attending classes and going on bus tours. Here these benefits were inherent in the fellowship assignment to the Postgraduate School of Librarianship. Mr. Hamlin had several days of this opportunity on one of his visits to Sheffield. The association with Great Britain's second postgraduate school of librarianship for an academic year gave a fresh perspective on library education generally and a rare opportunity to look at British librarianship with teachers and students of librarianship. My debt to Professor Saunders and his staff is great indeed, for all they did in so many ways.

When I next visit Great Britain I hope to continue in pursuit of time-in-type, of time-in-architecture, of time-in-history for Great Britain is an ideal setting for this avocation. It has rich libraries, it has clock museums, its architecture is Anglo-Saxon, Roman, Norman as well as British; nor should one forget Stonehenge and prehistory in this connection. The most appreciated fact about British libraries is, of course, the tremendous richness of resources somewhat scattered, it is true, but the prime attraction.

As I conclude my summary, thinking of librarians as readers, the conclusion becomes inevitable that this truly had been a year as a user. The end values accordingly appear to be far more in a renewed interest in the user approach and in my increase in knowledge about the history of popular time than in a comprehensive and comparative view of British academic libraries as total structures. A 'sabbatical' is justified as a basic refresher--and this sabbatical indeed was immediately this, and as an aid to scholarly work--and this Fulbright year may ultimately lead to modest scholarly contributions. To the many British librarians in whose libraries I was made to feel at home both by their personal interest and by the apparatus and materials that were opened to me I shall never be able fully enough to express my gratitude.

## II. General Reactions

The more general reactions of this North American librarian to British libraries are recorded in this section. The aim is more perhaps to record impressions for a possible British readership rather than to describe the libraries for North Americans.

One manner of attack upon a problem suggested by my high school geometry teacher was to ask: "What is significant?" Often this is answered by another question. Thus, as I attempt to recapitulate the year, one question I have found myself asking is what would I do if I were suddenly and miraculously to be appointed to the librarianship of a British university library? This is a good question, and perhaps an entirely adequate way in which to organize major conclusions in an appropriately subjective and personal style.

The British are devoting considerable attention on the national level to proposed improvement and change. National lending centers and national reference services on a more coordinated basis are being proposed. American librarians would do well to keep in touch with British thinking, finding there implications for regional planning to which British geography and factors of "size" seem pertinent.

A National Library Service the immigrant American would find appealing. An expanded and coordinated lending

service would augment necessarily limited local resources, while national bibliographic services would increase the chances of locating any needed item. One feels pride in the profession for the looks toward national solutions that have been taken.

The quinquennial method of institutional budgeting by the national government of itself inhibits rapid change and response to changed conditions by libraries. Academic change in the program sense, of course, similarly is inhibited. It is possible that the British university may, unconsciously, have been given greater inertia by quinquennial budget practices. This, in turn, may have been a bit of a contributing force to the creation of so many new universities and to the conversion of colleges of advanced technology into universities of a new type.

If I were to go to a British library I would be tempted to talk occasionally about two matters suggested by the above. While admitting the values of the 5000 student institution--indeed fundamentally preferring this size myself--I would nevertheless suggest the possible usefulness of expansion beyond the 5000 student point, to justify the creation of a more self-sufficient library for one thing. The affiliation of new activities rather than the mere expansion of students in established



academic curricula would suggest itself, as would the idea of a moderate pace of growth in enrollment. (My home campus, UCSB, had taught the University of California that to grow on one campus at the rate of 2000 students a year was too rapid, and the accretion of about a third that many would permit orderly growth.)

Similarly, while admitting the values of the long-range look which quinquennial budgeting demands, and appreciating the less frenetic pace, I believe I would likewise submit for discussion the idea of an annual budget. Possibly this could be effected within a less restrictive general master planning approach for five years. Internal flexibility within a lump sum budget is certainly a desirable feature to retain in any budget, certainly in a five year one.

The ever strengthening convictions that the historian appreciates most the name entry, and that the classed catalog is a response to many of the historian's unexpressed needs found support in the following sentence written by a prominent American historian: "The services rendered by computerized shelf lists produced by individual libraries promise to be more useful than subject cards." Oscar O. Winther wrote these words for his paper "The bibliographical establishment in history" presented at the Belmont Conference of the Joint Committee on

Bibliographical Services to History, May, 1967.<sup>(1)</sup> A recurrent theme in the volume of conference papers is the undetermined nature of the historian's true needs.

While, if economic necessity forces a choice, descriptive cataloging for the name catalog remains the first need, some subject approach is a close second. The broader and the less conventional the subject the more the need for subject approaches. For the literature of time one believes subject approaches to be as productive as name approaches, browsing, shelf list, or serendipity. "Finding your way around our subject catalog already? Rather an idiosyncratic thing" was one head cataloger's greeting. Any subject approach is welcome.

Several different levels of access are needed. Spontaneously in discussion my Sheffield colleague Dr. Michael Lynch noted that he wanted to use subject catalogs and approaches when he got outside his own field of chemistry.

The subject approach to many British card catalogs is completely impossible. The subject approach is often ignored completely, it may be found in rudimentary form, and occasionally it may be discovered, full-blown, in either of two forms. The average North American is at home with one, the dictionary catalog, while it is an unusual North

<sup>(1)</sup> Perman, Dagmar H. ed., Bibliography and the historian, Santa Barbara, California, Clio Press, c.1968, p.135.

American who has encountered, let alone used, a classed catalog.

On the question of classed catalogs I have expressed a preference for a British general solution at this stage for the classed catalog on the pragmatic bases of British familiarity and of possibly greater compatibility with computers.

In retrospect my opinions about classed catalogs, as expressed at Bradford, remain much the same. I continue in my respect for D.J. Foskett's statement that the classified catalog is superior because of its important help in reference service as it places the request correctly "in relation to its field of knowledge as actually described in books." Mr. Foskett again has a convinced supporter for his statement that a user does not need a booklist, what he needs is the information that will solve his problem, in other words help in selection.

That subject catalogs for large collections are the manner in which to provide undeniably useful lists for the specialists remains open to argument. For smaller collections the dictionary catalog is in human scale. A smaller collection of the college-library type is selected in toto to provide, the librarians hope, that very help in selection which patrons need, and through its subject catalog, therefore, a list which is selective. I suspect that Mr. Foskett

and Professor Winther would agree with this author that the dictionary catalog will remain a useful device for smaller academic, and selected, collections in North America at least. (The possibility of printed subject catalogs to which local libraries would key in their holdings is an appealing one.)

Cooperation, then, in providing subject approaches, could seem to some to be an integral part of the logical national and international trends to do library and information work well on a large scale. A system of subject approaches from the general to the more specialized through the devices of printed bibliographies or general catalogs, of dictionary or classed catalogs, and of special lists in proper perspective seems desirable. The present writer submits again that the full dictionary catalog is out of perspective for larger university library collections.

While classed catalogs have much to recommend them for wider application to specific library and general technological problems a broad classification does prove more difficult for browsing in shelf lists. This is an argument for relatively close classification.

A classed catalog without an index is useful, but not as useful as it is with an index.

A subject catalog to a science library, as at Manchester University, is effectively organized in inverse order of the date of publication. A wider application of the principle of seeing first what is published most recently might help overcome the overwhelming character of subject catalogs of million volume or greater libraries. Classics would come to the fore if dates of publication of the latest edition were used.

The British habit of comprehensive name catalogs, including analytics of series, lectures, books of essays is an appreciated one. At the University of Manchester where the interest in time in philosophy, religion, and society is a century old, one can find quite comprehensive bibliographic listings of people who have written on time (the Alexander of a hundred years ago on philosophy, the early 20th century Nilsson on anthropology, and Manchester's Professor Brandon for religion today as examples). Speculation on how a national scheme of bibliographic access and control might be built upon the assumption of responsibility by individual libraries of certain groups or types of names of people is suggested by this fact. Subject bibliography indirectly would be improved by such planned serendipity.

My notes of the SCONUL meeting record a characteristically challenging comment by that catalytic character, Dr. D. J. Urquhart, Director of the National Lending Library

for Science and Technology. His comment was that "what is needed is the sharing in the making of subject catalogs rather than of cataloging". At this stage of British library development this is advice that should not be ignored. Printed bibliography is one good answer to the need for a subject approach.

One discovery about basic tools of the profession was made at Leicester University where the classed catalog depended on Dewey's Relativ Index. Every new edition plays havoc with the classed catalog. One is sure that the classification and the indexing is thus brought up to date but it is disturbing when the 17th edition does not bring out "Time perception, 152.753", or "Calendar advertising mediums, 659.137", while the 16th Relativ Index does. This sort of thing forces Leicester to continued reliance on the 14th edition. Not only can Dewey reissues muddy the development of classed catalogs but also the British propensity for individual modifications of classification schemes, university by university, discipline by discipline, does little to help.

Is there another argument for greater rigidity inherent in this? One fears so, and one knows also that rigidity will be required more--perhaps dangerously so--in the next era of the computer. For the computer, revisions of classification and indexing systems should

build in methods either of perpetuating or of easy change of work already done (thus adding a dimension to the vast problems of systems analysis required for positive design of newer systems).

An interesting small gimmick is a "double" classification number, enabling the use of a second broad general classification number to bring a bit of the collection to a location where it seems more effective locally. An example at Aberdeen was 9:529, thus effectively transferring "Chronology" from the science library to the main library.

One is reminded by notes made at Leeds of an early discussion of book form library catalogs. The efficiency of the Library of Congress printed catalog; page size, enabling the searcher to view a number of entries almost simultaneously, was pointed out by Mr. Mortimer, who would also bind volumes of such printed catalogs in slimmer units particularly for the heavier use in central libraries. Good points all, leading to hopes for a future marriage of computer printout and more compact photographic technologies, or the equivalent.

Birmingham was where this reader's desire for unique book numbers first began to be felt on sudden recognition that accession numbers had not been recorded as they should have been for future interlibrary borrowing. Here the Time in Type test search added 12 slips, tentatively

new discoveries to the basic bibliography, while the classed catalog provided 22 discoveries. Not surprisingly the 12 author approach discoveries were more about other interests of individual writers than new entries for the bibliography of time. The 22 discovery slips from the classed catalog, in contrast, were primarily books added to a search list on time. A closer look at these slips shows that 14 reflected detailed analyses of series such as of the Banbury Historical Society, American Metrological Society, a publisher's teaching series, NATO summer school proceedings, The Aristotelian Society, a Columbia Ph.D. dissertation, a reprint from the Fishery Museum of Finland, a Strasbourg University publication, Helps for Students of History, a German archeological institute, the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, and the University of California publications in Archeology.

British university libraries, in general, have made this choice, highly appreciated by historians, of describing precisely and otherwise identifying the individual item. They may not be able consequently to afford subject catalogs or time to index classed catalogs--but when they do these things treasures emerge from hiding in series of all types.



Much useful information about British cataloging and classification has been assembled and analyzed by Joan Friedman, of the Postgraduate School of Librarianship at Sheffield, and Alan Jeffreys, Chief Cataloguer, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, in their Cataloguing and classification in British university libraries: a survey of practices and procedures, Postgraduate School of Librarianship, University of Sheffield, 1967.

Birmingham, since it was where Mr. Hamlin was quartered, was the occasion for several of the earliest visits, and here the pattern developed for the comprehensive plan. Aside from discovery slips about books related to the Time in Type or British Empire bibliographic tests there were an additional 24 slips with comments or questions; these included 6 slips headed My Ideal Library and destined to be grist for the report made at Bradford. The 6 slips at Birmingham all related to the catalogs, their making, character, housing and surrounding. An additional 7 slips recorded impressions of the quality of the book collections, and there were 5 varied comments, desires, or procedural ideas. There were a couple of nasty questions about building planning (steps up to get in, steps down to park your coat and other impedimenta), and several about books noted but not germane to the project.

My notes record that the catalog at Birmingham was one I was sorry to leave, aside from its content. Removable card catalog trays are not often found in Great Britain (a widely spread card catalog in cabinets 4 to 6 high that the average person can write upon is often found). This note is a reminder that Birmingham did have removable trays: "Wouldn't it be ghastly if they were loose?" asked the blonde of her clerical aide boy friend as she dropped a tray.

There are, on the physiologic level, minor reactions to report. Card catalog cabinets, four or five trays high, as found in a number of British academic libraries are a physiologic delight as compared with the crowded twelve-tray cabinets permitted by the parsimonious space standards imposed (self-imposed) on their North American counterparts. Adequate conditions of comfort in the relation of the physical <sup>fact</sup> of an individual to the physical fact of a tray full of catalog cards becomes all too apparent after the period of an hour whatever one's vintage. Quality and quantity of light, and amount and character of noise are important elements in the locating and planning of the surroundings of the "catalogue hall". While removable trays are in general a non-British luxury, the fairly normal British four-or-five-tray high cabinet is more than compensatory since so much consultation is briefly centered at any one tray of cards.

Friends of library organizations, always expensive in staff time, are not common in British academic libraries, where there is a feeling that the individual donor is not as attuned to library needs as he might be. Intangible elements, of public relations of the moment and of long-range "image" for future donations, form an important part of any analysis of a particular situation. With both this local variation and the differences in British and North American economic attitudes in mind no general recommendations about the translation of American experience into British needs seems possible to this observer.

One of the features of British academic library life that is, as it should be, enjoyed by head librarians is the institution of the deputy librarian, the chief executive officer. Some North American university libraries of great magnitude do have somewhat comparable differentiations of duty between firsts and seconds in command. But one wonders if too many North American librarians are too deeply involved in day by day operations.

Impersonalization of library staff to the visitor and patron characterizes many larger North American academic libraries. Little British habits to make library administrators a bit accessible could be accepted readily by a transposed North American. One remembers the "In" and "Out" directory in the issue desk area at Belfast, whereby

the staff indicated their presence or absence by slipping names across the slots to appropriate positions.

The personal approach to staff is required particularly in situations such as that encountered at Durham where it will take years, the staff said, to integrate the various catalogs. Durham has an interesting combination of several methods: a sheaf catalog for names, a card catalog for a classed subject approach, and an 1840 Bodleian Library catalog edited for application to a rare book collection. Reliance on staff, therefore, is imperative. In this ancient library there is much to interest the medieval or early modern historian. The cathedral library at Durham is next door to the University Library, and is being cataloged in cooperation, and entries will be filed in the University Library catalog. A similar relationship of staffing is to be found at York.

To inquire of the obvious librarian filing or working at the catalog is an international patron habit. At the University of Edinburgh one just could not believe that there would be no entry for his David Livingstone under Professor George Shepperson's name--or better one could not believe that the library did not possess this item by one of its well-known professors. The book was there, all right, logically entered in the name catalog under Livingstone, David. Incredulity here was resolved by the

fortuitous identification of a staff member at work. Inquiry stations convenient to the catalog would be considered by North Americans translated into British situations. These are yet found only at a few institutions.

The new library building in Great Britain offers greater contrast in organization with what it succeeds than does its North American counterpart. The quaint and charming, albeit anachronistic main library situation at Belfast will be succeeded by a high building organized on quite different principles--including considerable American influence. Keyes Metcalfe's ideas are pervasive.

The idea of exit controls to minimize book losses is taking over. It seems inevitable and would be recommended by most North American visitors. So would a snack bar for a quick pick-me-up, instead of lunch. The tea room on the mezzanine of the two story entrance lobby in the new University of Edinburgh building is ingeniously located.

It is hard to get a drink of water in Great Britain. The new building at York, and the new addition at Durham do provide the simple amenity of drinking fountains. The British habit of coffee and tea breaks at the Common Rooms is much more firmly entrenched than it is in North America--

among students in particular. Hence more sophisticated solutions to the problem of simple thirst are available. The Common Rooms (Senior for staff) are among the first buildings erected on new campuses. A North American would continue to plea for more drinking fountains, while appreciating the educational importance of the Common Rooms.

Library hours should be posted prominently so that the chap who erroneously supposed the library surely would be open on Tuesday, 3 January, 1967 would not have had to wait until normal opening time the next day to see if Wednesday, 4 January, was a day of service. Guides to the libraries would not refer to another publication (the University almanac within the Calendar) for closed hours and days. As well the North American trend to longer open hours in academic libraries might appear a desirable import to Great Britain.

Durham, and others, arrange card catalog trays in a lateral rather than vertical arrangement. Perhaps the North American cry for greater standardization of practice would be carried beyond its logical extreme to suggest the vertical as the more common and therefore better understood by newly arrived users.

A farewell note in one library was the sign carrying the good advice to PLEASE PROTECT BOOKS FROM THE WEATHER.

In the pursuit of this project the writer was drenched thoroughly by heavy rains in Manchester, Sheffield, London, Edinburgh--and Montreal and Vancouver. Familiar conditions of a more intellectual sort also were found often both in Great Britain and North America. The transition from one library culture to another is really a natural one, and one veers toward a grouping of Anglo-American libraries as forming a logical unit among libraries of the world. Certainly the academic library buildings of English speaking countries are becoming more and more directly comparable.

Despite this, North American academic libraries are relatively easy to fit into patterns, to organize into fairly closely related categories, and to describe and prescribe for on a continental scale. British academic libraries, in contrast, form a study in dissimilarity. This is only partly explainable in terms of more ancient tradition.

Increased uniformity of and conformity to established practice seem desirable for British libraries from this North American viewpoint. Indeed, the most distinguishing characteristic of the British academic library picture is diversity and disparity. This individualism is refreshing but it seems excessive. This point was made at somewhat greater length at Bradford.

A miscellany of notes filed away to be reviewed on return home reveals a series of miscellaneous reactions, questions, and reports on the research. Here, then is a further sampling added for impressions.

Belfast, in a halfway approach to individual numbers, gives a numerical order beyond the classification number. A new high rise building was under construction, ultimately to succeed a really charming old hall into which mezzanines had been built. A very modern operation was under way in this antique which Mr. Havard Williams says is "appalling to run". The classified catalog was in need of a subject index: the administration here would prefer a subject catalog.

Lancaster, one of the newer campuses visited, was a prime demonstration of how a new university library may start out with its own overall formula in a much freer way than is possible in North America. Staff specialization is the key to organization--and the staff specialists were consulting on the modification of the Bliss Classification. Cataloging was particularly brief, but the record was inclusive of uncatalogued holdings. The subject approach to the classed catalog was to be found in a "Kalamazoo" file, and other features of the equipment were unusual.

Leicester, while dedicated to subject specialization, was not "all out" for it in organization.



The already mentioned troubles that ensue with a classed catalog as the Dewey Relativ Index undergoes periodic revision first became apparent here. Leicester includes manuscripts in the general catalog, a useful practice.

Manchester University Library has an administration that believes primarily in, and relies upon, on-the-job training of subject specialists with only incidental reliance on library schools. It is in a town rich in historical resources with the Rylands and Cheatham libraries supplementing the University Library so well. The British "habit" of making very full entries, identifying works appearing as parts of scientific or literary series, as an annual lecture, even as a periodical article was to be noticed in particular at Manchester. This was appreciated by this American builder of an historical bibliography. The subject catalog here is Dewey's Relativ Index, rather than a progressively made local index.

The National Lending Library is a most useful international device in interlibrary cooperation, created in its present very effective form in about the last decade. It is organized flexibly to transfer staff to meet peaks, and is like a gigantic stock room. Most records and files are by-passed, and there is a great reliance on bibliographies and other printed guides to literatures. Very imaginative, with an important practical place in the

structure of British special, research, university, and public libraries (roughly in that order), it takes up library like functions, in the main, after the user has identified his information needs to point of identifying a title.

Newcastle University's library is one of the centers for study of the application of the computer. Several young men are doing interesting things, including comprehensive charting for detailed machine-readable descriptions of books printed before 1800. A desirable feature was writing out "Quarto" rather than the abbreviation "Q", as a demonstration of the undesirability of abbreviation.

Were I to attempt description of British academic libraries for a North American readership I would certainly have more to say about libraries mentioned to this point. As well, things observed and learned at the Universities of Sterling (its setting, its plans), St. Andrew's (its venerable heritage), Glasgow (its Hunterian treasures and building plans), Strathclyde (its library school and its library organization) would be part of the Scottish story. Facts from refreshing visits to Hull, Keele, and Nottingham would necessarily be incorporated while impressions of Oxford's Bodleian, Cambridge College libraries, the London School of Economics, and University College, London, would contribute to the personal body of knowledge tapped in the assignment. The Science Museum, the British Horological Institute, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the Guild-

hall and London libraries, too, would need to be discussed. Slides of a book of hours in Liverpool's rare book collection have been used in talking about the literature of time to librarians in Santa Barbara and San Diego. Then the trip to Trinity College, the National Library, and the National Museum in Dublin would require a summary. My memories of the times spent with librarians at these and other places are pleasant as well as useful.

A major result of the Fulbright year has been a strengthening and a deepening of a conviction that there is a simple and fundamental distinction between the searcher for information and the student whose research is done amidst historical materials. One patron can alternately be one or the other--but for the purposes of library organization this simple distinction is a useful device for clarity in thinking. The scientist normally in search of fact in the literatures is apt to look a bit blank when apprised of this difference between his needs in the organization of libraries and information and that of the searcher in the records of the past. K. A. Mallaber points a similar finger in the direction of the social sciences (Journal of Documentation, v.21:309 (December, 1965), in reviewing the Heyworth report noting that the National Lending Library serves fields "very well covered by indexes and abstract journals", and 90% of its response is with journal articles. In contrast

the social sciences must struggle along with almost no abstract journals or indexes "and, in any case, journal articles probably provide less than 50 per cent of the information required even where they can be precisely identified." The admirable N.L.L. is described by Mr. Mallaber "as a mechanically equipped store house from which can be quickly extracted identifiable chunks of knowledge specified precisely by the ultimate user."

A national service pattern making distinctions suggested by these comments may find the inexpensive warehousing techniques of the National Lending Library of wider usefulness to scholarship in the social sciences and humanities--postulating identification by existing and new indexes, or citations in the literatures.

The National Lending Library loans indexes and like sources, and conducts courses (seminars in North American terminology) to train people in the use of indexes, directly or indirectly through library staff. Information retrieval people on research teams too would be expected, one supposes, to be expert in this field, and would not be contradictory to the undergirding NLL thought that "the person who wants the information is the best person to make the search".

The most difficult conclusion to document, to prove, is that every librarian with a bent to the historical should have a bibliographic hobby or obsession, and

preferably one that spreads a wide trail through a classification scheme or a system of subject headings. The historical group comprises those whose academic interests tend toward the disciplines with the vast, bulky, variegated resource materials. What the librarian whose bent is toward information should have as a vitalizing professional specialty one leaves to others to specify. Many excellent librarians have both historical and informational orientations, and the majority of libraries must serve both historically and informationally oriented clients.

Even more difficult to prove is the conviction that there is a need to introduce a user dominated approach to the analysis of some library problems--not by type of library, but by type of user need. There recently has been an excess of interest in the information seeker, naturally enough, and the information oriented people and places with almost manageable bibliography, are doing the quotable things. The historical area is plagued by deep and remote bibliographic problems, and with overwhelming problems for today's society of simple, sheer physical bulk. There are the hopeful signs of British interest in a national plan, and of North American concentration on bibliographic control through cooperative cataloging and machine readable card catalog copy. Historically oriented users can see hopes for better information telling what is where.

### III. The British Empire Test

The 52 titles listed by the 21 contributors to Robin Winks--The historiography of the British Empire Commonwealth were searched in 13 English university libraries, the Commonwealth Institute Library at the University of London, and in one Scottish and four North American "control" university libraries. While the results revealed an indifference to British empire-commonwealth history in English universities the test was a useful device for a broadened look at access devices in British university libraries.

A theoretically possible total tally in the 13 English University libraries would have been 676. Actually 213 tallies were recorded. This is 31.5%, whereas the Commonwealth Institute Library possessed 33 or the possible 52, for a 63.4% showing; the Institute's holdings were greatest in the more recent publications, a natural consequence of its relative youth.

At the North American Universities (McGill, British Columbia, San Francisco State, University of California, Santa Barbara) the greater institutional curricular interest was reflected in a 62.5% showing, 130 out of a theoretically possible 208 checks on the record sheets. McGill possessed 36 of the titles, and U.B.C. 35, for the top overall counts. These two institutions obviously are keenly interested in the broad subject and their buying

has been international in scope.

The English universities had cataloged 99 out of a possible 208 entries with British imprints, or 47.6%. For an American imprint total of 286 possibles there were 86 possible tallies--20.1%. For the other imprints (Amsterdam and British empire, as it was) the 15.4% score meant that 28 tallies out of 182 possibles were recorded. The contributors to the Winks bibliography obviously stand the best chance of finding their own books in English university libraries if the books were published in Great Britain.

Two presses made favored records. To have had one's book published by the Oxford University Press or the University of California Press meant an excellent chance for being found in a university library catalog.

In a talk to librarians at San Diego the following appropriate detail was included. John S. Galbreath, then Chancellor of the University of California, San Diego campus, one of the contributors to the Historiography of the British Empire Commonwealth, had listed three University of California Press Books: The establishment of Canadian diplomatic status at Washington (Berkeley, 1951), The Hudson's Bay Company as an imperial factor (Berkeley, 1957), and Reluctant empire: British policies on the South African frontier, 1834-1854 (Berkeley, 1963).

The merit of these books and the efficiency of the trade distribution methods of the University of California Press was reflected in the score of holdings in the 13 British University libraries tested: 56.4% of the possibles, a record matched only by George Bennett, Senior Lecturer at Oxford, with the Oxford University Press as publisher. The score on Professor Galbreath at the London University's Commonwealth Institute, McGill, U.B.C., San Francisco State, and U.C.S.B. was 100%. For Mr. Bennett it would have been the same had U.C.S.B. had all three, instead of two, of Mr. Bennett's listed books. Incidentally this does not prove that North American academic libraries are stronger than a selected group of British academic libraries. It is, however, a numerical reflection of the rather surprising lack of interest in British Empire-Commonwealth history in British academic institutions, inevitably reflected in library holdings.

The more recent books, too, were represented more often than earlier titles in this particular group of English libraries. Twenty titles were published before 1960; these were found  $3 \frac{1}{3}$  times each, an average of about 1 in 4. The 32 titles from the 1960's were found almost  $4 \frac{1}{2}$  times each, hitting a somewhat higher average of 1 in 3. As well, remembering the inertia of both the recommending process and of libraries in general, undoubtedly this



record will be improved by the passage of a few years for the more recent books. To continue with the 'recency' thesis and the example of Professor Galbraith: his earliest book, 1951, was found four times, the next, 1957, eight times, while his more recent title, 1963, was entered in the catalogs of 10 libraries.

Only four of the titles were dated before 1950; none was a British imprint. Seven copies, in all, were found. Three locations for one of the two American titles (1927, 1928) were identified, and the publisher again was a University press, Stanford. Four tallies were recorded for one Australian book published in 1948, and none for a South African imprint of the year 1949.

Robin Winks' 21 contributors do indeed find themselves located, by a small majority, at colleges and universities in the United States: 11 of them, including one South African. The remaining ten contributors are to be found four times at British universities, twice at Australian institutions, and once each in Canada, Ceylon, New Zealand and Singapore.

Little value can be seen in inter-University comparisons in the British group. Why some tallied more than others was quickly attributable to the easily identified faculty member or members. As at Hull University which had a relatively high tally, one can speculate that perhaps the mysterious influence of a city's own history undergirds

its university's greater interest in areas to which it has had long ties--in this case, as at Liverpool, maritime in nature.

The earliest applications of the British Empire Test were at Birmingham, Sheffield and Leeds. Some description may illustrate part of the ways in which the test had usefulness beyond the fact of checking: the British practice of showing locations for added copies was noted on the first of 18 additional 4" by 6" slips made at Birmingham. Contributor Robert O. Collins, incidentally of U.C., Santa Barbara, was in the catalog for both his listed books, but the two items were separated by a book on practical midwifery by another Robert Collins; our contributor was listed first without middle initial. What was to be British practice, the searcher asked himself? Two slips later he was noting the addition of the middle name for Joseph Jay Jones, and coming to an early conclusion that Birmingham cataloging staff did believe in identifying authors. University of California Publications in History were given a periodical number, and thus maintained as a series. Filing practices, later found to be widely variant, were brought into recorded notes by this: Middlekauf was filed as if the name were double-barreled, Middle Kauf.

Slip number 7 was a discovery of the inaugural lecture by Professor Shepperson with an intriguing title:

"Perspectives of Commonwealth and American history", University of Edinburgh, Inaugural Lecture, no. 28, 1965. This series had a "p" or periodical number (p DA 16, Library of Congress Classification), whereas the previous abbreviation had been a more understandable "per". The query on the slip "Policy on inaug. lectures?" was to lead to the ultimate conclusion that there certainly was no general method employed in the different libraries, and further, that each library seemed to have its independent ideas about acquiring and recording inaugural lectures.

Other interesting looking titles were located. The British librarians seemed to have a much more casual attitude toward the revision of catalog cards than do North Americans--rather engaging--better provide information than neatness. "Who is gal sitting at the end of the catalog?" a query slip later answered by the American sounding words "Readers' Adviser," Birmingham being one of the relatively few British libraries which have been able to offer such service; others give the service but on less regularized bases.

Active selection in the subject area seemed to be going on from the peripheral discoveries. The Winks bibliography itself, one was pleased to see, was at

Birmingham with accession no. 631,778. Policy on paperbacks? Ultimately appeared to be generally the familiar one of "when necessity requires, not otherwise", although some libraries buy several copies of useful titles.

The British Empire Test summary slips for the University of Birmingham Library recorded 1 hour, 15 minutes, at the catalog. Three titles were noted beyond the list, 27 items by 15 authors were found. Four questions about order procedure, and 10 questions about classification and cataloging procedures suggested themselves to the searcher.

Four days earlier, October 21, 1966, the test had been run through at Sheffield in 45 minutes, resulting in the recording of 4 questions about order procedures and 9 about cataloging. 13 titles by 9 authors were found, and my notes record the conclusion that Sheffield plainly did not have a recommender as actively interested in Empire-Commonwealth history as did Birmingham.

These first two applications led to the conclusion that the British Empire test was a useful addition to the testing process for it afforded an opportunity for a more rapid introduction to each new catalog, not being a "growing" bibliography as was the time-in-type test. It became clear that a North American 'control' group of libraries was indicated. Improvement in the formats of both tests were

made, for example in providing places for classification numbers for the individual items. Neither at Sheffield nor at Birmingham was it possible to record the more or less standard question period with the library staff, arising out of the catalog searches.

At the University of Leeds it was found possible to race through the basic sheaf catalogs and the supplementary sheaf volumes in a half-hour, after 4 1/2 weary hours on the other test. To this searcher the sheaf catalog was acceptable although, in crowded conditions with no writing surface easily available, one wished for a third hand.

That British academic libraries, overall, seem weak in holdings on the history of their empire and its successor commonwealth is an entirely normal condition, resulting from their need to concentrate their resources in areas where there is a curricular interest. In more general areas where there is a deeper curricular concentration one's subjective conclusion ultimately was that history was a well-represented subject in reasonable balance.

#### IV. The Time in Type Test

The Time in Type Test in its final form comprised 74 titles mainly selected in North America from a large group of references accumulated over several decades. A few titles were eliminated from the initial selection as the result of early applications. One title was added after discovery at Swansea, and another at Birmingham. The complete listing, with comments, is appended.

Date of publication was one criterion for choice. Fifty of the titles, almost two-thirds of the total list, had imprint dates between 1951 and 1966, and the larger number were from the period 1961-66 with 40% of the total list. This, it was believed, was as it should be, reflecting the greater opportunities for a broader purchasing span, which was permitted by larger book budgets in the 'sixties than in the 'fifties. This perhaps was of more significance in the North American libraries (McGill, British Columbia, San Francisco State, U.C. Santa Barbara).

There were several items in the list which probably should not be expected in an academic library. A nineteenth century imprint date for a French publication would be one such questionable item. Ulysse Bouchet--Hémerologie ou traite, Paris, 1868, was therefore found only at the University of Edinburgh, where curiosity about this elusive item was thereby finally gratified. On the other extreme a nineteenth century title in the popular stream of books

about time was John Brady--Clavis calendaria, London, 1812, two volumes. This was found 10 times out of 20 libraries on the list. Shadworth H. Hodgson--Time and space, London, 1865, is one of the classics in the philosophy of time and was gratifyingly found in 7 British university libraries and in 2 in North America.

Thirty titles searched were British imprints, twenty-two were American, while seven were searched as British-American imprints. More than those seven were published in fact in both countries. French imprints totaled 8, while East and West Germany accounted for three. Paul Fraisse--The psychology of time, New York, 1963, was a translation from the French which appeared also in Great Britain. A translation from the German, Erwin Buening--The physiologic clock, New York, 1964, similarly was published in English on both sides of the Atlantic. Holland, Sweden, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy and India were countries of origin for the publication searched in one case each.

The total in the paragraph preceding is greater than 74 as a result of the international and reprint complications. Three titles which "should be in every University library" were reprinted in recent years. Friedrich Ginzl--Handbuch der mathematische und technologische chronologie, Berlin, 1906, 2 volumes, was

reprinted in East Germany in 1959, and should be in more than the nine libraries in which it was found (usually in the original edition). Martin P. Nilsson -- Primitive time reckoning, Lund, Sweden, 1920, is as important and was still available in the late spring of 1968 (personally purchased). The third recommendable title is Paul Lacombe--Livres d'heures, Paris, 1907, and reprinted in Belgium in 1963.

Although one initial doubt had been whether approximately 75 titles would be enough adequately to represent the variety of subjects encompassed by the key subject of "time" the number proved to be about right. The list included general background works in general history, bibliographic history, the histories of science, astrology, and technology, and a few other general titles. Books written for junior readership were included. Hindsight would modify the list in small ways, but its overall composition proved also to be about right.

One title, one vote? No, for there were several deliberately difficult entries identified from rather obscure sources. There is only one entry on the list that I have never really identified. Evidence for the existence of this book was found in the Spanish encyclopedia Espasa, and the entry there read Gazola, G.--Memoria di M.Mastrofini,



Roma, 1845. Mastrofini's collected works were located in the British Museum, and provided useful source material on the inspirer of what became the twentieth century World Calendar of four equal quarters plus a World Day.

There is one item (number 67) that I have identified, but not actually seen. One copy is in the New York Public Library, not borrowable by inter-library loan, and refused for photocopying without copyright release. (NYPL like the British Museum is always enjoyable to visit).

One title had been located in Cumulative Book Index, for January, 1964. Its title Time without clocks was enough to add it to the basic bibliography, and to have caused its inclusion in the selected group. Lady Joan Lindsay, I found at the Sheffield Public Library, was here writing part of her biography including her early married life in London, and later life in Australia with her art gallery director husband. It was quite appropriate that this was located in a public library, and nowhere else.

One title was included as a mid-nineteenth century British popular book on time. Thomson, Adam--Time and timekeepers, London, 1842, had come to the U.C.Santa Barbara library as part of its share of the C.K. Ogden library. I located no copy in any library visited, but was able to buy one for my personal collection at a book-

store on Piccadilly. It is a nice example of a popular book, but added little to the general knowledge.

There were, finally, only two titles searched under society or governmental agency entry--but their inclusion taught me much about the varied manners in which British libraries make and file such entries. India (Republic), Calendar Reform Committee--Report of . . . ., New Delhi, 1955, had been seen in the library of the World Calendar Association in Ottawa on the basis of which evidence the U.C.S.B. copy was ordered. It was located in the catalogs of none of the other libraries searched. Of course there is always some doubt of one's infallibility at the card catalog on a prolonged search. For this title there was more doubt than usual, as the searcher could have been completely unaware of the existence of special apparatus for government publications.

The Oxford Historical Society--Ancient kalendar of the University of Oxford, Oxford, 1904, was located in five English libraries. One of these was at the University of Sheffield, where one was pleased to read that the book included popular information (computus) for sixteenth century students.

It was not expected that titles in horology would be much more than accidental, explaining why there appears to be an undue emphasis on this subject in the basic list.

The results were as expected, but the titles led to discoveries useful personally; British book selection in peripheral subjects such as horology is just as random, and desirably so, as it is in North American university libraries.

Appendix I lists the titles searched in the numbered order in which they appeared on the mimeographed check sheets used on each check. Comment and evaluation follows the notations.

Some seventeen titles were clearly on the subject of calendars and calendar reform, or almanacs and books of hours. Eleven rather general books on the subject of time at the adult level, and two at the juvenile formed the next largest group. Ten titles, mainly good ones in the philosophy of time followed. In horology there were ten titles, equally divided between the historical and the descriptive. In the "background" areas of general, bibliographic, book making, scientific and technological history and description there were sixteen titles again equally divided between the two broad categories of general and scientific history and of the specific history of the book group. Technical aspects of time at a generally useful level of quality for university libraries accounted for the remainder (time, its psychology, its physiology, its physics, its sociology, its relations to literature).

Seventy-four titles were searched in twenty libraries, making possible a total "score", theoretically possible, of 1480. The actual number of entries made on the master "Time in Type Test" check sheet was 553, or 37% of the obviously impossible total.

Half the titles searched accounted for 83% (460) of the positive entries. Twenty-four titles were found at between 10 and 19 locations.

During the assessment of results one was constantly aware of patterns of distribution in the book trade. It is perfectly understandable that item 26, The Christian calendar, was found more often in North America than in Great Britain. It was a translation from the French published by Hawthorn Books of New York. The David Daiches lecture (item 25) illustrated another limitation imposed by a pattern of trade distribution.

Some qualitative judgments on British academic library holdings could be hazarded from the numerical record alone, but most judgments would necessarily be based on the number and type of discoveries beyond the basic list. If it were asked whether the "scores" might also serve as votes for what would be part of a good background collection for a person working on time problems, the answer would be qualifiedly in the affirmative.

The top scoring half of the list in its 37 titles comprises those very books on the philosophy of time, the scientific background, book history, the specialized books on a. nanacs, calendars, units of time, that had been included as a general test. Nilsson's classic on Primitive time reckoning (item 59) and Ginzler's handbook on chronology (item 34) are in the top half of the list viewed on the score card. Both have been reprinted and are key works for any good reference collection.

While the checked items can only be incidental evidence for impressions of qualitative attainments in book collections, looking at the ten titles located most often it is a significant reminder that the Sheffield Public Library had 8; it also had more titles than any other British library; this library is a most impressive demonstration of the British public library's high level of attainments for collections both scholarl and general. The Sheffield public library had not only all the titles on clocks and watches but is a 'good' library for philosophy and technical references. The British public library is a much more valuable supplementary source for British university faculty and students in middle sized cities than is the roughly comparable North American public library. Concomitantly, to continue with dangerous generalizations, the British public library card holder would

be less likely to think of the University library collection in his city as a supplementary source (having to overcome a greater diffidence, not possessing the North American confidence that all libraries are open to and for all). The relative position, if comparison is at all possible, is somewhat higher for valid social reasons in the public library than is the case in the academic library.

Again looking at the top ten scoring titles only one of the basic civic universities apparently lacked as many as four--and this was at the library most critical of its own catalog. The newest university checked also lacked four but this was to be expected--it had barely opened its doors. The other failures to locate many have been error on the checker's part, understandable delays in ordering and cataloging, or accidental oversight. The top ten titles really "should be in" every academic library.

How the individual libraries showed up on the list contains few surprises. Almost 80% of the titles were held at U.C.Santa Barbara, quite properly under the conditions both of a specialized interest over a number of years on the part of the university librarian and for the preparation of a checklist of the character here described.

North American university libraries, used as controls, scored at least as well as their British counterparts. The

University of British Columbia possessed half the titles, and therein is a small demonstration of the fairly obvious fact that North American university librarians buy more popular and public library type books than do their British colleagues. U.B.C., however, had only one book on clocks and watches (item 18), thus further suggesting a rather close control over book selection.

San Francisco State College lacked the older titles and Ginzel, devoted little attention to horology and turned up with a list of twenty-eight good titles. The Scottish control, the University of Edinburgh, possessed a comparable 29 titles with little interest in horology, and heavy holdings in the earlier titles. Both here and at the University of Strathclyde (not posted on the master chart) it was interesting to locate titles in French not found elsewhere in Great Britain, a persistence perhaps of the ties between Scotland and France.

The twelve middle-sized civic universities in the group upon which Mr. Hamlin and I had agreed to concentrate possessed from 20 to 31 of the 74 titles, averaging  $25 \frac{2}{3}$  for the group. The longer established libraries with larger collections, not unexpectedly, possessed most. Since the scores have little statistical meaning otherwise, it seems pointless to list them in detail. Impressions of book collecting emphasis have already been

suggested in comments above.

The overwhelming impressions about the strength of British academic library collections relate to the obvious influence of fundamental size. To North American eyes (and British eyes, too) British academic libraries are not relatively as well supported. The pervasive British preference for universities, as has been noted, with an enrollment of around 5000 students results not only in a desirable specialization on courses but also in an inhibiting effect on budget. There is therefore less of an effort to be general, or all things for all men, in Great Britain than in North America. University libraries, inevitably, are less general and less comprehensive. Who is to say whether this is good or bad? Expanding existing campuses rather than establishing new ones would undoubtedly mean larger individual library budgets but these would need to support academic programs, and the pleasant feeling of community at the 5000 student level might be lost.

There is an inner feeling of security about access to books that one enjoys in a compact society. Sheffield, I concluded, was a good base from which to mine libraries. There was enough basic material at the university to get me started, and I soon came to the comfortable feeling that the public library was most useful. A bit later I came to the feeling that the Brotherton Library at Leeds



University, the university library at Manchester, Cheatham's library and the Rylands library, both also in Manchester, and the Minster library in York were part of my working library milieu within an hour or so--with someone else doing the driving at the head of the train. London, too, can be "done" in a day trip, providing 6 or 7 hours perhaps in the British Museum or the Horological Institute Library. While the British professor also believes rightly that there must be a substantial working base in his home library, he is less limited by and to his home library than he would be in North America.

The professional British historian, on the average, one sees as less concerned than his North American colleague about seeing absolutely everything before he writes. The generalist can be thankful for this; the British historians can be looked to for inspiration in synthesizing and stylistic examples.

Great Britain, one concludes, has many libraries to which one must return, the next time to work directly with the literature of time itself. Much was discovered, but not read with care under the demands the project made on hours available. This, after all, is the measure of satisfaction with the British library collections on which to conclude this section of the report.

APPENDIX I

The Time in Type Test

Titles searched annotated with comment. In the order searched to preserve numerical sequence.

1. Asimov, Isaac - Of time and space and other things. Garden City, N.Y., 1965.

This is a much sounder work than it might at first seem; it is made up of essays all reprinted from The Magazine of Fantasy. Asimov is respected among scholars for his popularizing efforts.

Apparently this was not issued in Great Britain, and this may help explain why it was located nowhere in Great Britain. In North American libraries it was located at McGill, San Francisco State and UCSB.

Asimov, of course, is far from unknown in Great Britain. His Genetic Code was identified many times. General American science at the popular level, one would estimate, was adequately represented from holdings of Asimov books noted.

2. Baillie, Granville Hugh - Clocks and watches; an historical bibliography. London, 1951, 1965.

If any book on horology should be in a British university library this would be it: a bibliography. Three British university libraries apparently had it--as did the Sheffield Public Library. (Edinburgh, Hull, Keele.) It was not located in Canada, but twice in California.

3. Bertele, Hans von, rev. Basserman-Jordan, Ernst von - The book of old clocks and watches. 4th ed., fully rev. by H. von Bertele, N.Y. 1964.

Searched as Basserman-Jordan although specialists referred in conversation to von Bertele whose revision may be important enough

to justify this attribution. Has a most useful introduction of some 90 pages on time in general.

This was located only in the Sheffield Public Library, and U.B.C. and UCSB.

4. Bell, Thelma H. and Bell, Corydon - The riddle of time. 1963

Included as a matter of curiosity about British academic library interest in general American books essentially for a junior readership, the results here were negative. This probably befits a doubtful entry, although U.B.C. did possess it.

5. Bennett, Henry Stanley - English books and readers, 1558 to 1603. Cambridge, 1965.

Accidentally the first four items selected were popular in nature. The fifth item was bibliographical history--discovered everywhere, and, with the fifth to eighth items, showed the awareness of the libraries visited of books at the heart of library literature, and essential in the Library Association approach to qualification by syllabus.

6. Binns, Norman E. - An introduction to historical bibliography. 2nd ed. rev. and enl. London, 1962.

It was not located at one university, found everywhere else, and it is a likely bet that it was misfiled in the catalog.

7. Bland, David Farrand - A history of book illustration, the illuminated manuscript and the printed book. Cleveland and N. Y. 1958, London, 1958.

One of the newer universities lacked this, as did a moderately sized general university.

8. Bosanquet, Eustace Fullerand - English printed almanacs and prognostications, a bibliographic history to the year 1600. London, 1917. (Bibliog. Soc., illus. Monographs, No. 17).

Although a serial this was searched only under "Bosanquet", and thus it may have appeared in the series cards in the three libraries where it was not uncovered. This is an essential work. Two North American libraries did not have it.

9. Bouché-Leclercq, August - L'astrologie grecque. Paris, 1899. Reprint, Bruxelles, 1963.

There is "no better historian of astrology" says W. Hartner in Crombie, A., ed. Scientific change. And it was pleasant to find either the original printing or the reprint in the first nine libraries visited, later plus a tenth at Edinburgh.

10. Bouchet, Ulysse - Hémérologie ou traité pratique complet des calendriers. (Paris, 1868)

Almost convinced of its excessive specialization, justification for inclusion finally came to a small degree in Scotland-- where indeed 3 hitherto undiscovered titles in French all came to light for the first time.

11. Brady, John - Clavis calendaria; or, a compendious analysis of the calendar illustrated with ecclesiastical, historical and classical anecdotes. London, 1812.

This book, popular in the first quarter or so of the nineteenth century, appeared in a one-volume reduced size, a fact that full title entries alone would reveal in library catalogs. Half the libraries checked in Great Britain recorded this title, as did McGill and UCSB.

12. Brandon, Samuel George Frederick - History, time and deity. Manchester, 1965.

This essential work undoubtedly will have appeared by now in more than the six British universities where it was located. Its

recency, however, had not precluded its being in catalogs at the five "control" libraries and the Sheffield Public Library.

13. Britten, Frederick James  
Baillie, Granville Hugh ed. - Old clocks and watches,  
and their makers, 7th ed. N. Y. 1956.

A respectable horological work, discovered in half the libraries visited--most often in North America.

14. Bruton, Eric - Dictionary of clocks and watches.  
N. Y. 1963.

A general handbook, biographical, historical, technical at a level to appeal to the public library--and, in fact, only the Sheffield Public Library had it.

15. Buckmaster, Thomas  
Bosanquet, Eustace F. intro. by - An almanack and  
prognostication for the year 1598. Oxford, 1935.

As this is a serial perhaps the three British libraries that did not reveal it to the searcher might have had it--only one was a new university. The item, in facsimile, is one that would be grist to the undergraduate paper or research at higher levels.

16. Buening, Erwin - The physiological clock, endogenous diurnal rhythms. N.Y. 1964.

This item is remembered as the one (1) that revealed that many English libraries in the catalog listing state that the book is a translation, and (2) that brought out that one library ignored diacritical marks and thus Bünning was found after Bun, not after Buena Vista.

17. de Carle, Donald - British time. London, 1947.

One academic library and the Sheffield Public Library turned up with this practical book, stressing the distribution as well as the recording of time.

18. Chapuis, Alfred and Jaquet - History of the self-winding watch. Neuchatel, 1956.

Ten libraries possessed this. The question arose as to whether this had been remaindered in Great Britain as vigorously as in the United States. Chapuis, of course, is a highly respected horological historian of the recent era. No library need apologize for possessing it--or not possessing it.

19. Cleugh, M.F. - Time and its importance in modern thought. London, 1937.

At the end of the testing period one was convinced (by the times quoted and praised) that here was one volume that should be in every good university library. It was in ten libraries visited. The item was not in the younger libraries.

20. Clutton, Cecil and Daniels, George - Watches. N. Y. 1965.

Only the Sheffield Public Library was willing to pay the price for this Studio book--probably correctly so. The illustrations are beautifully done, and the subject fits peripherally into the social history of art.

21. Colson, Francis Henry - The week, an essay on the origin and development of the seven-day cycle. Cambridge, 1926.

This small pioneer book, a Cambridge Press book, too was surprisingly elusive not only in library catalogs but also in the book trade. Only four libraries, plus our public library and Scottish control library possessed it, and three of these were fairly new universities. It was found at U.B.C. and UCSB.

22. Cotsworth, Moses Bruine - The rational almanac, tracing the evolution of modern almanacs from ancient ideas of time and suggesting improvements. London, 1905

This was found only at Birmingham and Leeds (and at a Stockport bookstore for personal purchase). But at Leeds it dawned upon one that Cotsworth was a Yorkshire product, and a minor legend there. He is a major character in the 20th century movements of calendar reform, and the time-in-type test provided a long range challenge to find out more of this man; time was spent on his trail at York where he lived and worked as a young man; tracing his complicated bibliography was made easy by British Museum efficiency and the trail led to the University of British Columbia which possesses his "papers". These were assessed and will require one's return for several weeks of work.

23. Crombie, Alistair Cameron - Augustine to Galileo. Cambridge, Mass., 1961. G.B. 1961.

While not a personal favorite in the overall history of science, by inclusion of this title one found that all but one very new library owned it. This and peripheral discoveries indicated that the university libraries seemed soundly grounded in basic works on the history of science, naturally the more so in institutions with special interests, even departments.

24. Cunynghame, Sir Henry Hardinge Samuel - Time and clocks; a description of ancient and modern methods of measuring time. London, 1906.

Sir Henry emerges as an engaging late Victorian-early Edwardian renaissance man with occasionally aggravating mannerisms, but always laudable human aims. To come to appreciate his breadth of interests was one of the rewards of this exercise. The book, as a contribution to the literature of time, is trivial.

25. Daiches, David - Time and the poet; the W.O. Thomas Memorial Lecture, University College of Swansea, Feb. 23, 1965. Cardiff, 1965.

Disappointing indeed was it to find that only Swansea apparently possessed this lecture. Only in part could the universal failure be ascribed to the very occasional practice of not analyzing lecture series.

26. Denis-Boulet, Noële M. Herburne-Scott, P. Translator - The Christian calendar. N.Y., 1960.

Originally in French (Le Calendrier Chrétien, 1959) this item, too, was found for the first time in Scotland. Perhaps, had the Twentieth Century Encyclopedia of Catholicism (of which this book is part) been sought more entries would have been found, but this seems unlikely. The North American libraries all possessed it.

27. Eco, Umberto and Zorzoli - The picture history of invention. N.Y., 1963.

This volume has a very good section on time. It should have been found in the local public library and was; it was



also in two university libraries. Again the North American libraries demonstrated a greater readiness to acquire public library type material--all four possessed it.

28. Feather, Norman - An introduction to the physics of mass, length and time. Baltimore, 1961.

The Pelican issue of this volume omitted the first six words of the title thus confusing and confounding the searcher briefly, but the volume was located in all but two of the libraries searched. All control libraries possessed this standard work.

29. Febvre, Lucien - L'apparition du livre. Paris, 1958.

Found four times in England, in Scotland, and four times in North America. It should be in more British libraries.

30. Finegan, Jack - Handbook of Biblical chronology; principles of time reckoning in the ancient world. Princeton, 1964.

The basic note "essential" was concurred in by 13 libraries, including two outside the basic group.

31. Fraisse, Paul - The psychology of time. N. Y., 1963.

Only once in 20 checks overall did this item not appear. It is "the" book of the 'sixties on this subject.

32. Gazola, G. - Memorio di M. Mastrofini.  
Roma, 1845.

The only evidence one still has for the existence of this book is Espasa. One had hoped to find out something about this forerunner of the World Calendar--and did in the British Museum but not from this item, nowhere identified.

33. Gillgrass, Alfred - The book of Big Ben.  
London, 1946.

This early postwar volume, on poor paper, was not designed for scholarly libraries but is a good account, worthy of retention. Found once on each side of the Atlantic.

34. Ginzel, Friedrich Karl - Handbuch der Mathematischen und Technischen Chronologie. Leipzig, 1906. Zwickow, 1958.

The original Leipzig edition of 1906 was then probably easier to acquire on its publication than the East German reprint of 1958 later. It is a prime requisite, held by 6 English universities, the public Library in Sheffield, U.B.C. and U.C.S.B. U.C.S.B.'s copy found serendipitously at a New York import house.

35. Grünbaum, Adolf - Philosophical problems of space and time. N.Y., 1963. London, 1964.

An essential item, for all practical purposes so

recognized, and possibly not found in the two middle group libraries apparently lacking it because of the searcher's natural confusion on filing rules relating to the umlaut.

36. Gurvitch, Georges - The spectrum of social time. Dordrecht, 1964. Trans. and ed. by Myrtle Korenbaum.

If this had had an English rather than a Dutch imprint it would, one would wager, have been recorded universally. Six English libraries, and all five control libraries had acquired this.

37. Haswell, J. Eric - Horology, the science of time measurement. London, 1951. Reprint of 1928 edition.

This was found, gratifyingly enough, at the Fulbright host institutions and the Sheffield Public Library.

38. Heath, Louise Robinson - The concept of time. Chicago, 1936.

This respectable, American university press, and historical, treatment was found at Hull, Liverpool and Sheffield. Accidental and adequate coverage.

39. Hodgson, Shadwork H. - Time and space; a metaphysical essay. London, 1865.

The philosophy of time, two thirds the way through the nineteenth century, along with comparable land posts in other fields, was found in six English university libraries, at Edinburgh, McGill, and U.C.S.B.

40. Hood, Peter - How time is measured. London, 1955.

This volume in the Oxford Visual Series for beginners is well done. Keele, Newcastle, and Nottingham possessed copies.

41. India (Republic) Calendar Reform Committee - Report of the calendar reform committee, India, 1955.

This volume, which I had seen for the first time years ago in the library of the World Calendar Association in Ottawa was a doubly difficult one: it was obscure of itself in publication and it had a government imprint. It was useful for its name entry; a number of libraries showed some publications by the government of India but none had this particular volume.

42. Irwin, Keith Gordon - The 365 days. N.Y., 1963, 1966.

Although available in both an American and an English edition this introductory book on the calendar was found only in the Sheffield Public Library and at U.C.S.B. However, it is not of a first priority.

43. Jobs, Gertrude, and James - Outer space: myths, names, meanings, calendars from the emergence of history to the present. N.Y., 1964.

The Scarecrow Press does not seem to have been at all successful with selling this book in Great Britain; it was in North America ("0" in G.B., 3 in North America).

44. Johnson, John, and Gibson, Strickland - Print and privilege at Oxford to the year 1700. London, 1946.

Some enjoyment in seeing the different ways in which John Johnsons were differentiated was provided by this title. His middle name was discovered at one carefully prepared catalog, but the designation "Printer to the University of Oxford" was the most appreciated differentiation.

45. Lacombe, Paul - Livres d'heures imprimés au XV<sup>e</sup> et au XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle conservés dans les bibliothèques de Paris. Paris, 1907. Reprinted Nieuwkoop, 1963.

The 1963 reprint might suggest that this could have been expected to appear at more than one British university library. It was "picked up" by three North American libraries, whose interest may be deeper in the history of the book.

46. Larson, Dewey B. - New light on space and time. Portland, Oregon, 1965.

This book is not recommended and was found only in the two California libraries. One other title by the author was found in one English university library.

47. Lindsay, Jean (Weigell) Lady - Time without clocks.

This item I knew nothing about, except for an entry in Cumulative Book Index, January, 1964. When I finally

found the book--in the Sheffield Public Library it was to find a quotable if deprecatory paragraph on time and to learn that the book is autobiography and thus outside scope.

48. Lloyd, Herbert Alan - Some outstanding clocks over seven hundred years, 1250-1950. London, 1958.

An excellent book of its type, but not essential.

Four copies identified, two in English university libraries.

49. McArthur, Allan - The evolution of the Christian year. Greenwich, Conn., 1955.

This was included on the basis of its being cited by Denis-Boulet, Christian calendar, p.126. The citation was technically incorrect as I found at Birmingham. The "C" on my card stood for Allan according to the university library catalog.

50. Macdonald, James Cecil - Chronologies and calendars. London, 1897.

This late nineteenth century item was found only at the University of Birmingham.

51. McVittie, George Cunliffe - Fact and theory in cosmology. N.Y., 1961. London, 1961.

In the series "A survey of astronomy" edited by Colin A. Ronan, this recommended title was missed by a few libraries. (7 of the 20).

52. Marsden, Dora - The philosophy of time.  
Oxford, 1955.

This pamphlet of 34 pages, prepared for publication by Harriet Shaw Weaver, seen for the first time at U.C.L.A., was otherwise not located in the four North American libraries searched. It was found six times in England.

53. Matoré, Georges - L'espace humain - l'expression de l'espace dans la vie, la pensée et l'art contemporains. Paris, 1962.

In the series Collection sciences et techniques humaine, this was found a total of six times.

54. Milham, Willis Isbister - Time and time keepers, including the history, construction, care and accuracy of clocks and watches. N.Y., 1944.

Listed without first name, initials, or date of publication, this work by a Pomona College astronomy professor, was found in the North American university libraries and at the Sheffield Public, thus inviting conjecture on the more generalized interests of the North American group--and the fact that it was apparently published only in the United States.

55. Moore, Wilbert E.-Man, time and society.  
N.Y., 1963.

By a professor of sociology at Princeton, and an item that will be requested by patrons with a general interest in time. In all 5 control libraries, the Sheffield Public Library and 4 English university libraries.

56. Moret, Alexandre - The Nile and Egyptian civilization. London, 1927.

In the History of Civilization, edited by C.K.Ogden and possessed in Santa Barbara in the general editor's copy. A background item found in 13 libraries.

57. Newbolt, Sir Henry John - Poetry and time. London, 1918.

This was a Swansea discovery, under the number PR503 Bri, otherwise found only at U.B.C. This was not searched under "British Academy: Wharton lectures in English poetry" where it might have been found more often.

58. Niangoran-Bouah, Georges - La division du temps et le calendrier rituel des peuples lagunaires de cote d'ivoire. Paris, 1962.

A most specialized little publication, and a serial publication of the ethnological institute of the University of Paris. Identified only at the Universities of Edinburgh, Strathclyde, and U.C.S.B.

59. Nilsson, Martin P. - Primitive time-reckoning a study in the origins and first development of the art of counting time among the primitive and early culture peoples. Lund, London, Paris, Leipzig, 1920. 2nd ed. 1960 photo-mechanical reproduction Malmö: Nya Litografen.

This item was purchased in 1968 personally in the second edition, photomechanically reproduced in 1960. This, therefore should really be found everywhere. It is indeed a classic. Located 9 times in Great Britain, 3 in North America.



60. Nisard, Marie Leonard Charles - Histoire des livres populaires. Reprint, New York, 1964.

Reprinted by Burt Franklin in 1964 this is a good but not necessary item in a background collection in the history of the book that one expects to find in any academic library, as the nine checks might indicate.

61. Oxford Historical Society - Vol XLV Ancient Kalendar of the University of Oxford. Oxford, 1904.

This was a computus for 16th century students, and would be useful to a student of calendar making. Found five times in the basic group.

62. Parker, Richard Anthony - The calendars of ancient Egypt. Chicago, 1950.

It was located at Birmingham and Liverpool, but nowhere in North America. The date of publication, and its being part of a series may explain the paucity of check marks. This is a University of Chicago Press book with this series note: Oriental Institute, Studies in ancient Oriental civilization, no. 26.

63. Priestley, John Boynton - Man and time. N.Y., 1964.

The British edition, Aldus Books and Allen was also dated 1964. This book is a useful reference work. Not only that but it belongs in any collection of J.B. Priestley's works. Priestley, as a man of his times, is obviously

going to be easier to study retrospectively in North America than in Great Britain. This is, of course, a "gift book" and was soon remaindered.

64. Reichen, Charles Albert - vol. 5. A history of astronomy. The new illustrated library of science and invention. N.Y., June 1963.

This was a cataloger's nightmare of a non-title page. Handsome and clear illustrations, and useful, but not necessary. Located rarely.

65. Reitmeister, Louis A. - A philosophy of time. N.Y., 1962.

The title is deceptive for it is a highly personal book, far from the authoritative philosophic levels attained by other titles searched.

66. Richmond, Broughton - Time measurement and calendar construction. Leiden, 1956.

A compilation with illustrations from the book of hours of the Duc de Berry, to promote one type of calendar reform. Available at Liverpool, Manchester, and U.C.S.B. It was still in stock at E. J. Brill in the spring of 1968.

67. Rougié, Maurice - La refonte du calendrier. Paris, 1950.

Originally this was found indirectly through International Index. It was not located; perhaps it would have been had it been searched for under the pseudonym D. Néroman.

(Examined N. Y. P. L. Feb. 2, 1969: astrology!)

68. Sarton, George - Six wings men of science in the renaissance. Indiana, 1957.

Potter Foundation fellowship secto. lecture on astronomy and astrology, by an American great name was found in a significantly large number of places --fifteen.

69. Stern, Henri - Le calendrier de 354 Étude sur son texte et ses illustrations. Paris, 1955.

This is a technical item. Being in French, one reluctantly concluded, meant fewer chances of its being found, and Leeds, Edinburgh, and U.C.S.B. alone were found to possess it. Leeds is good in archeological holdings, a fact which came out in this search.

70. Struik, Dirk Jan - The origins of American science. N.Y., 1957.

First edition was published in 1948 under title Yankee science in the making, and thus a problem was created with two American editions and titles, a more usual phenomenon being a British-American clash of titles. It was significant in the search only for bringing out this fact.

71. Thomson, Adam - Time and timekeepers. London, 1842.

This small and slight book, it had been expected, would be found occasionally. The assumption was incorrect; it was found only in a Piccadilly bookstore where it cost the searcher five guineas.

72. Watkins, Harold - Time counts. London, 1954.

McGill, U.C.S.B., and the Sheffield Public Library alone record this volume. It is not a prime item in the basic bibliography.

73. Way, Robert Bernard and Green, Noel D. - Time and its reckoning. Surrey, 1951.

This book was seen first at U.C.L.A. and next at the Sheffield Public Library. It was located nowhere else. The book merits a spot on the shelves of big research libraries and of public libraries.

74. Whitrow, Gerald James - The natural philosophy of time. London, 1961.

My own copy is Torchbook #563 at \$1.95. As it should have been this was one of the volumes located 19 out of a possible 20 times.