

# The University of British Columbia

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA



THE LIBRARY



REPORT OF

The Library Committee

— TO —

The Senate



OCTOBER, 1928

October 5th, 1928.

R. W. Brock, Esq., M.A., LL.D., F.G.S., R.F.S.C.,  
Acting President,  
Acting Chairman of the Senate,  
The University of British Columbia.

Sir:—

The Library Committee presents herewith, in accordance with the instructions contained in the Senate's resolution of December 15th, 1926, a Report made by the Librarian, and considered and approved at a meeting of the Committee held on Wednesday, September 26th, 1928.

Very truly yours,

H. F. ANGUS,  
Chairman.

Professor H. F. Angus,  
Chairman, Library Committee,  
The University of British Columbia.

Sir:—

I beg to present herewith, for your information and that of the Library Committee, a Report on the University Library for the period September 1st, 1927, to September 30th, 1928.

### BOOK COLLECTION AND IMPORTANT RECENT PURCHASES

The Library now owns slightly more than 68,000 volumes. Of these, 64,689 are recorded accessions, while the duplicates are estimated at 3,400 volumes.

In the Report presented to the Committee a year ago, the number of accessioned volumes was shown at 60,316, while that of duplicates was given at 3,200. There is thus an increase of 4,573 volumes in the collection since the last Report—4,373 in volumes accessioned and catalogued, and an estimated increase of 200 in the duplicates.

Throughout the Session, all new books, as catalogued, have been placed on exhibition every Friday, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. Students have shewn much interest in examining the recent accessions.

Among the notable additions to the Library since the last Report are the following:

	COST
Hutson Collection—Oriental works, 26 vols.....	\$50.00
Anonyma and pseudonyma, 4 vols.....	26.25
Bulletins handbuch der organischen chemie, Bd. 11.....	21.60
A Library of American Literature, 11 vols.....	33.00
Chemische krystallographie, 5 vols.....	37.70
Voss: Architectural construction, 2 vols.....	24.00
Roth: Physikalisch chemische tabellen.....	27.40

	COST
American Library Association, 8 vols.....	135.20
Chambers encyclopedia, 10 vols.....	28.00
Encyclopedia Americana (new ed.), 30 vols.....	120.00
Life, letters and labors of Francis Galton, 2 vols.....	20.25
American Nation Series, 27 vols.....	49.00
Rosenbuch, H.: Mikroskopische physiographie, 3 vols.	38.25
Bureau de la statistique, Vol. 42, 1926.....	33.85
Tables annuelles de constantes.....	20.00
Histoire du theatre Francais, 15 vols.....	45.00
Suite du respectoire du theatre Francais, 80 vols.....	40.00
Reportoire general du theatre Francais, 67 vols.....	33.50
Rolls Series, 106 vols.....	385.00

The Library has continued, during the year, its efforts to bring nearer completion the files of Transactions, Proceedings, and Periodicals, and has also purchased the complete file of the Proceedings of the Faraday Society. The following list gives some of the more important gaps thus filled:

	COST
Royal Anthropological Society Journal, Vols. 54-57, 1924-27 .....	\$31.00
Beihefte zur Botanischen Centralblatt, Vols. 38-44 (14 Vols.), 1921-27.....	65.00
British Journal of Psychology, Vols.7,8,13-17 (1914-27)	62.00
Annals and Magazines of Natural History, 1925-27.....	41.00
Anglia-Beiblatt, Bd. 31-38, 1920-27.....	31.00
Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Vols. 33-35 (4 Vols.), 1924-26 .....	31.00
Royal Agricultural Society of England Journal, Vols. 81-87, 1920-26 .....	26.00
Revue des Etudes Grecques, Tomes 34-40, 1921-27.....	35.00
U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Standards, Scientific Papers, Vols. 1-20, 1904-26.....	34.00
American Jersey Cattle Club, Herd Registers 4, 17, 19, 25, 27, 28, 30, 32-72.....	75.00
Modern Philology, 1-7, 9-12, 1903-14.....	41.00
Journal of Psychology, 11-15, 1920-24.....	25.00
Journal of Education, 1883, 1884, 1886-1915.....	80.00

	COST
Canada Labour Gazette, 2-22, 1901-22.....	42.00
Annales des Ponts at Chaussees, 8e serie, t. 31—11e serie t. 65, 1908-23.....	55.00
Journal of Economic Entomology, Vols. 1-20, 1908-27	57.00
The School, Vols. 1-11, 1912-23.....	37.00
School Science and Mathematics, Vols. 5-23.....	61.00
Faraday Society, Vols. 1-22, 1904-26.....	280.00
Cambridge Philosophical Society Proceedings, Vols. 17, 21-23, 1921-27. Trans. pts. of Vols. 22, 23, 1916-27	51.00
Romanic Review, Vols. 1-15, 1910-24.....	45.00

### GIFTS

The gifts to the Library during the year totalled an estimated value of \$660.00—\$125.00 in books, \$500.00 in governmental publications, and \$35.00 in periodicals.

This is the lowest on record, the estimated value of book gifts as given in the preceding year being \$2,600.00.

The Librarian hopes that this is not indicative of any declining interest in the Library's welfare and progress.

### ANNUAL CHECK OF THE BOOK COLLECTION

The usual annual checking of the Collection, for the discovery of the losses of books, took place immediately after the close of the Spring Examinations. A total of 144 volumes was found to be the loss involved—131 from Ordinary, and 13 from Reserved, loans. Of the 144 books then reported as missing, 35 have been recovered at the time of preparation of this Report, leaving the net loss for the period at 109 volumes.

The losses in 1925, 1926 and 1927, respectively, were 247, 140 and 166 volumes. These losses are much less than in the great majority of University libraries with comparable circulations.

### REGISTRATION OF READERS: AUTUMN AND WINTER SESSIONS

There were 1,741 degree course students registered in the session of 1927-28. Of these 1,628 took out Readers' Cards. Ninety-one students did not continue their university work into 1928, having

failed to pass the Christmas examinations. Assuming—as was practically the case—that very few of these students took out Readers' Cards, the University's book collection was used by all but about 17 of the degree course students.

### SUMMER SESSION

Four hundred and one students were enrolled in the Summer School session. Of these, 274 took out Readers' Cards.

### EXTRA MURAL READERS

Early in the history of the University facilities were organized to grant the privilege of consulting the book collection to serious students not enrolled in any of its courses. Six hundred and forty-three such persons were registered as users of the Library at the end of 1927. This was the cumulated total of the preceding ten years. All existing registrations of extra mural readers were cancelled as at January 1st, 1928, and a new registration made. Ninety-four such students are so registered at the time of the presentation of this Report. In addition to costs of mailing, these readers pay an annual fee of \$1.00.

### CIRCULATION: ORDINARY

The Circulation continued to show a fairly satisfactory increase, proportioned to the growth of the student body. The increase in circulation amounted to 11,365 volumes.

On Ordinary Loans the increase was 3,019 volumes, as here-with shewn:

September 1, 1927, to August 31, 1928.....	33,426 volumes.
September 1, 1926, to August 31, 1927.....	30,407 volumes.

Increase .....	3,019 volumes.
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On Reserved Loans the circulation increase for the year amounted to 8,346 volumes, the figures being:

October, 1927, to April, 1928.....	41,280 volumes.
October, 1926, to April, 1927.....	32,934 volumes.

Increase .....	8,346 volumes.
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Summer School Loans shewed a slight decrease, doubtless due to the lessened registration, which dropped from 487 in 1927 to 401 in 1928. The loans decreased from 2,138 to 1,893, a reduction of 245 volumes.

The total loans of the Library for the twelve months amounted to 76,599 volumes.

Complete statistics of circulation are herewith given:

## ORDINARY LOANS

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	
January .....	—	759	1179	1540	1736	1940	2254	3366	3266	4264	
February .....	—	760	1189	1501	1710	1767	2139	3419	4268	4404	
March .....	—	655	1194	1524	1604	1702	2142	3597	4149	4487	
April .....	—	379	684	853	1147	1104	1271	1915	2599	2464	
May .....	—	289	531	666	743	702	847	850	867	755	
June .....	—	285	487	641	732	656	680	616	618	583	
July .....	—	370	477	602	831	931	1012	1199	1492	1323	
August .....	—	436	533	597	888	703	603	895	1239	1184	
					Average, 8 months.....					2312	2440
September .....	—	550	975	1147	938	1234	405	1110	1223	—	
October .....	740	1327	1762	1938	2174	2325	3085	3942	4552	—	
November .....	917	1542	1568	1874	1970	2159	3415	4197	4795	—	
December .....	467	1033	1056	1080	1208	1173	1559	2560	2383	—	
	2124	8382	11635	13963	15683	16387	19412	27666	31451	—	
Average Monthly Circulation } (3 mos.)	708	690	969	1163	1307	1365	1618	2306	2620	—	

## "RESERVED" LOANS

	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28
October .....	1322	4784	5468
November .....	3754	6483	9543
December .....	1657	4041	4518
January .....	2262	2022	3053
February .....	3419	3962	5877
March .....	4887	6857	8304
April .....	2121	4785	4517
	19422	32934	41280
Monthly average..	2774	4705	5897
Yearly increase...	—	11512	8346

## SUMMER SESSION

	1926	1927	1928
July .....	1092	1248	885
August .....	616	890	1008
	<u>1708</u>	<u>2138</u>	<u>1893</u>
Averages .....	854	1069	946

## EVENING ATTENDANCE

The use of the Library by students in evening hours continues to show an advance. The records kept by the Circulation Department show the following as the attendance for the year, as compared with that of 1926-27:

	1926-27			1927-28		
	Totals	Open Evenings	Aver.	Totals	Open Evenings	Aver.
October .....	792	24	33	848	23	37
November .....	1284	25	50	2070	24	82
December .....	1791	18	99	2050	18	114
January .....	379	19	20	542	20	27
February .....	976	24	40	1309	25	52
March .....	2310	26	59	3087	27	114
April .....	4176	24	124	2730	21	130
	<u>11708</u>	<u>160</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>12636</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>80</u>

## BOOK APPROPRIATIONS

The total book appropriations for the University Year 1927-28 amounted to \$12,855.00. Of this, \$5,500.00 was the Main Appropriation, the balance representing special grants made by the Board of Governors, or transfers authorized by the Board from other funds voted to the Departments.

The following gives the complete statement of funds available for book purchase:

Main Appropriation .....	\$4,500.00
Education .....	1,000.00
Special Appropriation (general).....	5,000.00



Special Appropriation (long sets).....	1,200.00
Special Appropriation (Botany).....	100.00
Special Appropriation (Geology).....	10.00
	\$11,810.00

*Transfers—*

Mechanical Engineering .....	\$ 75.00	
Chemistry .....	75.00	
Civil Engineering .....	100.00	
Economics .....	500.00	
Agricultural Economics .....	50.00	
Philosophy .....	120.00	
English .....	125.00	1,045.00
		\$12,855.00

For the present University year (1928-29) the book appropriations as yet available amount to \$6,300.00, as follows:

Main Appropriation .....	\$5,500.00
Transfer (History) .....	800.00
	\$6,300.00

It is hoped that, as in preceding years, there may be substantial supplementary appropriations made that will bring the total nearer the requirements.

The Report of September, 1927, contained a summarized statement, setting forth the amount necessary to meet the annual book-buying requirements of the Library for the ensuing five years. This information was obtained by means of a questionnaire sent to the Head of each Department, and was embodied in a special Report duly forwarded to the President.

The total requirements of the Departments, plus the cost of periodical subscriptions, for a five-year period, is given at \$22,000 a year.

In the Estimates for 1929-30, recently forwarded to the Acting President, the request for a Book and Magazine Appropriation of \$22,000 was accordingly repeated.

## BINDING

The usual Appropriation of \$3,000.00 for the binding requirements of the Library was made for the University years 1927-28, and also for the present year.

Eleven hundred and forty-two volumes were bound in 1927-28. One hundred and twenty-two volumes were repaired at a cost of \$62.00.

For the present University year, 788 volumes have been forwarded to the binders to date.

Included in the bindings for the University year 1926-27 were a number of valuable long sets, such as

Canadian Geological Survey; Memoirs, 152 parts.

Zeitschrift fur Physik, 32 volumes.

Carnegie Museum; Annals and Memoirs, 25 volumes.

Royal Horticultural Society; Journal, 45 volumes.

Landwirtschaftliches Jahrbuch der Schweiz, 20 volumes.

In order to take advantage of the lower binding prices prevailing in England, about \$525.00 of the Binding Fund was expended in England. The work done was almost wholly on long runs of Transactions or Periodicals bought from special appropriations. The remainder was done by a Vancouver firm, tendering on carefully drawn specifications.

## DISCIPLINE

The Librarian regrets to report a perceptible falling off in the standards of discipline by students in the Library, as compared with the previous year. The tendency to use the Reading Rooms as a social hall or a rendezvous shewed no sign of decrease, while conversation appeared to be more prevalent.

The preservation through the building of conditions appropriate for study was last year, at its request, left to the Students' Council. So far as could be observed, no consistent or systematic effort was made to improve or maintain proper standards.

Plans considered by the Library Committee last year have already been put into effect for the present session. Effective co-operation has been arranged with the elected representatives of the student body. As a result, it is hoped that this session will see a considerable advance towards those conditions of orderly quiet that should prevail in a library building.

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## INSTALLATION AND SHELVING IN TIER 1 OF THE STACK ROOM

At the erection of the Library, three floors of the stack room were left unshelved. This was the first provision for the accommodation of the steady annual growth of the book collection.

The lowest tier—tier 1—had the structural steel to support the weight of the upper stacks installed, while tiers 6 and 7, the two uppermost floors of the stack, were thrown into one, and serve as a Temporary Periodical Room.

Included in the grant made to the University by the Legislature at its last session was the sum of \$12,500 for the installation of the stack in tier 1. The contract for this work was given to Snead & Co., Jersey City, U. S. A., the firm responsible for the original installation. The work has now been completed.

The lighting fixtures and equipment work were done by the University's Electrical Department, while the steel cabinets for the study carrels were supplied by the Office Specialty Manufacturing Company. This added equipment will give capacity for an additional 24,000 books.

This increased capacity will not be used during the present winter session, but early in the summer vacation of 1929 the whole collection will be redistributed, so as to include one-half of the new shelving, the balance being taken up by files of bound newspapers and similar material.

## JUBILEE MEMORIAL WINDOW

In the Report to the Senate made in September, 1927, it was noted that a friend of the University, who desired to remain officially anonymous, had offered the sum of \$1,500.00 for a Canadian Jubilee Memorial Window, of nine panels, to be installed in the lunette window, fronting the two main staircases.

The original design for this window, prepared by Messrs. Sharp & Thompson, University Architects, was submitted to, and slightly modified by, the Bromsgrove Guild (Canada) Ltd., Ecclesiastical Glassworkers. The design was approved by the donor and the Board of Governors, and the work executed in England. It has been delivered to the University at the time of making this Report. The Acting President and the Board of Governors, in consultation

with the donor, are now considering the time of the window's installation, and the matter of an appropriate ceremony at its dedication.

### ACCOMMODATION OF LIBRARY

The Library building contains accommodation for about 350 readers. Two hundred and forty-six chairs are in the three main reading rooms, the Temporary Periodical Room has a seating capacity of about 50, while 52 consultants or students find room in the carrels.

This accommodation will seat about 20 per cent. of the present enrollment. During the greater part of the session it is sufficient for the needs, but for a month or six weeks prior to examinations there are times every day when readers cannot find chairs. On one occasion, by actual count, 92 students were found seated on the stairs, or on radiators, or standing. In addition, many students had left the Library, failing to find accommodation for study.

The minimum standard of seating accommodation for university libraries is 25 per cent. of the student enrollment. This standard indicates that provision is required for an additional 100 students. But the standard of one-third the student registration is regarded by authorities as necessary to universities responsible for work for superior degrees. These were the findings of special investigating committees, appointed by the National Education Association, and also by the College Section of the American Library Association. This is the standard that should apply to this University and to its Library. It would mean that reading facilities should be increased to provide for 600 students, instead of, as at present, 350.

The necessity for this addition to the present accommodation was apparent within a year after occupancy of the building. Each succeeding year emphasizes the need of this early construction, which has been drawn to the attention of the President in a Report made last May.

The enlarged accommodation required should be secured by constructing the south wing, in which would be located, on the upper floor, the "Reserved" Reading Room, and, on the ground floor, the permanent Periodical Room, rooms for the Burnett Polynesian Collection, and additional seminar rooms.

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## INSTRUCTION TO STUDENTS IN THE USE OF THE LIBRARY

The Library Staff has for years strongly urged the desirability of a course of instruction in the use of books for all freshmen students. Courses of this kind are given in many universities, and have proved of great value.

At the beginning of the autumn session this year there was inaugurated a two-day "Orientation Course" for freshmen. In connection therewith, the Freshman Class visited the Library on Tuesday, September 25th, in five groups of ninety each, for a period of twenty-five minutes. For twenty minutes of this period the Librarian gave these groups such information as was possible in the very limited time.

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

On August 30th and 31st, and September 1st, the University was host to the members of the Pacific Northwest Library Association at their nineteenth annual conference. More than two hundred librarians from Oregon, Washington, Montana, Idaho and Utah, as well as British Columbia, were in attendance, the largest attendance in the Association's history. The University entertained the visitors at luncheon on September 1st, and between meetings the members inspected the Library building and the University's book collection, both of which were highly praised.

## LIBRARY STAFF

The Library Staff, with one exception, remains as given in the Report of September, 1927. It consists of:

John Ridington, Librarian.

Dorothy Jefferd, Cataloguer.

Frances Woodworth, Reference Librarian and Circulation.

Lionel Haweis, Accessions and Government documents.

Roland Lanning, Periodicals.

Mabel Lanning, Asst. in Circulation (8 months' appointment).

Alice E. Hearsey, Stenographer.

Mary Robertson, Typist.

Richard D. Buchanan, Call Boy (10 months' appointment).

## LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Library Committee is unchanged as from the Report of a year ago. It consists of:

Prof. H. F. Angus, Chairman, representing the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Dr. A. E. Hennings, representing the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Dr. G. G. Sedgewick, representing the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Dr. S. J. Schofield, representing the Faculty of Applied Science.

Prof. H. M. King, representing the Faculty of Agriculture.

Dr. L. S. Klinck (ex-officio), represented by Dean R. W. Brock, Acting President.

John Ridington, Secretary.

Regular meetings of the Committee are held monthly on the second Wednesday during the session, and special meetings as need arises. In all, twelve meetings have been held since the Report of September, 1927.

The Librarian desires to place on record the counsel and co-operation given him by all members of the Committee, and in particular by the Chairman, whose interest in and work for the Library has been of the utmost value.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN RIDINGTON,  
Librarian.

October 5th, 1928.



