UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARY
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN FOR 1978

Library faces severe book space shortage

The University Library is about to run out of space for books through the University's failure to obtain finance for library extensions.

University Librarian Mr Derek Fielding has recently received a speciel report on the Library's space problems prepared by the Deputy Librarian, Mr Eric Wainwright.

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Library to start massive discard programme

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Classics bite the dust

By MAX JESSOP

A UNIVERSITY is to put its old books into storage because it has run out of room for new ones.

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Space Planning in the University of Queensland Libraries

The basic problem that the Library faces is the fact that it is at present acquiring new material at a rate greater than it is able to create the extra shelving space required to shelve it. A subsidiary problem is that the existing available space is unequally distributed over the library system, i.e. although there may be spare space in some libraries within the system which would help to accommodate the incoming acquisitions, in practice that shelving space cannot be utilised immediately because it is in an unsuitable area. The statement of the problems in this form does, of course, imply that the pattern of incoming material to the library system is maintained. ptions available to the library dealing

micro.

James Forsyth Librarian

F.D.O. Fielding, M.A. *Dub.*, A.L.A., F.L.A.A.
(From June 1965)

Deputy University Librarian

E.S. Wainwright, M.A. *Cantab.*, Dip.Admin. *WAIT*, A.L.A., A.L.A.A.
(From February 1978)

Principal Librarian i/c Acquisitions and Serials

V.W. Prescott, B.A. *Syd.*, A.L.A., A.L.A.A.
(From June 1966)

Principal Librarian i/c Cataloguing

Mary R. McCarthy, B.A., Dip.Phty., A.L.A., A.L.A.A.
(From December 1966)

Principal Librarian i/c Reference Services

S.J. Routh, B.A., M.S. *Col.*, A.L.A.A.
(From November 1966)

Principal Librarian i/c Medical Libraries

R.J. Boscott, B.Sc., Ph.D. *Birm.*, Ph.C. *Cardiff*, A.R.I.C.
(From September 1969)

Principal Librarian i/c Reader Education

W. Cooper, B.A., A.L.A.A.
(From 1 February 1975)

Principal Librarian i/c Undergraduate Library

B.J. Guyatt, M.A., A.L.A.A.
(From 1 April 1972)

Principal Librarian i/c Biological Sciences Library

M. O'Sullivan, B.A., Dip.Ed., A.L.A.A.
(From October 1978)

Systems Analyst

W. Cockrell, B.Sc. *Tex.*
(From 16 April 1973)

Front Cover: A new era for the University Library.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN FOR 1978

In retrospect 1978 may prove to have been the last of the good years in which purchasing funds were reasonably adequate, new material could be placed on the shelves in most libraries without the need to make room by withdrawing older material, and the time of an already hard pressed staff could be entirely devoted to maintaining service and not diverted into expensive procedures resulting from the lack of shelving space. From 1979 onwards the cost to the university of the lack of capital funds for Stage 2 of Central Library will rapidly become apparent both in terms of high recurrent costs and inconvenience to research and higher degree work.

Preparing for the storage crisis has not prevented progress in other areas. Later in this Report there are details of the successful development of remote access information retrieval services, and moves towards more extensive automation of library activities. At the end of the year the Law Library was being doubled in size by remodelling the area immediately below the existing library and the last library slum at St. Lucia was about to disappear. It would be heartening to be able to forecast the rapid disappearance of the remaining sub-standard conditions, those in the medical libraries, but the prognosis for these particular ailments remains at best doubtful.

GENERAL MATTERS

During the year the Deputy Librarian prepared a report on possible solutions to the impending storage problems. This reviewed various options including

Reduction in acquisitions
Increasing storage space in existing libraries
Increasing warehouse storage
Increasing storage capacity of existing shelving
Reducing reader space
Greater use of microform
Increasing discard rates

Having reviewed the various options senior library staff were compelled to agree with the major conclusion of the report that

> "The only options which can be pursued over a long period are those involving the discard or withdrawal to Store of a proportion of the material in a particular library, and the ongoing replacement of hard copy by microform in place of binding."

A census of library use in October 1978 revealed that the only library in which a substantial amount of space could be converted to storage without considerable inconvenience to readers is the Undergraduate Library. As this is airconditioned space it will be reserved for the storage of material which is too valuable or too fragile to survive the rigours of heat and dust in the warehouse store.

Procedures have now been established for regular withdrawal of material from the library shelves either for transfer to Store or to be discarded. Each library has been given a target number of volumes to be met regularly and guidelines have been laid down so that initial decisions can be made by non-professional staff with review of the items actually recommended for withdrawal by professional librarians, in association with academic staff when necessary. The aim is to withdraw from the shelves the equivalent of the library's intake of new material, at present 60,000 volumes each year.

The Library has no alternative to adopting this policy. Nevertheless it has serious implications for the university as a whole.

The first and obvious consideration is cost. It is thought probable that storage will be required for at least some 40,000 volumes per year. The most economical warehouse storage for this quantity of material will cost at least $16,000 per year for shelving and a further $17,000 in building costs (or appropriate annual rental). To this total of $33,000 must be added the cost of selection of material for discard or store, the changing of complex library records, recovering wanted material from store for readers on a regular basis and other overheads. General estimates suggest that these staff costs could amount to $200,000 per year so that the annual cost to the university of not receiving capital funds for library extensions will approach $250,000 per year from recurrent funds.

The implications for the academic community, particularly teaching and research staff and higher degree students, are even more important. The University Library is being compelled to withdraw from immediate access each year about 4% of its total stock. The effect will not be apparent in the first couple of years. In its history the Library has come to own some material which is now obsolete and some which, by some criteria,should perhaps never have been accepted from donors. The new withdrawal programme will quickly eliminate this material and from then onwards each year the policy will cut deeper into the more actively used portions of the Library's resources. Since the quantity of publication has expanded constantly in recent years, compensating for each year's additions at current rates

will mean the withdrawal to store of the equivalent of two or more earlier years' acquisitions until there is little material on open access which is more, possibly, than twenty years old. This prospect has distressing implications for research, particularly in the humanities and some social sciences.

The effects of warehouse storage on the physical condition of stored material should not be ignored. The air-conditioned and relatively dust and insect free conditions which characterise modern library buildings can not be repeated in a warehouse; if they were, warehouse space would cost as much as a normal library extension. Much printed material is on paper which deteriorates rapidly when subject to Queensland's heat and humidity, not to mention occasional infestation by glue and paper chewing insects. The lifespan of library material stored in such conditions will be considerably reduced.

These matters should be considered carefully by the university bodies which establish building priorities. Unfortunately there is reason to believe that the Universities Council has adopted the superficial view that since enrolments have been stabilised there is no justification for additional library buildings. This strange attitude completely ignores the continuing growth in knowledge and the continuing value of a high proportion of older publications for teaching and research. Similar attitudes adopted on equally dubious premises by the so-called "Atkinson Committee" in Britain have apparently been quickly discarded in that country, where access to alternative libraries is very much easier than in most of Australia. The importance of good library facilities for research becomes more pertinent in the light of the recommendations of the study leave enquiry that more study leave should be spent in Australia.

The Library will be preparing a proposal for an evaluative study of the comparative costs of a withdrawal programme and the construction of additional library buildings.

In connection with the visit of the Universities Council during the year, proposals were prepared for new buildings at Royal Brisbane Hospital and Princess Alexandra Hospital which would have included badly needed improved library facilities. The facilities for readers and staff in the present Clinical Sciences Library and Princess Alexandra Hospital Library are a disgrace by comparison with those at any other medical school in Australia. The seating survey showed that the highest median occupancy of seats was in Law and in Clinical Sciences libraries. With remedial steps having been taken by extending the Law Library, the Medical Faculty is now the worst served in terms of facilities for library use.

The financial prospects for the Library are menacing. In planning its budget for 1979 the university was facing the need to make up for a deficit in 1978. In common with other funds, Library funds for purchasing were frozen at approximately 1978 levels. In 1979 the Library must meet the increased cost of ongoing subscriptions which is expected to be

some $84,000. Expenditure on books has had to be cut by this amount, and inflation will erode up to a further 20% so that actual purchasing power for books will decline in 1979 by up to a further $69,000. The actual reduction in purchasing power for books by comparison with 1978 may be as high as $153,000, or as much as 45% of the 1978 expenditure on books.

On present trends the cost of ongoing periodicals subscriptions will rise again in 1980 by some 15% or nearly $100,000, and within a few years there may be no money left with which to buy books at all after paying the periodicals bills. The process of reviewing periodical subscriptions with a view to cancellation which has been going on for some years is being intensified, and some savings occur automatically when individual journals die. Nevertheless the Library could be faced with the need to cut its periodicals subscriptions in monetary terms by 15% in 1980, which would probably mean that some 20% or more of actual titles would have to be cancelled since some of the most used titles are among the most expensive. To do this once would be a large amputation of library resources. To be compelled to do it continuously in successive years would reduce the library to holding only the most used titles and the cancellation of those specialised titles which are of use to only a few scholars though perhaps vital for their research. This would destroy the quality of the library as a research facility in an institution which claims research as its principal distinction from other tertiary institutions.

The Library made submissions for a variety of projects from the General Development Grant. These ranged from the refurbishing and air-conditioning of important branch libraries to support for automation developments. In the event grants were received for 1979 for the input of data for the extended Lending on-line system and the input of data for a computer-based catalogue of Store material.

Considerable time was spent by a small group of library staff in reviewing services to handicapped students. Discussions were held with Student Counselling and other university agencies dealing with the special needs of handicapped students whose numbers have increased in recent years. Service to handicapped students was publicised among all library staff and a pamphlet has been prepared in the general reader education series for the information of handicapped students.

Relationships beyond the university

The University Librarian again represented the University on the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services, which recently approved a new constitution and a new name, the Council of Libraries and Information Services. He was again elected to AACOBS Standing Committee and also, with Mr. Routh, served on the Queensland Regional

Committee of AACOBS. The Committee of Australian University Librarians met twice in 1978 in association with other meetings.

There continues to be much talk and considerable action about co-operation between Australian libraries. The most obvious and traditional manifestation of this is the inter-library loan traffic which increased again in 1978 after a slight fall in 1977. (The figures are in the table at the end of this report.) This increase was astonishing since the many loans to Griffith University no longer pass through the normal inter-library loan channels, Griffith library employees coming to St. Lucia to do their own borrowing and photocopying.

The Committee of Australian University Librarians proposed two evaluative studies to the TEC, at the Commission's request, one on inter-library loans and one on catalogues in microform. CAUL also asked the AVCC to make representations to assist the National Library to obtain federal funds to set up a national shared cataloguing system, and this request was favourably received by the AVCC.

Unfortunately no progress occurred in relation to new Copyright legislation which would clarify the photocopying situation, a matter on which the University Librarian represented AACOBS in a discussion with the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department. Legislation is expected to be brought down in 1979. The University Librarian was also, with the State Librarian of Western Australia, responsible for the AACOBS submission on the Freedom of Information Bill.

At a local level, discussions took place within the AACOBS Regional Committee on the prospects for joint storage, but few other Brisbane libraries at present have an active interest in this matter. The Deputy Librarian, Mr. Wainwright, is Chairman of the local AACOBS Automation Sub-Committee. The University Library is very interested in the on-line cataloguing system being implemented by the State Library. There are also very close consultations with QIT library which resulted in agreement on charges to outside users of each library's on-line information retrieval facilities and could lead to QIT involvement in developing the extended on-line Lending system which is discussed later in this report.

As by far the largest library in Queensland, the University Library is conscious of its responsibility, within the limits of funds and giving priority to its own staff and students, to contribute to co-operative arrangements which enrich the service of all libraries.

Planning and development

Economic stringency has made careful planning even more important than in the

days of rapid development. Effective planning depends on availability of information and one of the benefits of appointing a Deputy Librarian with a considerable background in research has been the improvement of the Library's collection of statistics for management purposes. The census of library seating which has already been mentioned and the report leading to the withdrawal programme are only two examples of the benefits from Mr. Wainwright's activities.

The Library's planning for automation falls into two principal areas, Lending and Technical Services. The on-line lending system which has been operating in the Undergraduate Library since 1976 was intended as an experimental project. It is thought to be the most sophisticated lending system operating in Australia and, in spite of under-capitalisation in equipment which has lead to some periods of machine breakdown, there is no doubt that the Undergraduate Library could not have coped with its present level of activity without the system as the Library could not afford the many additional staff who would have been needed to handle the same volume of loans manually.

By the end of 1978 a fairly detailed plan had been drawn up for extending on-line lending by stages to the rest of the libraries in the university. This will require a much more sophisticated system since the range of lending practices is much wider. The volume of loans to be handled will treble. The design document for the new system is well on the way to completion and a new minicomputer and some of the associated equipment was on order for delivery at the end of the year.

Library technical services such as purchasing, accessioning, accounting and cataloguing have been automated in some overseas and Australian libraries. Since the automation of cataloguing is highly complex and will be affected by the possible development of a national shared cataloguing system, the Library's original decision in 1977 was to seek a General Development Fund Grant for work on a system for purchasing and accounts. That application was not successful but systems analysis proceeded with a view to going to tender late in 1978. However progress with Lending Stage 2 underlined the need to input data about all new acquisitions for use in the Lending system and it was also seen to be desirable to create machine readable records for books going to Store and to facilitate future changes of location. These considerations caused a change of direction. With the availability of General Development grant money for the input of cataloguing data for material sent to Store, it was decided to focus attention on the creation of machine readable catalogue records generally with the ultimate aim of replacing the library's card catalogues by microform catalogues. The Library has very limited resources with which to develop new procedures but it is anticipated that advantage can be taken of the considerable amount of work which has been done in this area by other libraries.

A survey of emergency lighting and security procedures was carried out in the three

major free-standing library buildings at St. Lucia. This revealed many deficiencies and the university's Staff Engineer calculated the cost of necessary remedial work at $80,000. Given the very high occupation rate of these buildings, it is gratifying that some money was made available in 1978 but little progress appears likely in 1979.

A survey of fire and safety precautions was also carried out in branch libraries in teaching buildings.

CENTRAL LIBRARY AND CENTRAL LIBRARY SERVICES

A second chiller was installed in 1978 to improve the system which services Central Library, Mayne Hall and, as of 1979, the Law Library. Apart from inevitable interruptions to service associated with the installation work, it was unfortunately evident at the end of the year that there were still problems to be solved before the Central Library would experience a reasonable and reliable standard of air-conditioning.

Some reconstruction has been necessary to accommodate the new computer equipment. There is limited scope for new developments in a static building situation.

Continuing expenditure on carpet replacement is also necessary. Traffic on the stairs has necessitated several replacements in seven years and carpet throughout the building will have to be replaced in a staged plan.

Staffing

Decisions were finally made on several matters arising from the 1976 Review of Library Staff by the Hamilton Committee. The establishment of professional and sub-professional positions has been revised for the first time since 1965 and now reflects more closely the needs of a very large university library. It also corresponds closely to what had become the actual situation since the lack of an adequate establishment had been disguised by virtually automatic promotion of library staff who acquired professional or academic qualifications and by promotion on merit. Creation of the new establishment is balanced by the abolition of promotion on qualification although by the end of the year no decision had been reached on whether an allowance might be paid to qualified staff holding sub-professional or non-professional positions. Transitional arrangements were made for staff who had already commenced study for professional or academic qualifications.

Following these decisions permission was given to fill by internal competition a position of Principal Librarian i/c Biological Sciences Library, remedying one of two obvious

anomalies in the senior staff structure. The other anomaly, the position of Law Librarian, remains to be negotiated at an appropriate time.

Protracted negotiations between the universities and the Health and Research Employees Association in the Federal Industrial Court may have implications for the library, but it is not yet known whether federal union coverage will be granted by the Court.

The growth of unemployment brought a great increase in applications for positions particularly at Library Assistant, Graduate Library Assistant and the lower professional levels. Resignations and retirements affected 2 Librarian positions (6% of the total), 2 sub-professional positions (6½%), 26 Library Assistant positions (28%), 2 Library Attendant positions (7%) and two other staff. The total of 33½ vacancies in permanent positions compares with 39½ in 1977 and 41½ in 1976, indicating the increasing difficulty of finding alternative employment, the reluctance of staff to resign to take trips overseas and a consequent reduction in staff turnover.

Management of the library salaries vote, which is increasingly becoming the responsibility of the library, is especially complex because of the need to provide for Long Service Leave, eligibility for which is now reflecting the growth in library staff ten years ago, and for Maternity Leave, requests for which are comparatively higher in the library than in many parts of the university because of the greater proportion of female staff. In 1978 nine staff took Long Service or Maternity Leave and it is not always possible to meet the library's obligations for service without appointing temporary replacements. In 1979 this problem will be intensified by the requirement to save 0.75% of the Salaries Vote.

The marginal decline in student numbers in 1978 has resulted in a levelling off of the growth of loans in most libraries, and the first decline in many years in the Undergraduate Library. Staff pressures, as a result, were caused less by further growth of established services than by the rapid growth in new service areas. This has been most evident in the areas of audio-visual services, and the on-line computerised information services, with major effects on the work load of the staff in the Library Audio-Visual Services department, the Biological Sciences Library and the Central Library Reference Department. With continued growth in demand on these newer services to be expected in future years, it will be necessary for the Library to make staff re-allocations in 1979 and future years, according to the priorities of the time.

With a decline in the Library's real funding for 1978 and 1979, it might be expected that reallocation of staff from the technical services areas would be possible. In practice, this reallocation has proved very limited, for two reasons – the reclassification programme still to be completed, and the introduction of a major discarding programme in late 1978. The Library can expect a substantial reallocation of effort from the technical services

areas only when reclassification is complete, and if the introduction of automated technical processing systems results in a significant gain in productivity in those areas. The increasing need to release staff to service new areas of library activity makes it essential for the Library to undertake development of automated systems in the technical services areas, even though in the short term this may require more staff rather than less.

Interviewing procedures for new staff were further decentralised during the year and new evaluation procedures were introduced for staff on probation. Lunch-time professional improvement seminars were revived and advantage was taken of the increasing availability of specialised Seminars and Workshops through the Library Association of Australia to assist professional staff to keep aware of new professional developments.

Administration

In February the Library welcomed as Deputy University Librarian Eric Wainwright, formerly Reader Services Librarian at Murdoch University. There was some reallocation of duties among senior administrative staff to permit the new Deputy to apply his experience in research on library administrative programmes.

Reference has already been made to the programme to withdraw less used material. Detailed guidelines were developed and the initial selection of materials for possible storage/discarding in 1979/80 was made in most libraries over the 1978-79 long vacation period. A special team was set up to deal with the large amount of material in Central Library, and approximately 70% of the collection had been scanned before the start of first semester 1979. First impressions suggest that the guidelines adopted are workable. The two major unknown factors at this stage are the ability of the Cataloguing Department to cope with a substantial amount of monographs requiring record changing, on an on-going basis, and the prospects for extra warehouse storage space, once the current area (with a capacity of approximately 100,000 volumes) at Bishop Street Store is exhausted.

A seating suvey was carried out in all libraries in a heavy use period during second semester 1978. This partly confirmed what was already known - the total inadequacy of seating in the Law, Clinical Sciences and Dentistry Libraries. It also revealed a very high occupation of Central Library seating, which had not been fully realised, and portends a possible future problem, as use of Central Library appears to be rising and will continue to do so if as seems probable there is an increased emphasis on postgraduate study and research. On the other hand the survey revealed that the Library could with some confidence reduce the availability of seating in the Undergraduate, Architecture/Music (since removed), Engineering (18 since removed), Fryer and Mathematics Libraries, if more shelving is required to be installed.

A scheme to upgrade the standard of signposting around the system by the end of 1979 was initiated, and the Principal Librarian (Reader Education) charged with responsibility for implementation.

Systems

It has been a mixed year for the Systems Department. Early in the year the introduction of the Computer Centre's new PDP-10 machine caused difficulties in the transfer of all library programmes, but since the settling in period, the Library has received extremely good service. The Undergraduate lending system has had remarkably little 'down-time' in the year as a whole. Changes in the overdue notice production procedure were completed during the year, and after some initial problems, had settled down to regular production by the beginning of 1979. Fitting of surge diverters to the minicomputer and power supplies now offers a measure of protection to the circulation system, and obviates any need to shut down the system during thunderstorm periods. Unfortunately, the back-up disk drive was still not operational by the end of 1978, and potential problems of back-up will remain until that disk is in service. At that time, with the purchase of a range of spares in 1978, the Library should be in a position to recover rapidly from almost all hardware failures, other than a major tape drive failure. Time spent in software maintenance of the system was also much reduced by the end of the year.

The three volume *Union List of Serials* was produced during the year, and a trial run with a local bureau indicated that future editions could be produced in COM-microfiche format at a very low printing cost. The very high cost of computer processing for an update ($1,000 approximately) thwarted plans to produce a COM revised edition and a supplement of new titles and discarded titles only was produced by the old-fashioned manual process.

The Systems Analyst spent much time in preparing the initial specification for Stage 2 of the Lending system, though many detailed decisions still remained to be taken at the end of the year. Orders were placed for $43,000 of computer equipment for Stage 2, which was expected to be supplemented by further equipment purchased in 1979 and 1980, with the intention that the system would be operational in Central Library by mid-1980.

The Systems staff was again supplemented in 1978 by the appointment of a temporary Trainee Systems Programmer. It is clear that if the Library is to undertake any automation developments, other than Lending Stage 2 in the next two to three years, either the Systems staff will have to be increased further or the bulk of the work will have to be contracted out, either to the Computer Centre or a commercial bureau.

Acquisitions

An initial increase in recurrent funds for library purchases was supplemented by a further $50,000 during 1978. New monograph titles purchased rose for the first time in many years, but the decline in buying power was reflected in a further fall in the total number of volumes added to the lowest level since 1973. Purchases of microform and audio-visual materials continued to grow steadily. The overall collection increased by only 48,000 volumes because of the increase in discarded volumes, 9,600 as against only 4,300 in 1977.

There was a more even flow of book orders because supplementary funds came early in the year and a late rush to obtain deliveries and invoices within the financial year was avoided. The change in currency exchange rates combined with continuing inflation in all supplying countries to erode the library's purchasing power. For instance price rises of 12.88% in the cost of British books in Britain became 19% because of the strengthening of the pound sterling against the $A. Exchange losses against the currencies of our major European supplying countries were even greater, 14.62% for German and Dutch and 22.4% for Swiss francs, to all of which must be added book price increases within those countries. Only the strengthening of the $A against the $US by 0.73% offered some very slight relief. An analysis of payments for periodicals during the year showed that 48.8% were charged in pounds sterling as against only 28.7% in $US which indicates one major element in the constant increase in the Library's expenditure on periodicals, which took 59.11% of available recurrent funds in 1978. Present indications are that this proportion may be 71% in 1979.

Recommendations for purchase numbered approximately 27,000, the same as in 1978. Overall expenditure on library materials increased by 12.45%.

Serials

The number of copies of serial titles received rose by 227 during the year to 20,678. Of these 16,584 represent unique titles. More than one third of all copies, 7,207, come by gift or exchange although they are not entirely without cost as the Library paid $11,000 in 1978 for material sent on an exchange basis.

An administrative rearrangement whereby all gift and exchange material, whether in monograph or serial form, is processed through a special sub-section of the Serials Section worked very well. The reduction in exchange arrangements, which has been actively pursued in recent years, was further assisted by the appearance of ATHCOM, which is a microfiche version of the Calendars of most Australian universities and Colleges of Advanced Education.

This has greatly reduced the Library's exchange programme for Calendars, all of which had been paid for from library funds.

The first full year of participation in the Deposit Scheme for Australian Government publications raised few of the problems which had been feared, perhaps a benefit of delaying our participation until the scheme was operating smoothly. The Library now has sufficient confidence in the scheme to cancel previous arrangements under which this material was obtained.

The Serials Section handles the disposal of all unwanted or withdrawn material, the volume of which has grown significantly with the need to clear library shelves for new acquisitions. Twenty long lists of titles for disposal were prepared and circulated to other libraries. In the case of items with a possible high sale value, every effort is made to find a purchaser. Unfortunately most dealers in backruns of journals, which make up most of the saleable items, are overseas and negotiations tend to be protracted.

Apart from these special tasks, Serials section carries out a routine operation of considerable magnitude. In 1978 6,147 claims were sent for items not received, 2,124 letters written and 182 re-orders processed. Much of this work could be automated but few libraries anywhere in the world have achieved this and the initial investment in software would be very high.

Cataloguing

There was a slight increase in the number of titles catalogued compared to 1977. Some of this increase was in Audio-Visual titles which involve more work than printed material.

During the year the Thesis Collection was recatalogued and rationalised in accordance with a revised policy and microforms of periodicals in branch libraries were rearranged into classified sequence to facilitate use where a set is held partly in printed form and partly in microform. It was also decided to integrate map cataloguing and classification into the normal cataloguing procedures with cards in the normal catalogues and classification by Library of Congress. Work began on this rearrangement which will apply in Central and Branch libraries.

The long reclassification from Dewey to Library of Congress is almost complete, the only exceptions being a small amount of material in Central Library and those parts of the Law Library for which classification schedules are not yet available.

Although there has never been any special provision of additional staff to the Cataloguing Department to carry out the reclassification project, there was some expectation, at least on the University Librarian's part, that completion of reclassification and the greater efficiency which this and other procedural changes have brought would permit some re-arrangement of work across the University Library. It was hoped that staff released from cataloguing could be used to bolster up areas where library staff are under greatest pressure or to strengthen systems development or the developing computer based information retrieval service.

There is no doubt that the development of computer-based cataloguing services will make new demands on staff of the Cataloguing Department and there will probably be some transfer of activities from other sections of the library to Cataloguing. The scope for such rearrangements, however, will be greatly limited by the very large additional workload created by the need to alter records in relation to the withdrawal and discard programmes. While it will not cost as much to alter records for an annual withdrawal of 60,000 volumes as it will to catalogue the equivalent 60,000 incoming volumes, the workload may still amount to one third or even one half as much. This new task will divert a great deal of effort which would otherwise have been spent more beneficially in maintaining and improving both the catalogues and service to readers. The annual statistics indicate that deletions have begun to increase.

A small cloud on the horizon is the appearance of the new Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, known to librarians as AACR2. Since these are being adopted as a new international standard, the library has no alternative but to follow suit since both manual and, even more, computer-based cataloguing procedures are only cost effective if the standards are followed. This will not be difficult for new material but if records for this new material are to be integrated into the existing catalogues, substantial and expensive changes will have to be made to the older records.

Library Audio-Visual Services

This is very much a growth area in terms of holdings and use. Growth in holdings is indicated by the statistics at the end of this report. The spread of the use of A/V materials for coursework is shown by the coverage of an additional 98 courses in 1978 to make a total of 283 courses with an A/V component. While many of these courses are Humanities a rapidly increasing number are in the Sciences. Like the rest of the library, Audio-Visual Services is commencing a review and withdrawal programme to eliminate little used material.

Throughout the library there is substantial co-operation between teaching departments not only in the selection but also the financing of purchases. This is particularly

the case with A/V material and for films especially. In some cases departments transfer films which they have bought to the library; in others one or more departments assist the library to finance a purchase; another variation is that a special grant may be received from the Audio Visual Advisory Committee. In 1978 significant additions were made to ethnographic films concerning both Aborigines and Papua-New Guinea.

Use of the collection is obviously growing. While no figures are available for the many reference or telephone enquiries, records were kept of loans of equipment, loans of software for teaching purposes, video replays and film screenings; these rose by nearly 25% to 15,062, with significant growth in video replays and film screenings. The number of films borrowed from outside the university rose from 790 in 1977 to 1,127 in 1978.

During the year A/V equipment was installed in four carrels in the Central Medical Library and a collection of software was set up, partly by transfer from the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine. While the Library's policy has been to install A/V equipment only in the major branch libraries, the disappearance of any prospect of a Physical Sciences and Engineering Library may compel installation of such equipment in the small branch libraries which serve those disciplines.

These few paragraphs do not record several other important activities in the A/V area. The enthusiastic response of the academic community to the A/V Service has become an embarrassment in terms of pressure on library staff. During recent years the total library staff has declined slightly and widespread heavy use has prevented reallocation of staff from other parts of the library. There is a finite limit to what can be expected from library staff, and in Library Audio-Visual Services this point may well have been passed.

Store

This is a new and significant heading in these reports. In the 1977/78 vacation some 12,000 volumes were placed in store, principally from the crowded medical libraries. During 1978 a case was pressed for a larger store area than the initial $100m^2$ allocated in the university warehouse and at the end of the year additional space had been made available. It is anticipated that this will hold between 80,000 and 100,000 volumes depending on the proportions of monographs and periodicals. At most this will last until the end of 1980.

During 1978 items were retrieved from Store for use once each week. Two hundred and fourteen items were retrieved in this way of which only 13 were monographs. In 1979 retrieval will be twice each week and it is anticipated that before long a member of staff will need to be permanently located at the Store and items will be retrieved for readers daily.

READER SERVICES

It has long been a feature of this library that a very high proportion of total staff is engaged in direct service to readers. In 1978 this was 67% of whom more than two thirds were in Undergraduate or other branch libraries.

As already mentioned, in 1978 maps were assimilated into the catalogues and normal reader service activities of Central and Branch libraries. Another innovation during the year was the temporary establishment of a fund from which replacements for lost books could be ordered. While in the past books in demand have been replaced when they were found to be missing, it is many years since a positive effort was made to replace books which had disappeared but were still relevant. Lack of funds for 1979 will mean a reversion to making essential replacements only.

The task of selecting material for discard or store falls to Reference Department staff in Central Library and to Branch Librarians. The initial marking is carried out by junior staff according to the Guidelines. Each library has been given an annual target and collections will be made regularly through the year. No additional staff can be employed to carry out this additional work which in large libraries is quite onerous.

Major developments have occurred in providing computer-based literature services. At present the only terminal is in the Biological Sciences Library but it is used also by Central Reference and other Branch library staff, and the expertise is being spread among a growing circle of librarians.

MEDLINE searches were introduced in 1977, based on a computer at the Department of Health in Canberra. Early in 1978 agreements were signed with Lockheed Information and System Development Corporation, both in California. Communication is by International Subscriber Dialling but from April 1979 it will be by packet switching through OTC's MIDAS system; this will bring a dramatic reduction in communication costs. Even at the high cost, which has been charged back to users, ranging from $3 to $175 with a median of $44, the library carried out 104 overseas searches in 1978. This was in addition to 81 searches on MEDLINE and 69 on AUSINET which the library joined in November as a casual user.

After Medline's Index Medicus (at 81 searches) the most popular data bases are

Social Sciences Citation Index	33 searches
ERIC (Education)	27 "
COMPENDEX (Engineering)	21 "
Psychological Abstracts	19 "
Chemical Abstracts	12 "

Searches frequently cover more than one data base, and some 40 different bases were consulted at some time during the year.

These services have become available at a time when the Library has no additional funds from which to pay for staff, equipment, telecommunication charges or service charges. They can only be offered on a cost-recovery basis and charges have been set with this in mind. The service is also offered to users from outside the university, – in the case of MEDLINE an obligation to do this is part of the agreement, – and in 1978 searches for outside users accounted for 40% of MEDLINE searches and 30% of overseas searches. The charges include a factor for staff time because the preliminary interview and planning for a search are more time-consuming than normal reference operations; if the traffic builds, it is anticipated that the cost recovery may provide supplementary staff to meet the demand.

In 1979 in addition to lower charges for overseas searches through Midas, it is anticipated that access will be available to the New York Times data base. This opens up exciting prospects for information about current affairs of a kind which has not previously been available in Australia, situated so far from the sources of international news. It is symptomatic of both the library's economic difficulties and of the enthusiasm of its staff that the initial training will be gained by one of the reference librarians while she is overseas on Long Service Leave.

Central Reference Department

The introduction of more detailed statistical records drew attention to two important management considerations:

(1) For most of the year demand at the reference desk is so great that there is no time to catch up with interlibrary loan work or bibliographical work between enquiries;

(2) It is much more difficult to generalise about demand, and therefore to roster staff appropriately, than had formerly been believed.

To illustrate this, on 97 days in 1978 readers came to the desk or phoned the Reference Department at a rate greater than once every four minutes over the long period for which service is offered – 13½ hours, Monday to Thursday and 9½ on Friday. On March 7 there were 353 enquiries, one every 2.3 minutes. On April 12 one lone and harassed librarian attempted to deal with 43 enquiries between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Enquiries differ greatly in difficulty from a request to look up a catalogue card or for directions on how to get to

a branch library to requests to describe the primary sources available for a postgraduate thesis, or, by a blind student, to look up call numbers for a whole essay reading list.

During the academic year evenings and week-ends are often too busy for the only staff member who can be spared to meet all requests efficiently. A considerable proportion of users at those times are thought to be from outside the university and, while the best possible service is given to all comers, this imposes an extra strain. In 1979 some sample surveys are being conducted to discover the quantity of outside use. There is no intention to exclude outsiders, unless the staffing or accommodation problems become desperate, but it could be necessary to limit the time spent with them. What is objectionable is the occasional evidence that some teachers in other institutions are setting assignments in the knowledge that the only relevant information resource is the university library.

Success in obtaining inter-library loans rose from 89% in 1977 to 97% in 1978. This appears to be due to improved procedures for following up or placing unfulfilled requests elsewhere. The library also joined the voucher scheme for photocopy payments, which considerably reduces clerical procedures and permits recovery of small amounts which were previously not charged. In the present financial climate it is appropriate that some of the cost of being the largest supplier of inter-library loans in the state should be recovered. Vouchers apply only to photocopies sent outside Brisbane; requests from metropolitan libraries are met directly by branch libraries, and the administrative difficulties in accounting, even with vouchers, for all these libraries appear prohibitive.

The Reference Librarian continued to be responsible for negotiations throughout the university on the purchase of backruns and formed collections from Equipment Funds. This special provision of funds has greatly strengthened the library in resources for research. Particular attention was given to Australian and Papua New Guinean material including microfilms of *Australian Worker,* 1895-1917, *Papuan Courier,* 1917-42, *Rabaul Times,* 1925-40 and plans to microfilm the pre-1920 run of the *Gympie Times.* Several important collections of literary papers were acquired for the Fryer Library; the writers included Bruce Beaver, Thelma Forshaw, David Malouf, Frank Moorhouse, Judith Rodriguez and Tom Shapcott.

Professional staff from the Reference Department are responsible for final store or discard decisions concerning material in Central Library. This is a very large ongoing task which will mainly be carried out during academic vacations so as not to reduce service to readers at other times. The Department is also now responsible for the small general map collection; funds are not available to do more than maintain this in a modest manner, nor is space available for a more ambitious approach.

Reader Education

The opportunity for innovation in the 1978 Orientation Programme was limited by the fact that the Reader Education Librarian, Wendy Cooper, was very capably carrying out some of the Deputy Librarian's duties until Mr Wainwright arrived in February. Nevertheless a full programme of Orientation tours and addresses to students was carried out in co-operation with other library staff. More advanced reader education was given to later year students, often in tutorial groups. This work is especially important because it reduces the dependence of these students on Reference staff whose time is already more than fully committed to answering enquiries.

The pamphlets and library guides from previous years were reprinted, and new ones created for A/V Services, Computer-based Information Retrieval Services, and Handicapped Students. A new departure was the production of an A/V guide to the Thatcher Library for External Students which is to be followed in 1979 by a tape/booklet guide.

For the first time also an Academic Staff Library Guide was produced. This was badly needed; the Library is a complex institution and bewildering in many respects to new and some present academic staff.

Fryer Library and Special Collections, and Conservation Unit

The situation in the Fryer Library is paradoxical. In recent years it has acquired a national reputation as a research collection. This has brought a much higher workload both from this university and from scholars who come specially to use Fryer Library resources. No part of the library is more obviously servicing and promoting research in the university, a feature which is being increasingly emphasised as the activity which distinguishes a university from other educational institutions. From the Library's Special Equipment Grant, from the research funds of interested academic departments and from private gifts, the Fryer Library is in a better position than ever before to seek out and acquire research material. The paradox is that this is occurring at a time when additional staff cannot be appointed and when the library must hesitate over every acquisition not just because of price or relevance but because there may not be space to house it in a satisfactory storage environment. Increased usage of the Fryer Library from 4,700 items requested in 1977 to 7,955 in 1978, while representing success in achieving the aims for which the library exists also further reduces the time which a limited number of staff can devote to sorting and recording incoming material.

The short-term solution to the storage problem is to store some material in space to be taken from seating in the Undergraduate Library. This will be highly inconvenient and

expensive since material will have to be brought from the Dughig building for use, with inevitable delays. The effects of pressures on staff are reflected in delays in organising material, and the postponement of work which would improve service.

Some progress was made with manuscript cataloguing and entries for several collections were sent to the national *Guide to collections of manuscripts relating to Australia.* A bibliography of Xavier Herbert was produced and published in Australian Literary Studies, as was the regular *Annual bibliography of studies in Australian Literature.*

Eleven displays were mounted during the year including one on MACOS and SEMP school materials which was heavily patronised, presumably because of the political controversy at the time.

The frequency of breakdowns in airconditioning are of particular concern in relation to Fryer Library and Special Collections material. There is also some evidence that even when operating, the air-conditioning system fails to meet the desired criteria for preservation of manuscripts and printed material. This matter will be pursued in 1979.

Central Library Lending Services

Total loans rose in 1978 by 4% to 226,839. Contrary to the pattern of recent years, undergraduate borrowing increased as a proportion of the total, from 56.4% to 57.2%. Of 2,654 search cards submitted by readers who could not find items, 88.5% were located. Of 17,930 recall notices sent, 9,755 were to staff members.

Efforts continued to replace useful books which are missing. $3,204 was spent on such purchases. The Department was also heavily involved in the new withdrawal procedures, supplying a minimum of two and a maximum of eight staff for most of the Long Vacation to mark older and little used material for consideration by professional staff.

Peak loading in March, September and October continues to be troublesome. When the computer-based lending system is introduced to Central Library pressures on Library Assistants should ease, but there is no machine solution to the back-up of material requiring re-shelving which occurs at peak periods.

BRANCH LIBRARIES

General

Reference has already been made to the extension and refurbishing of the Law Library. With no prospect of any new buildings, attention is being given to improvement of other existing branch library facilities, many of which could be much improved by replacing old furniture, repainting, revising the layout and, though this is seldom possible, airconditioning or at least improvement of ventilation.

With very limited Minor Works Funds only gradual improvements can be made, although sometimes individual teaching departments give welcome assistance. In 1978 the staff areas in the Undergraduate Library were reorganised, having previously been so cramped as to interfere with efficient work. With assistance from the Medical Faculty, the Central Medical Library was repainted, carpet was laid and more appropriate furniture was installed. The Geology Department released space for a large addition to the Geology Library which will now be adequate for many years. Requests for large grants from the General Development Grant to air-condition several branch libraries were unsuccessful.

Regrettably nothing can be done, in the absence of capital funds, to relieve the two most cramped and overcrowded libraries, Clinical Sciences and Princess Alexandra Hospital libraries. Whereas most libraries now lack space to shelve incoming books, these two libraries also have completely inadequate facilities for readers and staff. It is disgraceful that Medicine, a discipline in which there has been a revolution in the use of library facilities, should continue to be handicapped by totally inadequate premises for medical libraries.

Undergraduate Library

Loans from the Undergraduate Library appear to have stabilised at a very high level, which can only be supported because of the on-line lending system. Dependence on computer operations carries a penalty when the machine goes down, which happens sufficiently often to cause concern. When the breakdown extends past one or two days, manual routines must be adopted and when the computer comes up again the two systems run parallel until all manual loans have been returned thus reducing the library's capacity to offer a high level of service. The plans for Lending Stage 2 make provision for local stations to continue to operate if the central minicomputer goes temporarily out of service.

The peak loading problem continues with reshelving. There are not sufficient staff at times of heavy use to reshelve books within a reasonable time so as they can be available

to other readers. Much thought has been given to stratagems to rearrange rosters to provide temporary assistance at such times, but with fixed funding the scope for such initiatives is limited.

The Undergraduate Library collection has always been thought of as one which should reach a steady state in that additions would be balanced by discards as courses changed. This would have been the case even without a general storage problem. After six years of operation, the collection has had time to consolidate and there has now been a thorough review which included the discard of 4,397 monographs, or just over 5% of the collection. There are particular difficulties in making decisions about multiple copies of standard works which experience little current use but which could well again become relevant through a course change or when a different member of teaching staff takes over an existing course.

Architecture/Music Library

The nature of library materials used both for the Faculty of Architecture and the Faculty of Music gives the work of this library some unusual aspects. For instance the initial cataloguing of music scores is done by the Music Librarian who also catalogues recordings. In 1978 $10,000 became available from the General Development Fund for purchase of recordings but there was no money for additional staff. A co-operative effort between Faculty staff and library staff both in the branch library and at Central Library saw more than 1,000 new recordings added to the collection, from which some older material was correspondingly withdrawn. While the collection remains smaller and more worn than could be desired, there has certainly been a tremendous improvement.

In an attempt to cope with the essential back-up work, reader service routines have been simplified, primarily by placing in open access material formerly kept behind the counter for security reasons. So far losses have not been significant but the change from loans to self-service browsing accounts for all but 10% of an apparent drop in loans.

The music collection has been strengthened by the purchase from Special Equipment Funds of several sets of collected works and also of primary source material in microform. There is close liaison with the Conservatorium and the State Library to achieve as much rationalisation as possible.

Biological Sciences Library

Now in its third year of operation, activity at this library continues to grow. It is interesting that the growth is not only in normal loans, which rose by 5%, but that the number of items obtained for users by inter-library loan increased by 25%. It is thought that at least part of this increase is a result of computer-based information retrieval, the terminal for which is located in this library although it is used for all disciplines. The seating survey showed consistent high use and there are times when it is difficult to maintain service with the present complement of library staff.

Law Library

Dramatic improvement of the Law Library facilities occurred after the period covered by this report. That the previous complaints of inadequate accommodation were well-founded was confirmed by the seating survey which demonstrated the heaviest consistent use among all the libraries and complete inadequacy at peak periods. This inadequacy was signalled by the "booking effect" phenomenon, well known to university librarians, under which when seats are in short supply, readers attempt to reserve them by placing papers or books on them in order to assert possession.

Physical Sciences and Engineering Libraries

In these libraries demand has not changed very much and only in the Engineering Library could additional staff be used to advantage. It is possible that some staff savings could be made if library resources could be brought together and service rationalised, but this is out of the question.

Bookworm, which had been treated in Mathematics Library the previous year, was in 1978 discovered in Geology Library. Once again the total stock had to be taken away for fumigation, a procedure which created a good deal of extra work over a period of about two months during the Long Vacation.

Security is a problem in small branch libraries. In the Mathematics Library it was noticed that seven monographs on a particular topic disappeared from the library shelves almost simultaneously with the issuing of an External Studies reading list which mentioned these titles. Also during the year three crates of books were discovered one morning on the steps of the Bindery. They contained 118 books belonging to the University Library which had disappeared over the previous 6½ years. Eighty four of the returned books belonged to the Mathematics Library.

Changes in enrolment patterns are affecting the Engineering Library, particularly the dramatic increase in students in Computer Science. The Engineering Library is also called upon by many practising engineers and commercial organisations as there are few comparable collections available to them in Queensland. Specialised service to professional groups has traditionally been part of the university's contribution to the community, but it becomes particularly onerous when the university is being forced to economise. The Library's first priority must always be to the teaching and research of this university's staff and students.

Lack of staff time has restricted the pace of entry into computer based retrieval activities. Many of the data bases now available through the terminal in Biological Sciences Library are relevant to the physical sciences and engineering, but time has not been available for staff training or for marketing this new service. The interviews which precede searches can be quite lengthy and it may not be possible to do justice to these as well as keeping normal routines running and attending to the newly introduced programme for withdrawing older material.

Physics Library carried out in 1978 the first complete shelf check of monographs since 1974. This revealed that 238 monographs were apparently missing, or 4% of the total.

Physics Library opens on one night each week during teaching and examination periods. Experimentation with different evenings has brought little response from university users, and the Librarian reports that "the majority of the evening patrons in the Physics Library are non-university people; high school students, the general public, and academics from other institutions."

Thatcher Memorial Library for External Students

While the future of external studies continued to be under apparently interminable discussion in academic circles, there was plenty of activity in the Thatcher Library. This was not only because external enrolments increased by 17% to 3,428 and loans by 9% to 39,719. It was also due to the coincidence of the appointment by the Union of an External Students Liaison Officer and the activity of the new Thatcher Librarian who was fortunate to have an opportunity to visit several external studies centres. Several proposals for policy changes have followed from these circumstances.

At the end of the year proposals were being formulated for a complete reorganisation of the Ringrose Libraries in country centres. These have been affected by changes in the external student population, reducing need in some localities, creating it in others. Also in recent years, several Colleges of Advanced Education have started to offer courses by external

study. In several places this has led to *ad hoc* co-operation on the provision of library services. The State and Federal Governments are giving attention to TAFE institutions, including their libraries and there may also be scope for co-operation between the university and some TAFE institutions in providing library facilities in country areas. On the debit side some public libraries which presently house Ringrose collections are of decreasing use to students because financial economies are leading them to close at the weekends and in the evenings. Population changes have also brought a decline in external enrolments in some localities. The stage is thus set for a thorough review of library arrangements in country areas.

Decisions were made on some less extensive changes of policy. It was decided to permit metropolitan external students to borrow direct from Thatcher Library instead of competing in other libraries with internal students. Books for external courses are not always available in these other libraries. It was also decided as a trial and for First Semester 1979 only, to open Thatcher Library on Saturday afternoons though without any additional Thatcher Library staff. It is known that external students are prepared to travel quite long distances from outside Brisbane to use the library personally at weekends.

The indeterminate future of external studies had made library staff hesitant in the past to discard material from Thatcher even though in theory it should be a steady state library like Undergraduate Library. The introduction of a university-wide withdrawal policy has now forced the issue and a regular withdrawal schedule has been instituted.

The first venture into external postgraduate work will occur in 1979 with the introduction of the M.Lit.St. in English. Meeting the greater library requirements of external postgraduate study poses difficult problems and it is essential that any further movements in this direction take account of the additional library costs involved.

Medical Libraries

In spite of their poor housing, very heavy use is made of these libraries. In addition to serving university staff and students and medical staff at the teaching hospitals, a considerable amount of assistance is given to the medical profession generally and the Medical Librarian, Dr Boscott is frequently called upon to find information urgently for hospitals or practitioners outside Brisbane. In this way are performed some of the functions which were envisaged in the halcyon days when tentative planning was done to base on a new library building a central medical library service for Queensland generally. Lack of finance for books, staff or buildings have apparently removed any hope that such plans might mature, and a more limited library service of respectable quality is maintained only with great difficulty.

A feature of the library's medical resources which has not been mentioned in recent

reports is the Otto Hirschfeld Memorial Library of medical history. This is financed by the proceeds of invested capital and although the revenue is not large, its regularity and careful application to a limited field are gradually building a useful research collection. An innovation in 1978 was the preparation of videotape interviews with leading members of the medical profession whose careers span a long period of Queensland medical history.

The medical libraries were the first to experience the mixed blessing of having books transferred to Store. This eased shelving problems, but it also occasionally inconvenienced readers and will do so increasingly as a greater proportion of total stock is housed remote from the library and can only be retrieved on notice. An effort was made to relieve pressure on the staff of the Clinical Sciences Library by ceasing to obtain books for readers from the Central Medical Library from which they could borrow personally at the cost of a short walk. Since there is neither money for extra staff or room in which to house them, relief can be found only by reducing service as painlessly as possible.

CONCLUSION

There can be no doubt that the University Library makes a large and essential contribution to the work of the university. It also carries a major load in supplementing the resources of other Queensland libraries and, without setting out to do so, has become extensively used by outside users, particularly staff and students of other institutions, high school students, professional people and members of the public with special needs.

It must be questioned how long a decline in service can be postponed. The prospect of having to choose between a massive cancellation of journal subscriptions or almost complete cessation of book purchases has already been outlined. A static or slightly declining staff is not only trying to service growing and increasingly sophisticated demand but also to absorb the large quantity of additional work engendered by the lack of capital funds to expand accommodation for books. In five years' time more than 20% of the library's total stock may be in remote storage. Glib talk about rationalisation of resources and co-operation between libraries is somewhat gratuitous when there is a long tradition of inter-library co-operation in spite of the captivity of individual libraries to the academic decisions of their controlling institutions. The University of Queensland Library has willingly accepted its obligations as the largest library in the state to assist other libraries from its resources of materials and experienced staff. To make this statement is not to claim special virtue. University libraries in other states have accepted similar responsibilities.

It is unreasonable that the university should be expected to continue to finance its library to perform this role without any recognition in the form of special financial

assistance. It is time that a case was forcefully made to the Universities Council and to the Tertiary Education Commission for financial recognition of the special library responsibilities of key educational institutions. At the same time efforts should be made to reveal the foolishness of the opinion which appears to be held in those quarters that because student numbers have stabilised, the growth in knowledge and the need for extension to library buildings to house it can be ignored. In the present state of technology, the steady state library is only possible at the cost of severe damage to research which is meant to be the distinguishing characteristic of a university.

Finally I must record my thanks to the many people in the university who have listened sympathetically and often responsively to the many submissions pleading the library's special needs. In addition the university community owes more than it knows to the dedication to library service of library staff at all levels. My own particular debt to my colleagues in the library is beyond estimation.

F.D.O. Fielding,
University Librarian.

April 1979

Donations: 1978

Each year it is a cause for regret that this annual report is not of a scale which can systematically acknowledge the many donations that the library receives. However, it is gratifying that it is a problem in that the existence of such a range of individuals and organizations as benefactors in terms of gifts of money, books, periodicals, manuscripts, and personal help shows the existence of widespread goodwill towards the Library.

During the year the proceeds of the estate of the late Paul Tripcony were made available to the Library. Mr Tripcony had been particularly enthusiastic about the work of the Fryer Library. The Alumni Association donated a substantial amount to buy manuscripts from Frank Moorhouse, and through the association and the Friends of the Fryer Library we also received donations of money, books, and much other help. The Fryer Library also received the papers of the late C.W. Russell of Jimbour from Mrs Russell.

The list below represents only a small sample of other donors in 1978, all of whom have our sincere thanks.

Canada Council – Books representative of Canadian life and culture.
Conference of Labor Economists – Cassette tapes of conference proceedings.
Mr B. Dickson – Student publications.
Embassy of the German Democratic Republic – Literary works and books on the German language.
Embassy of Pakistan – Books on Pakistan, Islam, and Mohammad Iqbal.
Dr R. Fisher – Funds and books for studies of Tudor and Stuart England.
Mrs R. Halliwell – Books on social and community work.
Professor D. Hill – Funds for books and periodicals on geology.
Japan Foundation – Books on Japanese life and culture.
Dr A.S. Jones – Books on mathematics.
Mr G. Langevad – Microfilms of Queensland historical material.
Mrs E. Ludgate – *Album of Sydney views* (1886).
Maryborough and District University Society – Books for the Maryborough centre's library.
Maryborough School of Arts – Nineteenth century historical works.
M.I.M. Holdings Ltd – Funds for books on mining.
Queensland Co-ordinator-General's Department – Several major planning reports.
Mr S. Rothnie – *Journal of general philosophy of science*
Mrs J.A. Schuurman – Books on botany and horticulture
Rev. T. Rees Thomas – Books and periodicals on social work and related topics.
Mr A. Tierney – *A Brian James miscellany*
Dr H. Tiffin – West Indian literary works.

United Church in the New Guinea Island Region – Creative literature from Papua New Guinea.
University of Queensland Press – Publications of the press.
University of Queensland Tertiary Education Institute – *Labyrinth* and other publications and reports.
Mr K.D. Walters – Funds for Thatcher Library.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY STATISTICS 1976-78

	1978	1977	1976
1. Library Staff			
Graduate Professional Staff	52¼	49¾	47¼
Non-Graduates with professional qualifications	14¾	14¾	15
Graduates without professional qualifications	17½	18	19
Library Assistants	92½	93¾	95½
Technical Assistants	1	1	0
Typing and Clerical	19½	19½	20½
Library Attendants	29	29	30
Others Casual equivalent	4	4	3¾
TOTAL	230½*	229¾	231

* 224¼ represent permanent established positions

Distribution of Staff

Administration (including Systems)	9¼	8¾	8¾
Technical Services	67	66¾	66
Reader Services (Central Library)	51½	51	48
Reader Services (Branch Libraries)	102¾	103¼	108¼

2. Services			
Lending outside building: Central Library	230,435	220,624	220,166
ϕ Lending outside building: Branch Libraries	602,888	607,240	578,866
Items lent to libraries outside University	18,173	16,759	18,620
* Items borrowed from libraries outside QU	8,418	7,866	7,904
Hours of opening per week (Central Library) during academic year	83½	83½	93½

ϕ Includes all Reserve Collection lending whether extra-mural or not. (Total of 107,028 Reserve Collection loans in 1976, 106,822 in 1977 and 111,565 in 1978).

* Includes 1127 films borrowed in 1978, 790 films in 1977 and 920 films in 1976.

	1978	1977	1976
3. Acquisitions			
Books:$^{\phi}$			
New titles by purchase	17,195	16,509	17,779
New titles by gift	3,269	3,701	4,450
Total volumes added	37,647	42,837	50,361
Total volumes deleted	6,308	1,414	1,041
Periodicals:			
Total number of titles	20,768	20,441	20,547
Number of non-duplicate titles received	16,584	16,386	16,556
Number of new titles received	820	645	668
Number of titles discontinued	493	751	1,019
Total bound volumes added	20,184	21,990	23,550
Total bound volumes deleted	3,355	2,925	5,707
Total bound volumes in Library	1,109,792	1,061,624	1,001,136
Manuscript collections added	72	n.a.	n.a.
Microforms:			
Monograph titles added	409	364	523
Periodical titles added	17	8	16
Total titles held	4,769*	4,348	3,976
*Represented by 36,797 reels 120,836 fiche/cards			
Audio Visual Materials:			
New titles added	1,128	651	698
Holdings —			
Audio records	6,939	5,595	4,515
Audio tapes	12,558	9,340	4,734
Video tapes	751	592	179
Slide sets	476	433	261
16 mm films	232	183	135
8 mm films	156	150	131
Film Strips	454	334	129

ϕ Includes music scores

4. **Expenditure**	1978	1977	1976
Books from Library Vote	393,608	366,754	297,469
Serials from Library Vote	545,199	503,519	442,987
A/V Materials from Library Vote	11,913	11,731	9,143
Books and serials from Special Equipment Grant	152,161	102,606	65,611
Books and serials from Hospital Board and THRG Funds	45,380	34,345	28,243
Books and serials from other funds	173,467	156,446	118,014
Total expenditure on library materials	$1,321,728	$1,175,401	$961,467
Binding from Library Vote	174,866	164,711	161,519
Binding from Hospital Board Funds	3,047	2,601	2,678
Maintenance and Equipment from Library Vote	273,473	194,161	163,281
Maintenance and Equipment from Hospital Board Funds	623	821	413
Total running costs except salaries	$452,009	$362,294	$327,891
Salaries and salary costs from Library Vote	2,813,295	2,584,305	2,364,099
Salaries and salary costs from Hospital Boards	49,523	55,367	n.a.
Total Salary costs	$2,862,818	$2,639,672	$2,364,099
Total Library Expenditure	$4,636,555	$4,174,934	$3,653,547
Expenditure from Library Vote as % of recurrent university expenditure	7.39%	* 7.05%	* 6.96%
Total Library Expenditure as a % of total university expenditure	6.36%	* 6.28%	* 6.19%

* Adjusted figures

STATISTICS OF INDIVIDUAL LIBRARIES

	Approximate size in bound volumes		Periodicals currently received		Loans within University		Reserve Collection Loans		Loans to Libraries outside University	
	1978	(1977)	1978	(1977)	1978	(1977)	1978	(1977)	1978	(1977)
Central Library	535,211	521,636	9,659	9, 460	230,435	220,624	nil	nil	9,790[1]	10,004
Branch Libraries										
Undergraduate	87,105	84,487	205	211	261,159	277,896	11,575	8,614	nil	nil
Armus	28,779	26,400	514	529	16,946	17,206	10,788	15,180	161	155
Biological Sciences	91,023	86,116	2,940	2,954	56,422	55,922	21,854	19,728	3,162	2,517
Central Medical	24,957	23,710	965	963	12,065	12,039	786	580	1,617	1,317
Chemistry	17,732	16,551	306	306	6,116	6,560	2,989	5,125	143	172
Clinical Sciences	11,599	10,706	475	455	23,951	21,207	9,314	8,639	1,555	944
Dentistry	8,304	7,989	230	231	6,741	6,632	1,272	1,065	128	45
Engineering (incl. Elect. Engineering)	46,530	46,057	1,826	1,773	27,029	27,443	8,498	8,010	802	778
Geology	23,288	22,235	1,084	1,081	4,995	4,588	2,117	1,763	257	326
Law	42,846	40,696	524	508	4,562	3,766	31,255	29,430	84	96
Mater	5,478	4,944	158	147	6,457	7,200	2,230	2,135	197	134
Mathematics	18,185	17,107	356	343	8,678	8,769	3,050	2,445	92	44
Physics	16,621	15,626	519	521	4,831	5,773	5,072	3,627	110	149
P.A.H.	6,456	5,976	244	214	11,652	8,995	765	481	75	78
Thatcher	116,784[2]	114,520	336[2]	332	39,719	36,422	nil	nil	nil	nil

1. Includes 1,904 loans supplied by branches via Central Library.

2. Includes 17,716 volumes and 46 periodicals currently received in Ringrose Collections.