

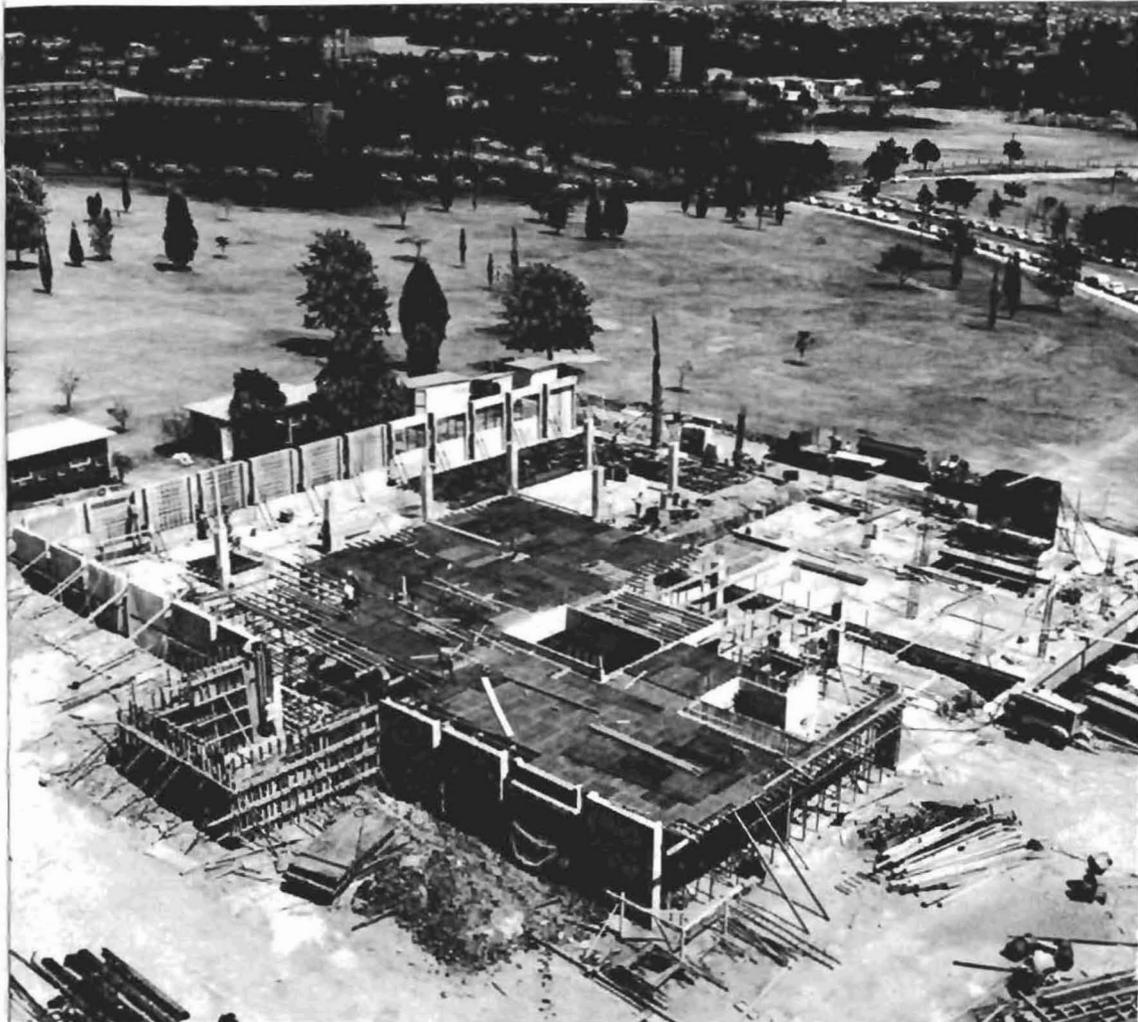


UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARY
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIAN FOR 1971

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UNIVERSITY OF
QUEENSLAND
LIBRARY



James Forsyth Librarian

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

Deputy University Librarian

S.B. Page, B.A.Syd., A.L.A., A.L.A.A., A.M.I.R.T.
(From March 1966)

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 Systems and Data Processing

Mrs. J.C. Owen, B.A.Lond., M.L.S.Pitt., M.A., Ph.D., A.L.A.A.
(On leave)

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)

FRONT COVER: Beginning a new era for central library services.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN FOR 1971

Anyone wishing to demonstrate that the excitement on the university campus in 1971 severely hindered study and research would receive little support from the indicators of library use. Libraries were closed on one evening because of staffing difficulties, but this was only a minor interruption to the exhausting pattern of recent years which has continued in the form of rising demand for service and frustration at the restrictions imposed by limitations of finance and physical facilities.

Inadequate physical facilities can be remedied, and construction of one building and planning of others is well in hand. Unfortunately relief in some areas will take years, and this prospect of future relief is of little consolation to present students and teaching staff. In some cases physical deficiencies prevent the introduction of procedural changes which would improve service.

A greater worry, however, is the evidence that the University is unable to finance the purchase of books and journals even at the levels achieved in recent years. This experience is not limited to our own university, and it certainly does not represent any lack of sympathy with or understanding of the library's problems by the university in general; the situation is quite the contrary. It suggests, however that it may be necessary for a greater proportion of the university's resources to be devoted to the library even though this may mean limiting the development of new teaching areas. In the present financial climate with perhaps temporary relief from the mounting pressure of student numbers and with the opening of a second university in Brisbane now in sight a period of consolidation could be timely to ensure that what we now undertake to do is done properly.

BUILDINGS

Central facilities

The most obvious happening has been the commencement of construction of the Central Library; it is anticipated that this will be occupied in December 1972. There have been no crises and the close harmony between the project architect, Mr. Robin Gibson, and library staff has continued. The new building will represent a magnificent addition to library facilities. Nevertheless it must be

repeated, as stated in my last Report, that with the continued growth of library stock, even at the present restricted rate, an additional stage will be essential in 1976-1978 if one is not funded in 1973-75.

Plans and the model of the new building have been on display in the Main Library foyer for most of the year.

Planning for the conversion of the present Main Library as an Undergraduate Library is under way. There is a problem of timing in that as much of the building as possible must be in use during the academic year and reconstruction work must be concentrated in the Long Vacation. The major effort will be in Long Vacation 1972-73 and work cannot start before January 1973 when funds should become available.

It must be stated candidly that the building is not well suited to Undergraduate Library use, though it is perhaps more suited to this than to any alternative Library use. Alterations will be expensive and it is to be feared that the University was too cautious in its submission for funds for this purpose. For instance no provision for additional air-conditioning plant was included and the consequence of increasing reader places from 900 to 1500 in these circumstances can only be anticipated with some trepidation. For planning purposes the building is proving as intractable as past experience has always shown it to be. It has proved difficult to find a suitable location for the Thatcher Library, or a secure place in which all of the Undergraduate bookstock may be collected for controlled access purposes. If demand on the Undergraduate Library develops as anticipated it may eventually prove sensible to relocate the Thatcher Library in a future extension of the Central Library.

Branch Library Buildings

I have stressed many times in these reports the difficulties which are inevitable when branch libraries have been placed in teaching buildings in which they have no scope for independent expansion. Even if the initial space is reasonably adequate, which it often is not, design as a library is essential if the needs of users are to be met satisfactorily. In this regard the comments of the Librarian of the Clinical Sciences Library are relevant: "The Clinical Sciences Library is hot, noisy and dirty. The dirt problem has always been acute, as this is in an industrial area, and also we are directly opposite the hospital laundry chimney stack... During summer mornings the library is often so hot that it is impossible for users to stay here.... all our windows are open for long periods, and the dust is hard to combat". In the case of buildings off the campus such as

Clinical Sciences, in which improvements must be negotiated by the Faculty through the Public Works Department the obstacles to improvement are almost insuperable. Elsewhere it is possible to ameliorate the situation. Each Long Vacation brings its crop of makeshift minor works, which are comparatively expensive for the marginal gains involved. Eventually ingenuity is exhausted and service gradually declines.

The only viable solution is the construction of properly designed library buildings with provision for expansion, and this is beginning to come about. Unfortunately several buildings are required, and it will be a number of years before some situations can be relieved.

St. Lucia Branch Libraries

It is anticipated that a new Biological Sciences Library building will be constructed in 1973-75; the consequences of a failure to build this library would be almost immediate disaster. The final section of the temporary mezzanine is to be constructed in the present Biological Sciences Library in 1972, and this is the last possible addition to this heavily used and badly overcrowded library. A small mezzanine has been extended in the Veterinary Science Library but problems of book storage remain acute. In the Bancroft Library a foyer outside the library has been carpeted and the ceiling has been treated with acoustic tiles. The addition is 18 seats, but the outlook for this library is not good, particularly as it must accommodate library facilities for Microbiology when that Department moves to St. Lucia in 1972. These three libraries would be included in the proposed new Biological Sciences library building.

A proposal for a joint Architecture/Music Library in the new Architecture-Planning-Music Building will offer an opportunity to bring two existing libraries together in properly designed premises. While space in the present Architecture Library is tolerable, the situation in Music is deplorable in spite of the annexation of a neighbouring room early in 1971 by the courtesy of, and at the expense of, the Department of Music.

Space for books is tight in the Law Library. It is anticipated that the situation will improve markedly when Thatcher moves from the adjoining space early in 1973. The Law Library may then be adequate until a new Law Building is built, provided that this is not delayed beyond 1976-78.

In my last report I indicated that I favoured a combined library for Engineering, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Geology. No formal proposal has been made and no negotiations have been officially conducted with the

Departments concerned in several of which there is at present a number of staff opposed to this proposition. Although no building proposals are likely to be considered before the 1979-81 triennium a case will be documented during 1972 for discussion with the Departments mentioned. In the meantime there are difficulties in some of the constituent libraries.

Geology Library was last extended in 1968/69 and there are signs of constriction once again. Relief can only be found at the expense of important teaching facilities.

Minor alterations were made in the Physics Library early in 1970 but the pinch is being felt once more. It is difficult to see where expansion of this library can take place since it is so placed that the adjoining areas are a staircase and a lift shaft.

The Mathematics Library has also reached the stage where only the annexation of neighbouring rooms can prevent the reduction of seats to accommodate stock. At present it is not even possible to provide a desk and chair for both members of library staff.

The Engineering Library was originally the best example of a branch library with reasonable capacity for some years growth. Part of the space was "temporarily" made available for storage for the Darnell Collection in 1968 and it is proving difficult to dislodge this no longer welcome guest. If this can be done there will be sufficient space for a few more years.

The Chemistry Library occupied badly needed new quarters in 1971, and the change could not help being a vast improvement. The new library is possibly the most pleasant of all the branch libraries. The Chemistry Department made the maximum allocation possible from a very tight capital budget and the consequences would have been even better had it not proved impossible to replace some rather unsightly old furniture. One would expect that the new space will be reasonable for a few years, but one can already anticipate difficulties as the stock grows.

The Education Methods Library also has a space problem. This rather specialised library must depend for relief on future building developments for the Department of Education and will possibly be converted into a Curriculum Laboratory.

Medical Branch Libraries

The same story holds for these libraries as for those at St. Lucia. Some of the problems at Clinical Sciences have already been mentioned, but there is also a continuing space problem. The University's submission for 1973-75 includes a proposal to relocate this library in more ample quarters.

Minor alterations have been carried out at Princess Alexandra Hospital Library. These have brought a small increase in space, the replacement of obsolete shelving and a carpet. Preliminary planning has been done for a future extension. Mater Hospital Library was opened in 1970, and figures later in this report indicate that it has met a need. The Management Committee is already discussing expansion. Fortunately the building was planned with this eventuality in mind.

Some slight relief will come to the Central Medical Library with the removal of Microbiology to St. Lucia. This relief will be of a short-term nature only, and storage space for older material is being actively sought since this library is the back-up centre for the other medical libraries. The possibility of a future amalgamation with Clinical Sciences or alternatively an extension in the existing location remains unresolved.

The Faculty of Dentistry are also anxious to improve their library facilities. The present library is unsatisfactory in size, lay-out and furnishing. All possible additions in the present area are not particularly suitable as well as being expensive. This problem is being explored further.

ORGANISATION

Staff

The library has been fortunate in retaining most of its senior staff unchanged. The only resignation from an established position was that of Mr. Don Williams, Senior Librarian i/c. Lending Services, Main Library, who was appointed to a more senior position at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. Since the functions of this position would be rearranged when the new Central complex comes into operation in 1973, approval was obtained to convert the vacancy to one of Principal Librarian i/c. Undergraduate Library. After international advertisement Mrs. J. Guyatt, Senior Librarian i/c. Thatcher Library was appointed to the vacancy, which carries responsibility for Main Library Lending Services in 1972. The vacancy in Thatcher was filled by the transfer of Miss W. Cooper from the Cataloguing Department.

In all 6 (of 36) graduate professional librarians resigned, two positions reverting to lower grades. One Graduate Library Assistant resigned out of 21. Of 70 Library Assistants 18 resigned, and 2 of 13 Library Attendants. Resignations among clerical staff were much more common, 11 resignations in 16 positions.

A number of staff were granted leave without pay for varying periods. Dr. J.C. Owen remained at Pittsburgh for the year working for a Ph.D. in the field of library and information science. Miss M. O'Sullivan, Senior Librarian of the Biological Sciences Library, is spending a year at the Biomedical Library at Monash University. Others had leave for personal reasons.

Some thought is being given to greater flexibility in the use of the Library Salaries Vote. The staff situation in the Library is tight and unlikely to ease. This makes it important that the funds available for salaries should be spent to the best purpose. In a situation in which it is often necessary to replace a qualified person who resigns by a less qualified one, or an experienced one by a comparatively inexperienced one, the pattern of staff is inevitably built to some extent on the strengths and talents of the people actually available at a particular time. Pressures within the library also change as student numbers alter or the pattern of branch libraries respond to building developments. Consequently there are occasions when it is profitable to replace a professional by two library assistants, or to move in the opposite direction. This would be much easier if the University Librarian had the same flexibility for action within the salaries vote as he has within the non-salary vote. Good use could also be made of savings from replacements to supplement the casual staff vote on which the demands are innumerable. Preliminary discussions on these matters have already taken place.

With the imminent establishment of Griffith University and the probability of expansion at Queensland Institute of Technology there will be more competition for experienced professional staff in Brisbane than has previously been the case. While it would be foolish to be complacent and some loss of staff may be expected it is not anticipated that salaries and conditions of service at this University will fail to be competitive. It is much more a matter for concern that Queensland is the only state in Australia which has no tertiary institution offering courses in librarianship, and it is difficult to attract staff from interstate or overseas.

TECHNICAL SERVICES

Our failure to keep up with rising prices and the consequent decline in

additions to the library is only too apparent from the figures. In 1970 book expenditure estimates were reduced by 20% against 1969 in order to pay for periodicals. A change in estimating procedures permitted a slight increase in 1971, but book estimates have had to be cut back again for 1972. Fortunately the library received a supplementary grant late in 1971 which may be reflected in the accession figures for 1972.

Actual expenditure on books from library funds decreased by more than \$4,000 in 1971. Purchase of books from Research and other Departmental votes decreased by nearly \$1,000, probably again reflecting a general university-wide squeeze. Books purchased from Hospital and gift funds declined more than \$17,000 as a consequence, it is assumed, of the exhaustion of the American Council of Learned Societies Grant of a matching \$15,000 over three years.

Expenditure on periodicals rose again alarmingly from \$176,423 in 1970 to \$192,813, in spite of stringent restrictions on new titles and a culling, when opportunity arose, of duplicate subscriptions. Regrettably the single titles which can be discontinued painlessly invariably turn out to be comparatively inexpensive.

Declining financial status had an obvious effect on accessions. New titles (12400) added to the bookstock were the lowest since 1965, having reached a peak in the "Hayes" year (1968) of 34140. Separate figures of new titles by purchase have been kept only since 1969 and they tell the same story:

	1969	1970	1971
New book titles by purchase.	12,416	16,652	11,378

The following table shows volumes of books added annually since 1968.

1968	1969	1970	1971
47,680	31,813	35,136	26,207

Total additions to the library in bound volumes, books and serials, have been as follows:

1963	29,284
1964	40,392
1965	38,487
1966	41,011
1967	50,520
1968	60,859
1969	47,707
1970	47,657
1971	40,135

It cannot be emphasised too strongly that a library with a declining rate of acquisition is a wasting asset in a world in which knowledge is growing rapidly. It is essential that the funds available to the library should at least match the rate of inflation in order to maintain purchasing power. Together with other rises in non-salary costs this would mean an annual increase in excess of \$75,000 in non-salary funds at current rates of inflation.

Acquisitions and Serials

The work of this Department was much affected during the year by the postal strike in the United Kingdom and the Longshoremen's Strike in the United States. Not only do such events create frustrating delays in delivery, and sometimes uncomprehending dismay among teaching staff, but the volume of follow-up correspondence and enquiry is increased.

A comparative survey was carried out of the supply of books by our major suppliers in Britain and the United States and of two Australian suppliers.

Supply time from the United Kingdom varied from 12 weeks to 17½ weeks (the latter during the postal strike). From the American supplier, apart from one atypical batch at seven weeks, supply time ranged from 13 weeks to 17 weeks. The performance of the Australian suppliers indicated that there was a decided benefit in placing orders locally only if the books were likely to be held in stock; in other cases it was quicker to order direct from overseas.

Another difficulty has been posed by late ordering by Teaching Departments. A set amount from Library funds is made available annually to each Department against which it can make recommendations for purchase. With the long delivery periods mentioned above orders need to be placed some four

months in advance if books are to arrive and accounts to be passed by the end of the financial year. If this did not happen, the Library could be faced with the ludicrous position of being short of funds and yet losing funds to general university revenue through failure to expend in time. For 1972 the previous stipulation by the Library Committee that 85% of allocations must be committed by October 1 has been brought forward to September 1.

Overseas strikes also played havoc with the Serials Section. It has been impossible to claim for issues not received on a rational basis when international postal services have been disrupted by strikes, which have prevented goods reaching us or our claim letters reaching overseas suppliers. Single issues of journals quickly go out of print and the Library is left with incomplete files and frustrated potential readers.

Steep increases in the cost of subscriptions, which have already been mentioned, and the tendency of existing journals to split into more specialised parts at a much increased aggregate subscription caused the Library Committee to approve restrictions on the number of new serial titles which could be ordered by a Teaching Department. Largely as a consequence of this policy the number of new titles by subscription fell in 1971 to 375 compared to 624 in 1970. In discussions at the Committee on Resources it was pointed out by several Professors from scientific disciplines that this reduction is a severe blow to information resources for their work, that other large university libraries had rates of increase similar to the Queensland figure before restriction and that it was essential to buy important journals in newly developing fields. It should be noted that 96 subscriptions were discontinued during the year for various reasons.

The problem of rising serials costs is probably the most baffling of all the many problems facing libraries. Further discussion of serials will be found below under Reader Services.

Cataloguing

If there is any silver lining in the gloom of falling acquisition rates it is to be found in the continuation of the reclassification to Library of Congress. As so often in management problems it is necessary to spend money first in order to save it later. Some reclassification continues through the year but the main effort is concentrated in the Long Vacation when every available hand from throughout the Library and every last cent from the Casual Vote is turned into the reclassification project. The record so far is

1969 Vacation.	Undergraduate library reclassified.
1970 Vacation.	Anatomy, Physics and more Undergraduate material.
1971	All new Main Library books and periodicals being classified by Library of Congress Classification.
1971 Vacation.	Dentistry, Mathematics, Veterinary Science, Main Library Reference and Australian Literature completed.

The project has given an opportunity to revise old records, some very deficient, to create uniformity and a basis of higher standards, and to check stock. Some idea of the size of the operation may be gauged from the total of 650,000 cards which were processed through the Department in 1971.

Inevitably work in the 1972 vacation will be severely curtailed by the exigencies of the move to the new building, but the consequences of delay are limited by the fact that, as a matter of policy, the operation has been planned to avoid the coexistence of two sequences in any library other than the Main Library, which is too large for a "blitzkrieg" approach.

Data Processing

Following the creation of the system for printing the Thatcher catalogue in 1969 and the specialised Reserve Collection scheme in 1970, this year has been one of planning and waiting. Dr. Owen, who will head this section, was still studying overseas and Dr. Arden worked only part of the year and on a half-time basis.

A consultant was employed to carry out systems analysis for a computer-based lending system. His report will be developed by Dr. Owen. Dr. Arden is doing preliminary analysis for a printed list of serials, but part of her time has been spent patching up the Thatcher catalogue system to accept the Library of Congress classification. This whole programme will need to be rewritten before the GE225 computer goes out of service in 1975.

Data processing is another area in which it is necessary to spend money now to save later. The cost of developing the new loan system will be high. It will be necessary to pay or contract for high-powered programming assistance. Data collection equipment and storage must be purchased, and this is not easy in Queensland where it is a frustrating business discovering what equipment is available. A small computer for the library could be necessary as an interface with

the university computer. Labour will be required to equip hundreds of thousands of books and serials with machine readable identification. Borrowers must be provided with similar identification.

All this means more requests for finance. Yet there appears to be no alternative. The scale of operation, growing every year, has well passed the capacity of our manual methods to cope efficiently. Overdue and recall notices are in arrears: returned and wanted books are discharged slowly so that books in demand are out of service; there are embarrassing incidents when readers are wrongly informed that they have overdue books; and in many branch libraries control of loans is tenuous through lack of staff to carry out the manual routines. Even if sufficient staff could be added now, accommodation would be needed, further staff would be added as issues continued to increase; present salary trends suggest that the cost would swell continuously. By contrast the cost of computer time and equipment may be expected to decline, and once a system has been implemented it should absorb increasing work at a much lower cost than a manual system.

Reader Services

Some developments took place in 1971, running over into 1972, which should be discussed here.

I have already mentioned the restrictions on serials subscriptions in an attempt to hold rising costs. At the same time as this has become necessary there has been evidence of increasing use of serials leading to demands for changes in lending procedure. This matter affects principally science, engineering and the medical sciences at present.

Since the present branch libraries grew up with little central control there has been a wide variety of practice as to what could be borrowed from them, who could borrow and for what loan period. As local practices presumably grew up to meet local needs I have not in the past attempted to impose uniformity, or indeed to change practices unless there was evidence of dissatisfaction.

Over the years there have been problems in relation to automatic circulation of journals to staff members which was discontinued by Main Library many years ago, but survived in some branches. The argument against automatic circulation is that it takes newly arrived journals out of the library at precisely the time when, being most current, most people wish to see them. Consequently automatic circulation of journals has been discontinued in several branch libraries recently.

However there have been approaches from Departments to discontinue lending of journals entirely so that they are always available for consultation in the library. Where a library serves a single Department this would appear to be merely a matter of agreement with the Department. In fact no library serves only the members of a particular Teaching Department and the consequences of a decision to discontinue lending have repercussions within the university and outside.

Within the university it affects firstly arrangements which may have been made, for reasons of economy, to circulate a journal from one library to another. When this cannot be done there is likely to be a demand for a duplicate subscription. This may be argued particularly strongly when the two libraries are one on the St. Lucia campus and one off the campus.

Again a decision not to lend means, for readers who habitually use other libraries on the campus, that readers must cross the campus to the library concerned. While this may not be a matter to be given great weight it also leads to requests for the supply of photocopies instead. Our policy is that such copies will not be paid for by the library.. Nevertheless whoever pays for copies for staff use, the burden of copying falls on library staff and this is one further extra demand on their time. Students are expected to come to the library and use coin-operated photocopiers on a self-service basis.

In the case of branch libraries off the campus it is unreasonable to expect staff to travel to St. Lucia. Policy here is that, within reason, library funds will pay for photocopies for users who would have been entitled to borrow under the previous arrangement.

There is yet a further repercussion on other libraries in Brisbane. In 1971 a survey was recommenced to examine the volume of inter-library loan to and from Queensland libraries. The results show, as was expected, that the University is by far the largest supplier of loans to other Queensland libraries. The analysis can most easily be set out as follows:

Over a three month period, 15 March - 15 June 1971	
Loans from this University to other Brisbane libraries	1,572
Loans from other Brisbane libraries to this University	307

* * * * *

Loans from this University to other Queensland libraries outside Brisbane	734
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Loans from Queensland libraries outside Brisbane to this University	20
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Loans from this University to libraries outside Queensland	679
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Loans from libraries outside Queensland to this university.	1,199
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It is clear from these figures that the growing policy of not lending journals, which form the major part of inter-library loans, will have important implications for the many local libraries which have traditionally borrowed from the university, particularly if they are now to be charged for photocopies. Many of these are small libraries which are not themselves equipped to provide photocopies, and they may become reluctant to lend to us since we will not lend to them. The long tradition of free cooperation among libraries is disturbed by policy changes of this nature.

Some solution to these problems may emerge from the discussions of the national Scientific and Technical Information Services Enquiry Committee (STISEC) on which the University Librarian continues to serve. This may lead to a national documentation centre which will offer a swift service, which is not the case with present interstate arrangements, but it may well be that the cost will be higher than local photocopying charges.

One other problem has been caused by the growth of policies not to lend. It encourages university students to use the facilities of small specialised libraries of other institutions either because those libraries continue to lend journals, or because they are more conveniently located than the university library which holds the journals in question. It is to be feared that the students will soon wear out their welcome, and these specialised libraries will adopt more restrictive policies.

It appears inevitable that policies which will make journals more generally accessible to those who can go to a library may have an adverse affect on potential users some distance away. The effective solution is the duplication of some journals but the economic climate limits this. There will be financial implications also for

other libraries which have traditionally cooperated freely with the university library.

MAIN LIBRARY

Reference

The Reference Department had another busy year. Much effort went into educating readers in the use of the library. Revised editions of the booklets *Making the most of the University Library* and *Using the Library for Study and Research in Psychology* were issued, and others were in preparation.

The Union prepared a T.V. film for Orientation Week, and tours were held in which some 800 full-time students and 100 part-time students participated. Voluntary lectures were offered again. A general introduction to library use and bibliographical searching was attended by 651 students over 71 sessions. Attendance at lectures on the use of indexes to periodicals was a disappointing 74. A lecture on the use of government publications was attended by 88 people (including 20 librarians) over 11 sessions.

More specialised instruction was given to particular classes at the request of teaching staff. Instruction was also given by some branch librarians to students in the Teaching Departments concerned.

Discussions were held with the Improvements Committee about extending the programme of instruction and integrating it more closely with normal coursework. This is very desirable but the present insuperable obstacle is availability of library staff. Instruction from present resources has reached its limit and, considering the need to staff the new Central Library and Undergraduate Library in 1973, the prospects for increased reference staff are at present slim. A slide and tape Orientation presentation is to be given in 1972, and this will relieve some pressure.

The major contribution to bibliography by the library is the compilation of the *Annual bibliography of studies in Australian literature* under the control of the Reference Librarian, Mr. S.J. Routh. Published in the journal *Australian Literary Studies* this is the standard current listing of scholarship in this field.

The Department was also deeply involved in the survey of interlibrary loan in conjunction with the Queensland Book Resources Committee. An attempt was made to cost interlibrary loans and it was found that the average cost of a request

by us to an interstate or overseas library is \$2.73. The average cost of lending an item to a Brisbane library is 43 cents (plus the costs of the delivery van), and the cost of lending to a library outside Brisbane, including postage, is 94 cents.

Lending

The principal difficulty in this Department is the cumbersome nature of the present manual systems in coping with a demand which rose again this year by a further 19%. The office area available is far too small and it is no wonder that there are delays in returning books to the shelves.

A survey by the Union Vice-President for Part-time students revealed an alarming lack of familiarity with the library. In an attempt to remedy this a videotape was made, under the direction of the Lending Services Librarian Mr. D. Williams. Unfortunately only a total of 35 students came to view it on the five evenings on which it was shown.

It is now some years since a stock check was made of the Main Collection, and the only prospect for one is that necessarily associated with gradual reclassification. In view of the heavy losses being experienced in some branch libraries it was encouraging to discover that of the 16,000 books in the Reserve Collection only 420 could not be found and of these only 150 had disappeared during 1971. It should be added that it is known that some books disappear temporarily during term, so that the inconvenience to readers is greater than the bare figures suggest.

The demand that books and journals should be more frequently available for use has been felt by Main Library as it has by branch libraries. It is clear that the generous borrowing privileges extended to Teaching Staff are becoming a hindrance to the use of the library by others. During 1971 the library rules were revised and loan regulations under these rules were approved by the Library Committee. More decisive action will need to be taken to follow up long outstanding loans to Teaching Staff and it may be necessary to insist on payment for books or journal issues which are not returned. The long loan periods which have prevailed in the past have made it very difficult for the library to prove, years after the initial loan was made, that the item concerned has not been returned.

Pilfering from bags which must be left outside the library reached epidemic proportions during the year. By the end of the year negotiations were well advanced for the installation of closed circuit television as a deterrent to this practice which has resulted not only in the loss of valuables but also of notes and drafts of theses which represent months or even years of work.

BRANCH LIBRARIES

Practice in branch libraries reflects that of the Reference and Lending Services of the Main Library within the limits of the staff available. For instance some branch librarians are involved in educating students in library use and a few offer specialised services appropriate to their particular clientele.

The pressure of demand is likewise producing problems in branch libraries. The restriction of periodical loans has already been mentioned. The more casual attitudes to loans, overdue notices and fines which could be adopted when there were fewer and less demanding users are now becoming obstacles to use. On the other hand the adoption of more stringent procedures and the imposition of fines require an increase in staff which is very difficult to procure in the current stringent economic circumstances.

Even more worrying is the lack of security. Increased competition for books leads the unscrupulous to theft, just as larger numbers break down esprit de corps. It is quite impossible to find staff to control the exits from 19 branch libraries. Some of the consequences are as follows. The Librarian of the Music Library writes "Following many reports from students of missing books and scores, a stocktake was taken of the books. It was found that 140 are missing, and of these 113 had arrived only this year it has been noticed that all English speaking journals in the field of Church Music have been taken a stocktake of music scores was not possible, but it is estimated that at least 150 would have gone in 1971." The Engineering Librarian writes "An unfortunate part of the increased use of the library throughout the year has been the more frequent loss of books, and of borrowing without the completion of loan cards. We have not sufficient staff to check each person leaving the library and the physical conditions of the building e.g. windows, would make checking of little value. The majority of users do not abuse the "trust" system which still operates."

The Librarian of the Chemistry Library writes "The most regrettable aspect of 1971 was the number of books and periodicals lost. It is hard to see how this might be reduced, as it is impossible with the present staff situation to police the exits more efficiently."

Similar reports have been received concerning other branch libraries. Whatever the benefits and conveniences, and there are several, of the present location of small libraries close to users, these benefits are likely to decrease if the volume of missing material continues to increase. A rationalisation of labour is possible in a large library and this will be the case in the proposed joint Biological

Sciences Library and, to some extent, in the combined Architecture-Planning Music Library. If other libraries cannot be combined it will be expensive to ensure adequate security.

In an effort to improve service photocopying machines were installed in a further five libraries in 1971.

Medical Libraries

In spite of the geographical factors which make it necessary for us to maintain four medical libraries, three of which are in teaching hospitals with the costs shared by the Hospitals Board, there is reason to believe that the standard of service is high, increasing use is reported from the three joint university-hospital libraries, and a slight fall at the Central Medical Library.

The Principal Librarian i/c Medical Libraries has developed a very active reference and information service which to some extent compensates for the necessary division of materials among the medical libraries. He is also the local intermediary with the computer-based Medlars information retrieval system which operates from Canberra. During 1971 almost one hundred Medlars searches were carried out for Medical Libraries' users as well as many for other university libraries.

The survey of inter-library loans revealed that by far the greatest traffic in inter-library loans is in medicine. Of loans which the university made to other libraries in Brisbane 19% were in Medicine, followed by Biology 11%. Inwards loans were even more pronouncedly medical, 25% followed by Agriculture 9%. This traffic was principally with the Australian Medical Association and the Queensland Institute of Medical Research both of which lend nearly twice as much to the university as they borrowed from us, and with the state government departments of Health and Primary Industries. Health borrowed more than five items for every one lent to the university, and in Primary Industries the ratio was 10:1 in the university's favour.

The university has by far the largest holdings in these areas and this situation is likely to continue. There is talk of associating QIMR more closely with the university. There have in the past been suggestions from the A.M.A. that a merger of the A.M.A. Library with the university medical libraries might be discussed, since similar mergers have occurred in other states. The State Library is most unlikely ever to want to attempt to cover medicine in any depth.

All of these factors suggest that consideration might be given to some

formal arrangement by which the University medical libraries might become the state medical library with a responsibility to supplement the resources of other medical and hospital libraries in Queensland and to offer training and advice to the many hospital libraries which cannot afford to employ experienced professional staff. Such arrangements have been made in the United States based on an infusion of federal funds. In our case the state government is the responsible body and it must be clearly understood that the university could only undertake such responsibilities if a satisfactory financial arrangement could be made with the state government. This would also involve building extensions to the Central Medical Library at Herston.

OTHER MATTERS

Although the number of donations received in the form of books has declined in 1971 there has been a remarkable growth in other types of material. For its special reunion of Alumni of 1911-1939 the Alumni Association collected photographs and other contemporary documents from members. Most of these were, by kind agreement of the donors, lodged permanently in the university library where they considerably supplement the archive material relating to the early history of the university.

This initial contribution blazed the trail for a more permanent arrangement which has taken the form of a Library Assistance Committee of the Alumni Association which is enthusiastically headed by the current President, Mr. L.C. Fisher. Through the good offices of the Committee it is hoped that many of the Alumni will become scouts for the library in seeking out valuable material and interested supporters of the more liberal aspects of the library's collecting. The Alumni invited another old friend of the library, Mr. Walter Stone of Sydney, to address a very successful meeting on "Collecting books and Manuscripts for Australia's libraries".

Also given to the library this year were the papers of the late Dr. F.W. Robinson which were donated by Mrs. Robinson. Dr. Robinson has a very special place in the annals of the University of Queensland Library as he was not only a supporter and benefactor over many years but he was also the prime mover in the establishment of the Fryer Library which is becoming one of the outstanding Australiana collections in the country. Dr. Robinson's papers include information relating to the early history of the university, and particularly related to the planning of the original buildings on the St. Lucia site, without which no adequate history of the University could be written.

More contemporary history is recorded in the gift by Mr. Dan O'Neill of his own files about radical activities on the campus. Others who have been prominent in recent activities have also made donations to the library. It is pleasing to note this indication that the library is accepted as an impartial repository where controversial material of historical value will be preserved for future research.

CONCLUSION

It is difficult to be optimistic about the future of the university's library services. While there has been a remarkable improvement in financial support during the last decade and much has been achieved this has been more than matched by the larger demands which are being made on the library service by contemporary staff and students.

At the risk of repetition it is appropriate to summarise these problems. There is a rapid inflation in the price particularly of serials but also of books. At the same time specialisation in some fields and the development of cross-disciplinary studies in others is producing a wider range of publications in which the university is interested. The library needs an extra amount of between \$50,000 and \$75,000 annually for non-salary purposes to cope with these movements.

At the same time the improvement in library services has brought about greater concentration on the library in relation to teaching which results in a demand for more service. This entails more staff, and wages costs are also affected by inflation. The alternative to more staff is the use of sophisticated machines, but here the immediate development costs are high and the benefits are in the future. Increased use brings greater competition for books and a strain on the security aspects of library control.

In 1973 a new building will be ready to relieve pressure on the present Main Library. Since it is not a replacement but an expansion, more staff will be needed. At the same time there are pressures requiring more staff in other sections of the library.

The inter-library loan survey has confirmed, as had long been suspected, that other important libraries in Queensland, particularly those of state government departments and other tertiary education institutions, are heavily dependent on this university's library resources. Our sister university at Townsville is likely to be joined by Griffith, at least for a few years, in maintaining staff at St. Lucia to meet the less common needs of their staff and senior students. It is to be hoped that the

resources available to the University of Queensland will not be further constrained at this time when the new universities and colleges need our help.

Nevertheless the principal reason why a special effort is needed to meet the library's financial needs is to maintain excellence in our own university teaching and research. The tremendous effort which has gone into library development in the last ten years has been shown to be well justified by the enthusiastic use of the improved libraries by both staff and students. They are going to continue to need and expect these standards to be maintained and improved.

Finally I must again pay tribute to those who have contributed so much to the library during the past year, to those many colleagues in the administrative and teaching staff who have so sympathetically received the library's apparently insatiable demands and to the Chairman of the Library Committee Professor Gordon Greenwood for wise advice on many occasions. Above all I acknowledge the loyalty and devotion to duty of the library staff at all levels who have worked so hard to maintain the best possible service for the benefit of the university community.

F.D.O. Fielding
University Librarian.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY STATISTICS 1969-1971

1. Potential users	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Full-time teaching staff, Lecturer and above	699	642	616
Other eligible full-time staff	577	758	822
External undergraduates	3,425	3,281	2,522
Part-time undergraduates	4,578	4,504	4,526
Full-time undergraduates	7,441	6,926	6,622
Post-graduate students	<u>1,791</u>	<u>1,662</u>	<u>1,368</u>
TOTAL potential users	18,511	17,773	16,459
2. Library staff			
Graduate professional staff	35¾	33½	33
Non-graduates with professional qualifications	2	4	3½
Graduates without professional qualifications	21	25½	21
Library Assistants	70½	64½	56
Typing and clerical	16¾	16¾	15¾
Library Attendants	13	12	11
Casual equivalent	<u>2</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1½</u>
TOTAL	161	156¼	135½
<i>Distribution of Library Staff</i>			
Administration	7¼	5¾	6
Technical services	61¾	63¼	54
Reader services (Main Library)	46½	40¾	40¾
Reader services (Branch Libraries)	43½	46½	39
Temporary — Hayes Collection	—	—	2

3. Services	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Lending outside building: Main Library	205,969	173,354	136,918
Lending outside building: Branch Libraries	207,885	201,831	182,772
Items lent to libraries outside university	11,560	10,232	7,468
Items borrowed from Libraries outside university	7,198	6,645	7,053
Hours of opening per week (Main Library) during academic year.	88½ (93½ in Third Term)	88½ (93½)	87½ (92½)
4. Acquisitions			
Books:			
New titles by purchase	11,378	16,652	12,416
New titles by gift	1,022	2,077	2,164
Total volumes added (books)	26,207	35,136	31,813
Serials			
Total number of serials received	18,462	17,964	17,029
Number of non-duplicate serial titles received	15,251	14,907	14,112
Total bound volumes added (serials)	13,928	12,521	15,894
Total bound volumes in university library	687,944	647,809	599,248
Microfilm added (reels)			
Monographs	201	149	Not counted
Serials	119	6,572	Not counted
Total Microfilm reels held	13,844	13,524	6,803

5. Expenditure	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Books from Library Vote	\$182,263	\$186,400	\$204,156
Books and Serials from other funds (Research, Donations, etc.)	80,789	99,008	81,844
Serials from Library Vote	192,813	176,423	133,754
Binding	64,798	52,123	45,303
Maintenance and Equipment	<u>90,056</u>	<u>63,735</u>	<u>62,064</u>
Total expenditure from all sources, excluding salaries	610,719	577,719	527,121
Salaries, Payroll Tax etc.	<u>636,562</u>	<u>554,961</u>	<u>472,042</u>
TOTAL expenditure on University Library	\$1,247,281	\$1,132,680	\$999,163
Expenditure from Library Vote as % of University Expenditure from recurrent grant	5.96%	6.2%	6.4%
Expenditure from all funds as % of University expenditure from all funds	5.29%	5.29%	5.7%

STATISTICS OF INDIVIDUAL LIBRARIES

	<u>Approximate size in bound volumes</u>		<u>Serials currently received</u>		<u>Loans within University</u>		<u>Loans to Libraries out- side University</u>	
	1971	(1970)	1971	(1970)	1971	(1970)	1971	(1970)
Main Library	384,854	(362,095)	8,791	(8,530)	205,969	(173,354)	5,794	(5,051)
Architecture	7,021	(6,571)	282	(273)	8,153	(8,604)	118	(122)
Bancroft	10,209	(9,312)	245	(326)	7,012	(7,799)	763	(649)
Biology	31,608	(29,307)	1,338	(1,290)	23,132	(23,060)	1,155	(805)
Central Medical	16,288	(15,115)	739	(709)	14,221	(14,749)	564	(565)
Chemistry	10,985	(10,328)	288	(272)	5,880	(7,115)	215	(310)
Clinical Sciences	6,969	(6,606)	293	(303)	15,661	(13,983)	587	(494)
Dentistry	6,489	(6,352)	211	(201)	2,890	(3,316)	—	—
Education Methods	11,123	(10,650)	342	(334)	15,357	(11,805)	34	(20)
Engineering (incl. Electrical Engin.)	33,088	(31,042)	1,492	(1,403)	23,345	(24,970)	923	(935)
Geology	16,107	(15,128)	1,000	(958)	3,777	(4,239)	458	(462)
Law	24,201	(22,948)	429	(413)	2,905	(3,278)	9	(1)
Mater	2,378	(1,956)	161	(122)	3,277	(1,442)	42	(9)
Mathematics	11,357	(10,853)	289	(278)	6,405	(8,000)	151	(119)
Music	9,728	(8,282)	184	(172)	5,412	(3,986)	5	(11)
Physics	10,274	(9,692)	514	(511)	10,492	(8,086)	96	(99)
Princess Alex. Hospital	3,949	(3,618)	176	(166)	5,678	(5,058)	17	(39)
Thatcher Memorial Library for External Students	56,980	(54,478)	325	(319)	33,919	(31,057)	—	—
Veterinary Science	13,120	(12,041)	830	(817)	20,246	(20,880)	629	(541)