

THE WATERMARK

Newsletter of
The Association of Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences

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TODAY'S HISTORY OF MEDICINE LIBRARIES

By Estelle Brodman

When Glen Jenkins asked me to be part of the editorial staff of the Watermark, she suggested I might contribute a few paragraphs now and then on the changing scene and philosophy in libraries devoted to medical history, and a recent visit to one of these has reminded me of how much they have changed since I first became involved with them a half-century ago. Perhaps newcomers to the field might be interested in learning about some of the changes.

The most profound change, in my view, has been the growth in size of these collections; for from this growth has come practically all the other changes that have occurred. In the 1930's only a few medical libraries had a large enough number of historical materials to warrant segregating them from the general run of the collection. (Indeed, the whole medical library collection tended to be less than 25,000 volumes.) The paucity of the collection did not demand a specialist in the care and handling of historical collections, and the knowledge of climate control and conservation measures was in its infancy. I need only remind readers that even the Army Medical Library had no separate historical collection until World War II brought fear of bombings of Washington, D.C.; this led the Army to set one of the librarians there (Robert B. Austin) to culling out the rarest

items in the collection, and then to leasing space in the newly-erected Cleveland Medical Library to house them until the War was over.

After World War II American medicine began a period of growth and economic well-being which lasted for almost four decades. New medical schools were founded and old ones enlarged and refurbished. Medical society, hospital, and medical school libraries grew by leaps and bounds so that by the end of the 1970's the average medical library held close to 100,000 volumes. At this point it made more sense administratively to subdivide the collection and the staffs administering to it. The pattern of designating all publications before a certain date as "historical", a pattern pioneered at the National Library of Medicine, was taken up by many institutions; as more money became available for acquisitions, the collections grew in size so that specialization by specific subjects or types became necessary. A number of new rare book dealers began to appear, and some tended to specialize in subjects for which there seemed to be specialty collections being built.

When the cullings from the general stacks were brought together in most libraries to form the historical collections, the poor physical condition of most items became apparent. This led the librarians in charge of these collections to study the problem and begin working out

partial solutions to it. Light, heat, humidity, de-acidification, microfilming, and binding soon became key concepts to them.

This was also the time that special cataloging came into more libraries than ever before; collation by signature, and provenance became every-day concepts to more and more people.

But the last decade has seen the computer go from an esoteric tool for a small cadre of strange and wonderful people to being the accepted handmaiden of us all.

Whether one thinks of data bases such as HISTLINE or acquisitions and cataloging aids, such as CATLINE, the computer has become the everyday tool of all librarians of historical collections--and more and more of all end users in their own offices or laboratories. And now, through the use of shared catalogs on computers (OCLC and DOCLINE, e.g.) and interlibrary loans through fax machines--thus obviating sending the historic book or journal itself--it can be hoped that the clientele of historical collections will grow tremendously.

It would be nice to look into a crystal ball and discern what changes will occur in medical history librarianship in the next half century, but although that is not possible, I feel sure it will be an equally fascinating period of renewal and re-alignment where desirable.

EX LIBRIS

By Glen Jenkins

★ NEW ACQUISITIONS: It was good to hear from Kathy Donahue, successor to Vickie Steele at UCLA. She reports the usual optimistic news from the Biomedical Library, namely three outstanding acquisitions: Snow's On the inhalation of the vapour ether in surgical operations (London, 1847), a treatise in which Snow discusses the stages

of degrees of anesthesia and gives an account of his regulating inhaler; H. Dagonet's Nouveau traite elementaire et pratique des maladies mentales (Paris, 1876), especially notable for its Woodbury types which mimic partographs but do not fade. And most recently, Rafinesque's Medical flora ... (Philadelphia, 1828-1830) with 100 wood engravings printed in green.

Barbara Irwin, University of Medicine and Dentistry, G. F. Smith Library writes to tell us that the Papers of Estelle Brodman relating to New Jersey women physicians 1886-1982 are now available in Special Collections. They contain approximately 2500 records of women physicians assembled by Dr. Broadman for an article, "A century of women physicians in New Jersey: a demographic study", to be published this spring in New Jersey Medicine.

The Baaken Library has recently added The ethereal physician, or medical electricity revived ... with some observations on the nature of the electric fluid (Albany, 1817), a very early American treatise on the subject. It includes some 60 testimonials on people successfully treated, followed by 11 case histories of failures. The earliest American work on medical electricity is T. Gale's Electricity or the ethereal fire published in 1802.

A contemporary portrait of William Harvey which was unrecorded until 1986 has been acquired by Dr. Verne Roberts of Durham, N.C. and placed on loan to the University Library at Duke and his books on biomechanics to the Medical Center Library. The portrait bears a strong resemblance to the one in the Royal Society and is thought to be from the studio of Sir Peter Lely. Postcard reproductions have been

made and can be had from G.S.T. Cavanagh, Curator of the Trent Collection, Duke University Medical Center Library, Durham, NC 27710. (Terry sent Watermark a sample postcard and it is a very fine reproduction, indeed).

The Yale Medical Library recently added an IBM PS/2 computer to help with desktop publishing. One new publication now available is Historical Library portrait file, compiled by Laura Ellis. This index is an approximate inventory of portraits held in various locations in the Yale collections with 4000 entries for over 7000 images, mostly of individuals found in the John Fulton and Harvey Cushing diaries and the Fry portrait collection. According to Janice Braun, "It is not a complete listing of all portraits in the Historical Library, nor a bibliographic tool offering precise dates, accepted spellings of proper names, or differentiation of similar names, but we have found it extremely valuable when patrons request illustrations". It is available from the Historical Library, 333 Cedar St., New Haven, CT 06502 for \$12.50 (includes postage).

★ MAIN ENTRIES: Janice Braun has joined the staff of the Yale Medical Historical Library as the Assistant Historical Librarian. She recently graduated from the School of Library and Information Studies at Berkeley and was formerly Editorial Assistant for the Mark Twain Papers. Her duties include preservation concerns which coincide with her interests in the history of printing and the book arts. Welcome to ALHHS, Janice!

★ ANALYTICS: Joanna Weinstock of the University of Vermont, Dana Medical Library spent 1987 doing research on Thomsonian medicine-Vermont. It has been published in Vermont History, v. 56, no. 1, Winter, 1988, "Samuel Thomson's

botanic system: alternative medicine in nineteenth century Vermont".

Jan Sobota, Conservator of the Cleveland Health Sciences Library, is exhibiting his design bindings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in the Thomas Watson Library with fellow artistic binder, Silvia Rennie. The exhibit will continue until April 15th.

And please note this wonderful news. In a special ceremony on December 4, 1987, UCLA's Biomedical Library was renamed the Louise Darling Biomedical Library. This honor was bestowed upon Louise Darling, its founder and head librarian for 31 years by the U.C. Board of Regents in recognition for her dynamic leadership.

Kathy Donahue also reports that thanks to a grant from the Ahmanson Foundation, the Rare Book Cage of Special Collections, Darling Library, has been renovated. The "Cage", as it is still called, now has permanent walls and environmental controls to keep the temperature at a cool 55 degrees F (+/- 5 degrees) and the RH at 50% (+/- 3%). In addition the floor of the stack level above was treated with a special Elastomeric coating to prevent flooding from above.

Terry Cavanagh is continuing with study of the mysterious set of "Four Seasons" engravings from the 17th century which have so far defied identification or attempts to locate other copies. He discussed this material at a seminar at the Johns Hopkins Institute of the History of Medicine in February. Readers???

The Harvey Cushing stamp will be issued on June 17, 1988 from the Cushing Reading Room in the Allen Memorial Medical Library, Cleveland. The Reading Room was named after the Cushing family of doctors and features portraits of Erastus Cushing,

Henry Kirke Cushing, Edward Fitch Cushing and Harvey W. Cushing.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICIES WORKSHOP

The Ohio Network of Medical History Collections sponsored a workshop "Collection Development Policies for Medical History Collections", January 22-23, 1988. The workshop was held at the University of Cincinnati, Historical, Archival and Museum Services. The meeting began with tours of the History of Health Sciences Library and Museum and the Historical Conservation Laboratory at the University of Cincinnati and the Lloyd Library in downtown Cincinnati.

Speakers were Kevin Grace, Assistant Head of Archives and Rare Books, University of Cincinnati, who spoke on policies for archives; Richard Davis, Curator of Collections, Cincinnati Museum of Natural History, who spoke on policies for museums; and Christopher Hoolihan, History of Medicine Librarian, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, who spoke on policies for rare books.

Mary Ann Hoffman, Wright State University, Health Sciences Library and Billie Broaddus and Cory Oysler, University of Cincinnati, Historical, Archival and Museum Services organized the meeting which was well-attended by people from Ohio, Indiana and New York.

BRODMAN EDITS JOURNAL ISSUE

The New Jersey Medical Society, the oldest state medical society in the United States, will inaugurate its first woman president this spring. In honor of this event the New Jersey Medical History Society will hold a symposium on the subject women in medicine on Wednesday, May 11,

1988 in Lawrenceville, N. J. In addition the Medical Society will publish a special issue of its journal New Jersey Medicine, devoted entirely to this subject. Dr. Estelle Brodman is Guest Editor for this issue, (vol. 85, no. 5, May 1988).

Individual copies of this issue may be obtained from the offices of the N. J. Medical Society, 2 Princess Road, Lawrenceville, N. J. 08648. It is possible that issues will be distributed free, upon request.

AWARD ANNOUNCED

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists announces that the recipient of the 1988 ACOG-Ortho Fellowship in the History of American Obstetrics and Gynecology is the team of Wanda Ronner, MD of Rochester, New York and Margaret Marsh, Ph.D. of Stockton State College in Pomona, New Jersey, who will be studying infertility and its treatment in the 19th and 20th centuries.

This award carries a stipend of \$5000 to be used to defray expenses while spending a month in the ACOG historical collection (and other medical/historical collections in the Washington, DC area) continuing research into some area of American obstetric-gynecologic history. Applications for the 1989 award will be accepted until 1 September 1988. For further information and application forms contact: Gay Takakoshi, Librarian, Historical Collection, The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, 600 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20024, (202) 638-5577.

ALHHS ANNUAL MEETING NEW ORLEANS MAY 3-4

Scheduled for May 1988, ALHHS will meet in conjunction with AAHM at the Monteleone Hotel in New Orleans. The city, famous for its jazz music, French Quarters, and Cajun food, also includes Tulane University Medical School -- the host for AAHM. Tulane, founded in 1834, has a large collection of nineteenth century medical books and journals as well as a small collection of seventeenth and eighteenth century materials housed in the Rudolph Matas Medical Library.

Those of us particularly interested in the history of women in medicine will find a significant amount of information in the medical art and portrait collections, Elizabeth Bass Collection on Women in Medicine, Louisiana State Board of Health Scrapbooks from 1880 to 1940's, Louisiana Physicians File, Original Pamphlets, and the History of Medicine Slide Collection. These materials can be found in the Historical Collections of the Rudolph Matas Medical Library which is located in the Medical School on Tulane Avenue and is a bus ride from the hotel.

The Library staff of Tulane hopes to have a display of exhibits that will focus on the Charity Hospital Ambulance Service c1885; medical numismatics with selections from the Weinstein Medallion Collection; Dr. Elizabeth Bass, one of the first two women on the faculty at the Medical School; Dr. Rudolph Matas, famous vascular surgeon, Chairman of the Department of Surgery at Tulane and benefactor and namesake of the library; and an overview of contributions to medicine by Louisianians.

Other noteworthy collections in the field of medicine are: the Joseph Jones Collection on Civil War Medicine, the Matas papers, and the Chaille papers on public

health to be found in the Special Collections Division of Tulane's Howard-Tilton Library located on the main campus on St. Charles, a street-car ride away from the Hotel. Dr. Wilbur Menery, Head of Special Collections, would be pleased to have ALHHS members visit -- either in a group or individually.

ALHHS members may find the following places of interest as well: LSU Medical School near Tulane University Medical School; the New Orleans Charity Hospital; the Historic New Orleans Collection (HNOC) a privately endowed collection focusing on New Orleans and the Pharmacy Museum, both located in the French Quarter.

So there appears to be something for each ALHHS member - a wealth of information on Louisiana's medical history, a museum, the historic French Quarter, wonderful music that will have your feet tapping, and the aroma of spicy Cajun food.

ALHHS - NEW ORLEANS

Tuesday May 3

7-9 p.m.

New Orleans Pharmacy
Tour and Reception.

Wednesday May 4

9:30 a.m.

Tour and introduction to the Tulane Treasure Room, William Menary, Ph.D., Curator, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, main Tulane Campus.

10:30

ALHHS Business Meeting.

11:30

St. Charles Avenue Streetcar back to the French Quarter.

12:15

Lunch, Blue Room, Fairmont Hotel, University Place.

2:00

Tour of Historic New Orleans Collection, an Extensive

JACOB ISRAEL ZEITLIN (1903-1987)

Brief Commentaries and Memories

By Thomas E. Keys

Jack D. Key

collection of paintings, prints and documents relating to Louisiana history. Tour will last approximately one and a half hours and the staff will be glad to answer questions about professional issues such as preservation, cataloging, etc.

Please write for registration information to:

Mary Teloh
Special Collections
Vanderbilt Medical Center
Library
Nashville, TN 37232

BOOK DEALERS

AAHM meetings are great opportunities to meet rare book dealers in person and tell them about the collecting needs of your library. Bring along copies of your collection development policy, your desiderata lists, or your library's duplicates-for-sale list to distribute to them. The dealers will have rare books exhibited, and you may just find the title you've been looking for, so go introduce yourself and look through their exhibits.

As of March 13 the following rare book dealers had signed up to be exhibitors: Fabrice Bayarre, Nigel Phillips, Ed Glaser, Malcolm Kottler (Scientia), Barbara Rootenberg, Jonathan Hill, and Bernard Clavreuil (Librarie Thomas Scheler).

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EXPERIMENTA OLD AND RARE BOOKS

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On Sunday night August 30, 1987, death claimed one of this century's great bookmen. That man was Jacob Israel Zeitlin (age 84). To those who knew him or of him he was known as Jake. His specializations in the history of science and medicine, his scholarship, his humor, his generous personal warmth and his unselfishness combined to gain Jake the unguarded admiration and affection of those with whom he had contact. He was a rare individual! Jake had respect for culture and learning, was knowledgeable, was a genius in relating talent to opportunity, had a sense of community, was a cultural agent, generated close and friendly relationships, was a humanist, and best of all was a lovable rascal and utterly delightful man. He is survived by his wife and partner, Josephine Ver Brugge, and by two sons and two daughters.

In reflecting on our relationships with Jake Zeitlin one of his attributes comes to mind--and if you could only use one word for acknowledging that attribute--it would be quality.

Quality... you know what it is, yet you don't know what it is. But that's self-contradictory. But some things [and persons] are better than others, that is, they have more quality. But when you try to say what the quality is, apart from the things that have it, it all goes poof! There's nothing to talk about. But if you can't say what Quality is, how do you know what it is, or how do you know that it even exists? If no one knows what it is, then for all practical purposes it doesn't exist at all. But for all practical purposes it really does exist. What else are grades based on? Why else would people pay

fortunes for some things and throw others in the trash pile? Obviously some things are better than others...but what's the 'betterness'?

...So round and round you go, spinning mental wheels and nowhere finding anyplace to get traction. What the heck is Quality? What is it?!

Whatever quality is--Jacob Israel Zeitlin had it. His was a quality friendship and the materials we acquired from him were quality items.

Jake was born in Racine, Wisconsin of Russian immigrant parents. With his family, Jake in 1905, moved to Fort Worth, Texas where he lived for the next twenty years. Always of a literary mind and with a flair for poetry, Jake early on won the Texas State Poetry Prize and over the years of his young adulthood had several poems published in literary magazines. He moved to Los Angeles and began a book-selling career in 1925. Initially he eked out a modest existence by writing and selling and arranging speaking engagements for Carl Sandburg, Vachel Lindsay, Edgar Lee Masters and others.

Eventually Jake opened his own shop at 567 South Hope Street. Over the next half century Zeitlin's changed locations three more times with the last being the present picturesque Red Barn at 815 North La Cienega Boulevard. A number of these facilities Jake had prevailed on his friend Lloyd Wright, son of architect Frank Lloyd Wright, to design. The result emitted attractiveness and character. Almost as well known as the Zeitlin and Ver Brugge bookstores themselves were the Zeitlin's grasshopper symbol and their cable address "Jabberwocky".

Jake's friends and correspondents included many authors--among them were Carl Sandburg, Aldous Huxley, Rockwell Kent, Robinson Jeffers, Huse Walpole, William Faulkner, Henry Miller, Julian Huxley, John Steinbeck, Stanley Morison, J. Frank Dobie, Lawrence Clark Powell, William Saroyan, Carey McWilliams, photographer Edward Weston, plus many celebrated personalities and other diverse, even odd characters. Files of correspondence and other records were never purged. Several years ago Jake gave his archives UCLA. The researcher entrusted with them counted 81,000 items. Over the years he established solid contacts with many rare book enthusiasts, bibliomaniacs, collectors, historians, and librarians. It was always fun and often enlightening to share of books and experiences with Jake--he was a good teacher--with his life as the text. In ministering to his "philobiblons" Jake helped put together important collections, i.e., Florence Nightingale, Leonardo da Vinci and many many others. In 1983 he achieved a major milestone in his long career as a bookseller and certainly one that was financially significant. From the Los Angeles (UPI) September 1, 1987:

...Zeitlin sold a collection of 144 illuminated manuscripts ranging from the 7th century to the 16th century to the Getty Museum for \$30 million possibly the largest single rare book collection [sale] in the world.

By this time Jake had achieved the financial independence that had been elusive during the early years. He confessed at an interview in 1984 that "I finally became a millionaire when I turned 80."

Nearly 25 years ago, Jake made his first visit to the Mayo Clinic. A luncheon was arranged



for him at the Mayo Foundation House. Jake's ease of speaking and the spontaneity of his remarks are still remembered. The audience consisted of the Clinic's bookish physicians, librarians and even a few administrators. Jake kept the audience enthralled well past the luncheon hour and afterwards showed some rare books that he had brought along in a suitcase. Most of these books found new owners that day!

In the early 1960s Jake offered our Mayo Library an impeccable copy of Leopold Auenbrugger's famous treatise on percussion, Inventum novum ex percussione thoracis humani... (1761). His asking price was \$3,500. While this was a fair figure for such an important book which today would probably fetch \$10,000, it was felt at the time that permission would not be granted to acquire it. Jake was told that we had to decline. A couple of months later a Copen-

hagen dealer offered the Library a copy for \$1,400. The Library decided to accept his offer which seemed to be a bargain. So indirectly, Jake was responsible for our acquisition of this outstanding book--at least he had prepared the way. In the Spring of 1969 over dinner at a beautiful restaurant in Copenhagen near the famous sculpture The Little Mermaid the successful dealer in this particular acquisition confided that he had bought the book in Vienna for only a very few dollars. In any case we acquired an important book at an unusually reasonable price.

A pristine copy of Marcello Malpighi's De viscerum structura exercitatio anatomica... 1666, one of our most important classical historical volumes, was acquired from Jake. This important work on the kidney includes a description of the "Malpighian bodies" and also the first description of Hodgkin's Disease. Since we had acquired a large number of books from Warren Howell of San Francisco it was felt that it would not be proper to have the Institution purchase this expensive book. The price was \$3,750. Doctor William Braasch, Mayo Emeritus Professor of Urology, knowing of this decision, happened to be in the Library when the Zeitlin and Ver Brugge description of the book was received. He announced that he would be pleased to buy the book for the Library and did so.

At the 1972 Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association held in San Diego, Jake was the after dinner speaker for the Research Librarians Section, chaired by Jack Key. His very memorable presentation "Great Books and Great Collectors" attracted one of the largest audiences ever for a meeting of a special group of MLA. During the decade of the 1970s Jake graciously shared of his experiences

at a couple of our Mayo Library special seminar programs. His presentations on rare medical books, collecting, preservation, art, illustrations, bibliography and "The Much Traveled Dr. William Harvey" were greatly appreciated. On one of these occasions we were able to bring to his attention a nice collection that he subsequently arranged to purchase.

When we review the many Zeitlin books that have found their way into our collections an observation concerning libraries and books authored by Sir William Osler in the introduction to his notable Bibliotheca Osleriana readily comes to mind. This would seem appropriate not only

for the collector but also for the one [such as Jake] helping to put the collection together.

A library represents the mind of its collector, his fancies and foibles, his strength and weakness, his prejudices and preferences... The friendships of his life, the phases of his growth, the vagaries of his mind, are all represented.

Thank you Jake--we will miss you. They whose work cannot die, whose influence lives on after them, whose disciples can perpetuate and multiply their gifts to humanity are truly immortal.

REFERENCES

1. Pirsig, R.M. Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance. New York, Morrow, 1984, p. 184.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1. Jacob Israel Zeitlin (1903-1987).

Fig. 2. Jake at "Work and Play".

RARE BOOK LIBRARIANSHIP IN THE 80's A LOOK AT SOME RECENT LITERATURE By Nancy Whitten Zinn

PART I

In the past few years the amount of literature about rare book librarianship has taken a quantum leap upward. Since 1984 those interested in rare book activities in libraries have had a monograph to peruse (Rare Books, 1983-84: Trends Collections, Sources, Alice D. Schreyer, ed. (New York: Bowker, 1984)), a biennial publication to anticipate and to contribute to (in 1986 the Association of College and Research Librarians began publishing Rare Books & Manuscripts Librarianship, which appears twice a year). In 1987 a fat issue of Library Trends, "Recent Trends in Rare Book Librarianship," appeared and it is the focus of this article.

"Recent Trends in Rare Book Librarianship" returns to a topic



last covered in Library Trends thirty years ago. In that earlier issue, ten authors representing university, national, private and public libraries and a dealer, covered the major issues of the day in 77 pages. The concerns they addressed included those topics which are never laid to rest: rare book activities in various types of libraries, the need to justify the existence of rare book collections, functions, uses and users of such collections, security and preservation, collection focuses and rare book prices.

Edited by Michele Cloonan, a doctoral candidate (Univ. Illinois Urbana/Champaign), the Summer 1987 issue of Library Trends weighs in at a pound, and contains 256 pages. Sixteen authors review the current state-of-the-art in their respective areas, present substantial bibliographies, raise questions and provoke controversy. The five sections include:
 I. "Recent trends...An Overview";
 II. "Advances in Scientific

Investigation and Automation";
 III. The Practice of Rare Book Librarianship; IV. The Funding of Rare Book Collections and Programs, and V. The Preservation of Meaning and the Protection of Objects.

Sidney E. Berger's article opens the issue with a very useful literature review accompanied by a substantial bibliography. By far the largest section is II., which occupies approximately half of the issue. The effect of science on librarianship in general and special collections in particular was not the issue in 1957 that it is today. The technological development which occurred in the intervening period makes it possible now to tackle all sorts of complex problems, from acidic paper to disaster protection and detection of forgeries of the most sophisticated types. Jeffrey Abt (Univ. Illinois), in "Objectifying the Book: The Impact of Science on Books and Manuscripts" offers a three-part chronological view of attempts in earlier periods to define problems such as deteriorating paper, which could only recently be articulated and solved. He gives us a useful recap of little known early literature on the subject, from William Lewis and John Murray in the 18th century, to William Barrows in the 1930s. Those of us who pride ourselves on the current application of scientific methods, may be surprised to learn of earlier concerns and undertakings.

Paul S. Koda (Univ. Maryland) reviews for us "Scientific Equipment for the Examination of Rare Books and Manuscripts". He suggests that the importance of rare books for research, both in content and as physical objects for study, has increased since 1957, underscoring the importance of scientific tools for the latter. The most elegant (large



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and expensive) pieces of equipment include the atomic particle accelerator and the electron microscope (EM), in either the transmission (TEM) or scanning (SEM) varieties. Although not all neighbors of particle accelerators, those of us in large academic institutions find the electron microscope if not commonplace, at least familiar and available. Koda gives comprehensible explanations of these tools, and others such as beta radiography, which is used for watermark reproduction, and optical microscopes for close observation and photography. On a more common level, the magnifying glass, micrometric calipers, viewfinders, dividers and the humble rule all serve their purpose in the physical examination of books and manuscripts.

"The History of the Book and the Proton Miliprobe..." by Richard N. Schwab, professor of History at UC DAVIS, explains the operation of the PIXE (Particle Induced X-ray Emission) as a means of answering a variety of questions about early printing practices and techniques. A non-invasive technique, it is a process in which a beam of protons aimed at a square millimeter of a page, causes emissions which reveal the presence of particular elements (only those above sodium in the table of elements) in the paper or the ink. The speed of the process allows infinite adjustments to retrieve maximum information. The Gutenberg Bible, and the Vinland map have been subjects of this process so far. It can detect "cancelled, forged or replacement pages or sections of a work", and determine the order in which pages were printed, among other tasks. David Woodward, in "The Analysis of Paper and Ink in Early Maps", discusses the application of PIXE and XRF (X-ray fluorescence) to

yet another type of material. He also compares two methods of reproducing watermarks in maps (the Ilkley vs the Dylux), and describes the construction of a databank of information on maps. What a brave new world that has such techniques (and acronyms) in it!

A somewhat jaundiced view of the accomplishments of members of the rare book profession is offered by one of our colleagues, Stephen Davis, Head of Acquisitions at the Columbia University Health Sciences Library. In his article, "Bibliographic Control of Special Collections: Issues and Trends", he finds that special collections librarians exhibit greater interest in pursuing "esoteric subdisciplines" in local splendor than in making currently held materials more accessible to users nationally. Their failure to exploit the possibilities offered by computers is particularly disappointing. Davis has a list of "needs" for the profession, for administrative planning locally, and nationally, for sharing information about retrospective conversion, for collaboration on all levels, for record compatibility between the two bibliographic utilities, for the development of software packages for special collections applications, for name authorities for older and specialized headings, for image transfer technology, and suggests the possibility of a National Union Database of Rare Books.

John B. Thomas III (University of Texas at Austin) is chair of the RBMS Standards Committee. Appropriately enough he writes on "The Necessity of Standards in an Automated Environment". Calling Davis's views a "philippic", he reviews the historical development of cataloging standards for rare materials, which, indeed, seems a significant accomplish

ment. The work of IFLA, of IRLA (Independent Libraries Association), which made significant proposals for expanding the MARC format to accommodate the special needs of rare book cataloging, the experience of ESTC (Eighteenth Century Short Title Catalog), and RBMS is impressive considering the short amount of time during which it came to fruition. We may still have a long way to go but at least we're on our way.

The most subjective side of rare book librarianship is explored by four librarians in section III. Daniel Traister (University of Pennsylvania), characterizes the profession in the 80s, in "A Caucus-Race and a Long Tale..." He finds us to be more managers than collectors, more in need of financial support than books, more concerned with expanding use than acquiring materials. In his profile he finds we have more specialized education than the previous generation, are more involved in professional organizations, teaching and outreach, but that our special expertise does not

easily transfer into similar positions in collections outside our subject areas. Stephen Ferguson (Princeton University) examines "Rare Books in University Libraries", with a "focus... on the ideas and social forces shaping these libraries". As buildings are the physical representation of ideas and dreams, Ferguson observes that a number of new and renovated rare book structures have appeared in the last thirty years. Space may be newer and larger, but times have changed; security requirements are shrinking access while we advertise our holdings to ever larger user populations. The day of the solitary individual in the ivory tower is gone; teamwork is the mode of operation. Specialists are needed to cope with varied tasks--conservation, automation, grant-writing and public relations, to name a few. Scholars are less sought after to head major collections; library degrees and experience in special collections are the new criteria. The expansion of knowledge about and interest in the book as physical object and transmitter of culture and knowledge contrasts sharply with the current focus of general librarianship on "information" transfer. Ferguson sees the university as the locus for co-existence and dialogue with special collections.

As the rare book librarian in a small college setting, Martin Antonetti offers some interesting observations on the growth and functions of such a collection in "The Subtle Symbiosis..." With a new, but strong books arts program at Mills College, coupled with a collection broadly representative of the history of the book, Antonetti sees the rationale for special collections to be one of bringing students, who are just embarking on "an intellectual life", in contact with rare books

Antiquarian and Scarce

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and manuscripts for both "intellectual ..." and "talismanic value". Public library rare book collections were surveyed by Laura Linard (Chicago Public Library). In "Special Collections in the Public Library" she tells us that according to the survey, the majority of such collections developed as secure locations to house materials found in the general collections. These collections also act as sources of special information (preservation, valuation), and frequently function as centers for information and materials on local history. In keeping with the major goals of the institution, they do a great deal of outreach to the community, offering programs to a widely varied constituency.

Part IV. opens with Samuel Streit's (Brown University) article, "Acquiring Rare Book Material by Purchase: Recent Library Trends". Streit too gathered information by surveying 164 American libraries (all ARL members), and got 138 responses (83%!). Two medical libraries were included in the survey: the New York Academy of Medicine and the National Library of Medicine. In some ways there is not much that is surprising here: most libraries purchase rare books as well as receiving them by gift, the level of funding for purchases seems to be unrelated to such factors as library size, wealth or complexity, and at least two thirds of the respondents feel their funding level is too low. Sixty one percent of the respondents indicated that their budgets were less than 5% of the total acquisitions budget for their libraries. Eighty libraries spend less than \$50,000 annually (39 of these spend less than \$10,000), and 42 spend more than that amount (27, over \$100,000). Yet, with some exceptions, little effort has

been made to raise funds on behalf of rare book collections. The usual funding sources include endowments, annual appropriations, discretionary funds, and support groups (e.g., Friends, etc.) and most libraries use some combination of these. Somewhat surprising was the report of 67 librarians that their ability to purchase rare books in 1986 was equal to or better than it was in 1980, but more than half of those respondents report that their funding has increased each year since then. Still, most librarians feel confident about the future support of their collections.

Margaret S. Child (Smithsonian Institution) examines the historical picture of government funding for special collections projects from the 1970s, in "NEH Support for Special Collections". Most projects were for cataloging, bibliographies, collection guides, indexing, processing of manuscripts, archives and artifacts, and those for preservation and microfilming. The NEH Collections Program began in 1974, to support increased access to special materials and as a response to a request from the IRLA for help for its members. This was followed by NEH Challenge Grants (1977), which helped institutions raise money beyond that for specific projects. The NHPRC (National Historical Publishing and Records Commission) program was established in 1974, and the first grants were made in 1976. This was followed by the Title II C Higher Education Act which came along in 1977. In addition to support for projects of specific institutions, NEH funds supported the Eighteenth Century Short Title Catalog and the North American Imprints Project, the New England Document Conservation Center, and BALLOTS, then Stanford University's on-line automation system,

which was the precursor of RLIN. As a result of this funding, rare book libraries "have been drawn into the mainstream of American librarianship, into greater participation in the intellectual life of the the country, and into a more active role in their communities.

V. The Preservation of Meaning and the Protection of Objects is the final section in this special issue of Library Trends. The first article is by Bonnie Jo Cullison & Jean Donaldson (Newberry Library), who examine "Conservators and Curators: A Cooperative Approach to Treatment Specification". The current awareness of conservation and preservation problems in libraries is growing, but few curators have had special training to aid in decision-making. It has only been in the past few years that the Columbia University program for training preservation administrators has gotten underway, but with the growing need for such professionals, the demand is greater than the supply. Questions of the breadth of curatorial experience and background knowledge of rare books worry the curator; the conservator may have similar concerns about the curator's understanding of the physical nature of books and their historical development. The Committee on Curatorial Issues Raised by Conservations was appointed by RBMS in 1981 to address these questions, and to offer some solutions. However, after four meetings the Committee asked to be discharged without having developed any guidelines, because they felt there was not yet enough experience on which to base them. A symposium at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, held in March 1968, promoted discussion of these topics among a large number of

curators and conservators. Both sides of the equation must enter into a continuing dialogue to solve the problem of rational and effective conservation treatment decisions.

Mary Wyly (Newberry Library) concludes the issue with a paper on "Special Collections Security: Problems, Trends, and Consciousness". She points out that the requirement that high school and college students use primary materials, and the effect of such television programs as "Roots", have greatly diversified the usual clientele of special collections. This and the general increase in property thefts have brought greater security problems for special collections. Major thefts from inside and outside large institutional libraries, by thieves exploiting knowledge of rare book trade, personal relationships with staff, lack of security measures, have characterized the past decades. The response of the library community is indicated by the growth of the literature and the number of conferences devoted to the subject. In 1981 the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America established an on-line computer database, BAM-BAM (Book Alert: Missing Books and Manuscripts), for recording missing items for dealers, libraries and collectors. The RBMS Security Committee, working with rare book dealers and book collectors, issued "Guidelines for the Security of Rare Book, Manuscript, and Other Special Collections" (1982). Systematic screening of job applicants, consistently applied user policies, maintenance of accurate records, use of special marking techniques, and annual security audits are necessary, but depend on adequate funding and committed staff.

Well, what have we learned from this special look at special collections? We've seen today's world of rare books from a wide variety of view points, some in more felicitous fashion than others. Does the intervening period show progress? or is it just change? We've had the opportunity to learn about some exotic and sophisticated investigative techniques for the study of the physical book. We got useful historical surveys summarizing the journey from idiosyncratic rare book cataloging to the beginnings of standardized, computerized national access to collections, which brings increased visibility and perhaps increased use for the collections, with concomitant security problems. A more meaningful result of reading these essays is the possibility that this information will stimulate our own thinking, and give us a new perspective from which to view our own activities. One subject I would like to see given some attention is the reader/user of special collections. Authors in this collection of papers all represent general rare book collections, and focus for the most part on literary, history of the book collections. A well structured survey of rare book collections in the history of health sciences, particularly emphasizing the variety of subject collections, could provide some of this information. Who's game?

CALENDAR

Mar 29

History of the Life Sciences.
 Speaker: Eville Gorham, Ph.D. "Biogeochemistry: Its Origins and Development."
 12:15 p.m. University of Minnesota BioMedical Library.

Apr 5

History of the Life Sciences.
 Speaker: Patricia B. Swan, Ph.D. "History of Nutrition Research within Agricultural Research Stations."
 12:15 p.m. University of Minnesota BioMedical Library.

Apr 11

Annual S.C. Harvey Lecture given by Gert Brieger.
 5:00 p.m. Yale Historical Library.

Apr 12

History of the Life Sciences.
 Speaker: Gilbert S. Banker, Ph.D. "The History of Drugs & the Patent Remedy Era."
 12:15 p.m. University of Minnesota BioMedical Library.

Apr 12

UCLA programs in Medical Classics.
 Speaker: Christian Pross, M.D. "Moabit Hospital, Berlin: Social Medicine in the Weimar Era and the Nazi Seizure of Power".
 History & Special Collections Division, Louise Darling Library.

Apr 21

Humanities in Medicine program.
 Speaker: Gerald Peskind, M.D. "Artistic Creativity and Disease".
 5:00 p.m. Hope Building, Yale University School of Medicine.

Apr 26

History of the Life Sciences.
 Speaker: Arthur L. Caplan, Ph.D. "History of Biomedical Ethics."
 12:15 p.m. University of Minnesota BioMedical Library.

Apr 28
 Humanities in Medicine
 program.
 Speaker: Morris A. Wessell,
 M.D. "A Fifty Year Search
 for Humanistic Medicine:
 1938-1988."
 5:00 p.m. Hope Building,
 Yale University School of
 Medicine.

May 3
 History of the Life
 Sciences.
 Speaker: Herman Lebovics,
 Ph.D. "The Political Death
 of French Conservative
 Anthropology, 1920-1945."
 12:15 p.m. University of
 Minnesota BioMedical
 Library.

May 5
 Humanities in Medicine
 program.
 Speaker: Vivian Perlis,
 Ph.D. "Insights into a
 Composer's Mind: Illustrated
 with Oral History Inter-
 views".
 5:00 p.m. Hope Building,
 Yale University School of
 Medicine.

May 10
 History of the Life
 Sciences.
 Speaker: John J. Paul,
 Ph.D. "The Indigenization
 of Western Medicine in South
 India."
 12:15 p.m. University of
 Minnesota BioMedical
 Library.

May 12
 Humanities in Medicine
 program.
 Speaker: The Rev. Alan
 Mermann, M.D. "A Call to
 Individuation: A Look at
 Paul Gauguin".
 5:00 p.m. Hope Building,
 Yale University School of
 Medicine.

May 17
 History of the Life
 Sciences.
 Speaker: Eugene Cittadino,
 Ph.D. "Adaptationism and
 German Botany: An Aborted
 Path to Ecology?"
 12:15 p.m. University of
 Minnesota BioMedical
 Library.

May 17
 UCLA programs in Medical
 Classics.
 Speaker: Emilie Savage-
 Smith, Ph.D. "Medical and
 Anatomical Illustration in
 Medieval Islam".
 History & Special Collec-
 tions Division, Louise
 Darling Biomedical Library.

May 31
 History of the Life
 Sciences.
 Speaker: Paolo Palladino.
 "Pest Control and Basic
 Ecology in the 1960's and
 70's."
 12:15 p.m. University of
 Minnesota BioMedical
 Library.

June 2
 Exhibit: "Pioneer Women
 Physicians in New Jersey".
 Prepared in celebration of
 the election of Palma
 Formica, M.D., the first
 president of the New Jersey
 Medical Society.
 G. F. Smith Library,
 University of Medicine and
 Dentistry of New Jersey.

ALHHS - NEW ORLEANS

"Why Ask the Librarian".
 Participants in this luncheon
 session will discuss ways that
 librarians can best serve the
 needs of historians and history
 of the health sciences students
 and cooperative efforts between
 librarians and historians which
 could be mutually beneficial.

The discussion will center
 around these questions: 1. What
 are the most useful services

librarians/libraries provide?
 2. What, if any, services are lacking or might be improved?
 3. Can you think of ways you can provide support for history or rare book collections which might be mutually beneficial? 4. What resources do you use in addition to libraries?

The panelists are:
Nancy Whitten Zinn, M.A., M.S.L.S., Head, Special Collections, University of California, San Francisco;
Caroline Hannaway, Ph.D. Professor Johns Hopkins University; Gunter Risse, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, University of California, San Francisco; Bruce Fye, M.D. Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, Wisconsin Physician and Bookdealer.

**MURRAY GOTTLIEB PRIZE
 MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

The Murray Gottlieb Prize is awarded annually by the Medical Library Association for the best unpublished essay on the history of medicine and allied sciences written by a health sciences librarian.

The Gottlieb Prize was established in 1956 by Ralph and Joe Grimes of the Old Hickory bookshop, Brinklow, Maryland, in memory of Murray Gottlieb, a New York antiquarian book dealer. The purpose of the prize is to recognize and stimulate the health sciences librarian's interest in the history of medicine. The author of the winning essay receives a cash award of \$100 and a certificate at the Association's Annual Meeting.

For further information contact: Professional Development Department, Medical Library Association, 919 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 3208, Chicago, Illinois 60611, 312-266-2456.

The MLA History of the Health Sciences Section has planned its Business Meeting and Professional Program for Tuesday, May 24 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the 1988 New Orleans annual meeting. The guest speaker, John A. Woods, will cover the topic "The Appraiser: A Bridge Between the Librarian, the I.R.S., the Donors and the Books". John is an experienced bookdealer and expert appraiser from John A. Woods Appraisers in South Windsor, Connecticut.

Also scheduled is the Annual Dinner Speaker. This year the speaker will be the noted medical historian Regina Morantz-Sanchez, Ph.D., from the Department of History at the University of Kansas. She will speak on "Examining the 'Spiritual Power of Maternity': Reflections on the Historical Legacy of Women Physicians". Her talk and the dinner will be held Monday, May 23 from 7-10 p.m. at the New Orleans Pharmacy Museum which is housed in the Vieux Carre in the 19th century apothecary shop and residence of America's first licensed pharmacist. Jeremy Norman will be providing the wine for our dinner again this year. Our historian is brought to us by Jonathan Hill, Bruce Ramer, and Richard Arkway.

CLARIFICATION

There are two organizations for medical rare book librarians.

1. ALHHS - The Association of Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences

Publishes: Watermark
 Meets: Annually at the same time/site as the Am. Assoc. for the History of Medicine
 Membership: Open
 Dues: \$10.00 to:
 Elizabeth Borst White
 History of Medicine Librarian

Houston Academy of Medicine/
Texas Medical Center
Houston, Texas 77030

2. MLA-HHSS - The History of
the Health Sciences Section of
the Medical Library Association

Publishes: Incipit
Meets: Annually at the Medical
Library Association meeting
Membership: Must first belong to
the Medical Library Association
Dues: \$5.00 to:
Dorothy Whitcomb
Librarian
History of the Health Sciences
Middleton Medical Library
University of Wisconsin
1305 Linden Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

NEW MEMBER AND ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

Daniel T. Richards
Collection Development Officer
National Library of Medicine
8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda MD 20894
301-496-6133

Jeanne Mueller
Director of Technical Services
Indiana University School of
Medicine Library
635 Barnhill Drive -- MS122
Indianapolis IN 46223
317-274-1410

Janet S. Fisher
Assistant Dean for Learning
Resources
Quillen-Dishner College of
Medicine Library
Box 23290A
East Tennessee State University
Johnson City TN 37614
615-929-6252

Barbara Carstens
512-270 Roslyn Road
Winnipeg, Man. R3 T2 N2
CANADA

Joseph E. Jensen
Director of Health Policy
Research and Information
Systems
1211 Cathedral Street
Baltimore MD 21201

Charles W. Sargent, Ph.D.
Director of Libraries
Texas Tech University
Health Sciences Center
3601 4th St.
Lubbock TX 79430
806-743-2203

Sally Kaufmann, M.D.
Director, Sunset Day Treatment
Center
324 Avila Street
San Francisco CA 94123

Reva Hurtes
Library Director
Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
P.O. Box 016880
Miami FL 33101

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AUTHORS

Estelle Brodman, Ph.D.
19-09 Meadow Lanes
Hightstown, New Jersey 08520

Glen Jenkins
Historical Division
Cleveland Health Sciences Library

Margaret Jerrido
Archives
Medical College of Pennsylvania

Jack D. Key
Librarian
Mayo Clinic

Thomas E. Keys
Librarian, Emeritus
Mayo Clinic

Nancy Whitten Zinn
Head, Special Collections
The Library
University of California,
San Francisco