APPENDIX I.

HISTORY OF THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

The growth of the university library has of late years kept pace approximately with the expansion of the institution as a whole; but for a long time it was slow — almost imperceptible. Its history falls naturally into three periods, suggested by the three locations in which the collection of books has been kept. These are:

1. Room on first floor, University Hall, 1873-1884.
2. Rooms on third floor, University Hall, 1884-1893.
3. Rooms in Orton Hall, east side, 1893-

Besides these, it is interesting to note that there was a sort of prehistoric period, the first proffer of books (or money to buy books) having come from Mr. John G. Deshler, of Columbus, on April 23, 1872, more than a year before the college was opened for instruction. The first purchases seem to have been a collection of entomological works from the library of the late Mr. Fay, of Columbus, and a set of reports on the natural history of New York. These were supplemented somewhat later by donations of books from Hon. H. C. Noble and Mr. W. S. Sullivan, the eminent botanist. With these and a few books contributed by individuals in and out of the college, the students and professors were forced to be — not content, but resigned to a policy of "requests" and waiting. The little assemblage of volumes were stored behind glass doors in walnut cases in room 1 of University Hall, and placed in charge of the professor of English and modern languages, Joseph Millikin, of gracious memory. Students had access to the shelves under simple regulations; and on certain days the library was open for the withdrawal of books. In 1876, Professor J. R. Smith, of the department of ancient languages, became the librarian, and held the position until 1881, when he was succeeded by Professor S. C. Derby, of the department of Latin, during whose incumbency the library outgrew its quarters and entered upon the second stage of its growth, being removed to the third floor of University Hall in the summer of 1884.

The annual reports of those early years vividly suggest the precarious condition of the infant library, in the absence of a regular appropriation; a condition shared, of course, with the institution as a whole, but recognized and deplored by the president and most of the faculty. In 1874, Hon Joseph Sullivan, secretary of the board of trustees, urged an appropriation for books; and repeated the recommendation in several succeeding reports. The same note was struck with varying
degrees of emphasis by Presidents, Orton, W. Q. Scott and W. H. Scott; and by Librarians Millikin, Smith and Derby.

President Orton (8th annual report) says, "I trust that the needs of the library will not be overlooked," and makes another plea for an appropriation in his 9th annual report (1879).

President W. Q. Scott, in his two annual reports of 1881 and 1882 calls attention to the requests from all sides for books for the library as "reasonable."

President W. H. Scott (annual report, 1883) complains of contracted space: "no room on the shelves for the books, nor on the floor for the students who come in to consult them;" and yet "the cry for more books comes from every direction."

These requests had been heeded by the board of trustees; and appropriations, probably as liberal as circumstances warranted, were made from year to year, ranging from $200 to $600. In 1883, Librarian Derby made a very strong report on the condition and needs of the library, the result of which was that in June, 1884, a committee was appointed to estimate the cost of cases, shelving and furniture, and of the removal of the books; and to suggest a proper sum to be appropriated. In pursuance of the recommendations of this committee, the library was transferred, during the summer of 1884, to rooms at the east end of the third floor of University Hall; and an appropriation of $5,000 was asked and received from the legislature. Of this sum, $600 was applied to the expenses of removal. The number of volumes on the catalogue list at the time of removal was about 3,000. This may be regarded as the end of the first period of the library's development.

The plans for equipping the rooms upon the third floor of University Hall for the reception of the library were put into practical shape by the mechanical skill and efficiency of Messrs. S. P. Wattland Frank A. Ray, both of whom afterwards became graduates of the university. Upon the installation of the books in their new quarters, a card catalogue was planned, and its execution at once begun. Of the $4,400 left from the library appropriation, nine-twentieths were expended in the purchase of books of reference and books of general interest, eleven-twentieths were divided among the various departments, the several professors selecting the books for their departments. The general books and works of reference were selected by the president and librarian. Department libraries were recognized and books were assigned to some of them. In 1885-86 the work of the card catalogue was containted. More attention was given to the completion of sets of periodicals. The president showed great interest in the growth and efficient working of the library, whose interests he never failed to promote during his administration, 1883-1895.

During 1885-86 and the following year important additions were made to the list of periodicals and the more valuable of them were
bound and added to the library, whose value was considerably increased also by purchases of works in American history, and by the acquisition of a complete set of the transactions of the Amer. soc. of civil engineers. During 1887-88 more sets of periodicals were completed and congressional documents procured sufficient to include a continuous record of the proceedings of congress from 1789 to 1887.

The reading room of the library was extensively used as a place of study by students between recitations, somewhat to the detriment of its use as a library. This source of embarrassment continued as long as the library remained in University Hall.

The most important event in the history of the library for 1888-89 was the creation of a library council to have general control of the library. The year was marked also, by the loss of at least 430 volumes through the burning of the chemical laboratory, February 12, 1889. One hundred periodicals were regularly received at this time and fifty of them were bound and added to the library. Through the generosity of the German library association, 337 volumes important for the study of the German language and literature were presented to the university. In the following year the books destroyed by the burning of the chemical laboratory were replaced. The need of more room and of a fire-proof building for the storing of the library was strongly urged by the library council. No great change in the number of periodicals or in the policy of completing sets of them was made for several years.

In 1890-91, by the efforts of the members of the class of 1887, a number of valuable works were presented to the university as the basis of a Shakespeare collection. Otherwise, there was nothing noteworthy in the steady progress of the library and its improving administration, which had during the year 1892-93 the services of Professor J. R. Smith as librarian in chief, Professor Derby being absent for the year. With the removal of the library to its new and more commodious quarters in Orton Hall ends the second period of its existence, and then begins its third period and an era of larger and more useful life.
View in Library on third floor of Main Building, 1889
The Library in Retrospect
S. C. DERBY
Professor of Latin, Ohio State University

IN 1881, WHEN PROF. J. R. SMITH relinquished his professorship at the University in order to make a prolonged tour in Europe, his duties as librarian as well as those of professor of Greek and Latin fell to me. Apparently Prof. Joseph Millikin had been the university's first librarian.

The library, when it came under my care, was kept in that room of the Main Building which is now the office of the dean and of the secretary of the College of Arts. At that time it was furnished with shelves and served also as a reading room and study-room for students. The number of books was about 2,000; two years later, June 20, 1883, it had increased to 2,402.

The ordinary annual appropriation for books was perhaps $300, and the space devoted to the library in the first annual report of the new president was two lines and a half. In the words often applied to the early condition of the university by its first president, that was "the day of small things." A better day was dawning. The next year's appropriation for the library was $600, and the space given it in the president's report was 20 lines.

The board of trustees were granted by the next legislature (1884) the sum of $5,000 "for removal and addition to the library." During the summer of 1884, the library was transferred to the large room at the east end of the third story of the Main Building. This room had been vacated by the removal of the department of botany and horticulture. The new quarters were equipped, and a card catalogue made of the books belonging to the collection for less than six hundred dollars. The services of Messrs. Watt and Ray were of decided value in planning and furnishing the new quarters. The remainder of the appropriation of $5,000 was expended in the purchase of more than 2,000 volumes. To the careful selection of this, the first important addition to the library, much attention was given by the president and faculty as well as by the librarian. From this era the development of the library has been continuous and increasingly rapid.

The assistant librarians during my term of service were: 1881-82, Belle Swickard; 1882-83, Minnie E. Bird; 1883-86, Emil Lehner; 1886-87, Clara Fisher and Annie N. Scott; 1887-93, Olive Jones. All gave willing, intelligent and unstinted service.
University Library in Late 80's

This was the second library— the next move was to Otis Hall— the location was in the Main Building, in the room which is now the "Gab Room."
HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES, 1872-1952

By

Earl N. Manchester
Emeritus Director of Libraries

A survey of the history of libraries in the United States, and to a lesser extent that of some of the great library collections of Europe, will indicate from what modest beginnings they started. It is particularly true of the libraries of the so-called "Land Grant Colleges and Universities" among which the subject of this brief sketch is numbered.

Evidence of the interest of certain citizens of Columbus and other friends of the newly born institution (The Ohio Agricultural & Mechanical College, 1870-1878) is recorded in the proceedings of the first Board of Trustees, where acknowledgment is made to John Q. Nashler of Columbus for the first offer of books and/or money to purchase them under date of April 23, 1872, antedating the opening of the institution for academic instruction by over a year. Later donations from H.C. Noble, W.S. Sullivant and others formed the nucleus of the University library, when it was finally installed in Room 1, University Hall, under the guardianship of Joseph Milliken, Professor of English and Modern Languages, the first Librarian of the University. A book plate taken from one of the early volumes indicates that the Library was open to faculty and students on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:30 P.M. to 2:00 P.M. for the circulation of books. Students might withdraw two volumes at a time and the period of loan was two weeks.

Appropriations for the development of the library were exceedingly meagre in amount, $200.00 to $600.00 a year, and irregular in the time of granting, despite the pleas of Librarians. J.R. Smith (Ancient Languages, 1876-1881) and S.C. Derby (Latin, 1881-1893).

The reports of Presidents Otton, W.Q. Scott and W.H. Scott, with varying degrees of eloquence and emphasis, call attention to the need for more adequate provision for better library facilities as an adjunct to the developing programs of instruction, but in the pressure of demands for and needs of new buildings, increase of teaching staff, more adequate salaries and better departmental facilities and equipment, improvement in the condition of the library was disappointingly slow.

The use, however, of such facilities as existed forced a change in the location of the library and in 1884 the collection, numbering then some 8,000 volumes, consisting primarily of sets of United States government documents, State documents and a few sets of periodicals, were transferred to the east end of the third floor of University Hall where it remained until 1893.

The year 1884 marks the maximum legislative appropriation made for library purposes up to this time, $5,000.00. Of this amount, $600.00 was set aside for the expense of moving and installation of the library in its new quarters. The remaining sum, $4,400.00, was devoted to the improvement of the book and periodical collections in the following ratio: $1,980.00 for books of reference and "general interest" and $2,420.00 for books of "primary interest to the various departments." While the ratio of expenditures for books in the fields of the humanities versus those of the sciences has varied from
time to time since 1884, the division then made was prophetic of the future development of the library, and such distinction as the book collections now command is heavily weighted in favor of the fields of science. The policy of the establishment of departmental libraries dates from this period which marks also the beginning of that indispensable bibliographical tool, the union card catalog of the books in the University Libraries.

The need for additional space for both books and readers soon made the rooms in University Hall unsuitable and plans for more adequate quarters were considered at length by the Librarian and the Library Council which was established in 1888. This gave the Library independent status in the University organization of departments. Plans for Orton Hall were then in process of discussion and it was finally decided that the Library should occupy a part of this new building. The transfer of the Library to its third home was made late in 1893. Coincident with this change in location and in recognition of the added duties of the "Librarian", Miss Olive Branch Jones was appointed on full time duty. Her predecessors, Professors Millikin, Smith and Derby obviously having had to divide their time between library activity and supervision and the requirement of meeting their teaching assignments.

The growth of the Library from this period was steady if slow, due to gradually increased appropriations and the gifts of several special collections, notably:

1. A gift from the United States Government of a large collection of the official series of Congressional and departmental documents and reports.
2. A gift from the Society of Friends in Ohio of a collection relating to the history of the Quakers in American colonial history.
3. A gift from William Siebert and brothers of a library on German history and a fund for its development.
4. The Outhwaite collection, presented by Joseph H. Outhwaite, with a fund for its development, of books and documents relating to the Civil War.
5. The transfer in 1894 of some 3,000 volumes of the library of the College of Law, then housed in the Court House in Columbus, to the University Library collections. This collection was a gift from the library of Henry C. Noble, augmented by gifts of money and books from Emerson McMillen.

The reports of Miss Jones indicate that the Library collections numbered some 12,000 processed volumes at the time of the transfer to Orton Hall in 1893 and that by 1901 the total had increased to 40,580 volumes, thus revealing that within a 16-20 year period Ohio State had more than doubled the size of its book collections, a growth trend which has been characteristic of university and college libraries during the past century.

As a result of this growth and the constant demands for additional space made by the departments occupying Orton Hall in company with the Library, we find the Librarian, Miss Jones, calling attention in her reports to the need of additional space and the construction of a building devoted solely to Library purposes, a plea supported by Faculty and University administrative officials for a period of fifteen years. However, other needs of the University, then in its first period of greater expansion, were thought to have priority over the construction of the proposed new library building and it was not until 1909/10, thanks to the persistent efforts of Professor Alonzo H. Tuttle of the Law School (at that time an influential member of the legislature) aided by other friends of the University that a legislative appropriation of $350,000.00 was secured for a library building, known to generations of O.S.U. students and alumni as the "Main" or "General" Library. Plans were prepared and approved, construction was begun in 1911, and in January, 1914, the Library was moved from Orton Hall to its new quarters and opened for service. As is usual with the erection of a new library building speculation was rife as to when, if ever, the facilities then provided for service and book capacity would need further enlargement, but histo-
ry soon repeated itself. With increased student enrollment, more generous legislative appropriations for books and periodicals, the establishment of the Graduate School and its rapid development and emphasis upon research in all fields of University interest, and despite the transfer of large blocks of library materials to the departmental libraries which were rapidly being established, it was evident by the early 1920s that further expansion was necessary.

In 1928, Librarian Olive Jones, whose recent years of service had been heavily burdened by ill health and ever increasing difficulties of the administration of a very complex library situation, resigned and Earl N. Manchester, then Director of Libraries at the University of Kansas, was called to the position of University Librarian. At that period the number of volumes in the Main and in the nine departmental libraries had reached a total of 335,950 volumes, a substantial increase over the 40,000 record of 1901, but far less than the corresponding holdings of the state institutions of Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin with which The Ohio State University is most logically compared in the area of the Middle West.

Hopes were high at this time of making a substantial addition to the Main Library building to lessen the pressure upon it and some of the departmental libraries for more adequate space for books and service, but conditions in the state and in the University were such as to prevent all but the minimum of expenditures on building expansion.

Time and space will not permit here any elaboration of what might well be termed makeshift emergency measures adopted during the ensuing twenty-year period of building expansion.

Departmental libraries were increased from nine to fifteen and transfers of large blocks of library materials were made to the newly established libraries, thus releasing some of the pressure upon the stacks in the Main Library. A Library stack annex was made temporarily available in 1938/40 by the erection of a small addition to the Physical Education building with a capacity for library storage of some 75,000 volumes not in constant demand. Additional storage space was found for infrequently consulted books and duplicates in the basement rooms of Hamilton and University Halls and in the Administration Building. The task of making accurate records of material withdrawn from immediate access, transferred to storage location and to and from departmental library collections as their individual capacity for book and reader accommodation became progressively less, has imposed a heavy burden upon the Library staff and has hindered the promptness with which more valuable newly acquired library material could be processed and made available to the University public.

Relief from a situation growing more desperate with each succeeding year was finally provided in 1948/49 by a legislative appropriation for a University building program of which the allotment for a library addition was $2,500,000.00. The Library Council and the University Architect, Howard D. Smith, collaborated in final plans for the addition. Construction was begun in 1949 and the combined building was re-dedicated June 2, 1951, and named by action of the Board of Trustees. The William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library.

Director Manchester retired from active service of the University in July 1952. Under his capable successor Lewis C. Branscomb, with the library collections now approaching the one million volume mark the University confidently begins a new era of library development under vastly improved conditions of service.
HISTORY OF THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

LIBRARIES, 1870 – 1970

BY

GEORGE SCHOYER

COLUMBUS, OHIO

1969
I. The Library in University Hall

The early history of the Ohio State University Library was one of limited financial support and inadequate space for students and books. Even before the Library formally opened its doors, it received gifts of books from Mr. John G. Deshler, Mr. Henry C. Noble, and Mr. Joseph Sullivant of Columbus. These donations of various scientific, agricultural and law books formed the nucleus of the Library's first collection. The Library collection, however, remained small and financial support was inadequate during the Library's early years.

When the first students reported to the Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College, as it was first named, in September, 1873, there was only one building on campus, the Main Hall, later known as University Hall. This building contained the first library, which was located in a first floor room, at the left of the Main entrance. The first library had walnut cases called alcoves around the room. A small table near the window served the purpose for all accessioning, indexing and charging. Information for charging was on a placard on the door and on a gray blue label pasted inside the cover of each book. This indicated that the Library was open to withdraw books on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:30 P. M. to 2:00 P. M. Students were allowed to charge out two books and all books had to be returned or renewed within two weeks.¹

For the first twenty years, the Library was managed by members of the Faculty, who were only part-time librarians. Professor Joseph Millikan, Professor of Languages, was appointed on April 10, 1874 as the
first Librarian. He served until 1876, when he resigned his position as Librarian. Professor Josiah Smith, a professor of Ancient Languages, was the second Librarian. When Professor Smith became Librarian, the Library had fewer than one thousand books. Professor Smith served as Librarian until 1881. During Professor Smith's tenure as Librarian the first student assistants were employed, and the Library was presumably open for three hours each day for charging books; the Library was used as a reading room the remainder of the time that University Hall was open. As a successor to Professor Smith, the University appointed Professor Samuel Derby, Professor of Latin and Librarian in 1881. Professor Derby left the Presidency of Antioch College to accept the position.

Early appropriations for the Library were meagre, starting in 1874 with an annual appropriation of $100.00 and averaging near $500.00 during the time that the Library was on the first floor of University Hall. Even then, not all of the Library budget was always spent, probably because there was no central authority to control spending the funds after they had been assigned to various departments. By 1884, the collection had grown to 2,402 volumes with thirteen periodicals received by subscription and fifteen coming as gifts, and the Library was running out of space for students and books. The General Assembly in that year appropriated $5,000.00 to move to larger quarters and for additions to the Library. In the summer of 1884, the Library was transferred to a room at the east end of the third floor of University Hall. The cost of the move and of equipment was only $600.00, leaving $4,400.00 to be spent for books. The $5,000.00 which the legislature appropriated in 1884 was the beginning of slightly more adequate Library budgets ranging from one thousand dollars to three thousand dollars during
the remainder of the time that the Library was in University Hall.

The extra money for books allowed the Library to increase its holdings to 4,135 in November, 1884. When the Library made this first move, the Librarian was given the responsibility of cataloging the entire collection. There is no evidence that there was any catalog of the collection previously. An accession record was also started at this time. Professor Derby, and two students, prepared a divided card catalog with authors and titles in one file, and subject entries in another. No classification was used with the original catalog and books were given a fixed location within broad subject groupings.

When the Library was first established, the Librarian had little to do with the actual ordering of books for the Library. The money for the Library was allocated between the different departments, and no funds were left for direct use by the Librarian. Often the spending of Library funds was done by consultation between the President of the University and Department heads. Sometimes even the Board of Trustees was involved in the decisions to purchase books and periodicals. In 1889, a significant change in the Administration of the Library was made with the appointment of a Library Council. The Council consisted of the President of the University, the Librarian, and four members of the Faculty. The effect of this decision was to transfer control of Library affairs from the Trustees to a committee of the Faculty.

Increasing student enrollment from 299 in 1884 to 800 in 1893, and a growth in the book collection to 13,000 volumes soon made the Library's quarters again inadequate. Finally, in 1893, the Library was moved from University Hall to temporary quarters in the newly constructed Orton Hall. The temporary quarters were to last for nineteen years.