

less time than less well-organized hit-and-miss methods. A fundamental knowledge assists both in the interpretation and application of research. It is especially needed in time of war when new untrodden fields must be explored. There can be no limitation fixed because of the time factor. It is beyond human power to predict when this war will end. It is certain, however, that cooperative research efforts directed to the ends of national policy will shorten the period of this world struggle."

This recognition of the importance of research by the military authorities is further demonstrated by two recent official actions.

1. The Selective Service System through Occupational Bulletin 10, effective June 18, 1942, specifically provides for deferment of graduate students in a variety of critical occupations covering almost all schools of the college.

2. The U. S. Army in planning for the Enlisted Reserve specifically provides for a group of graduate students.

It is of course recognized that graduate students can not be trained effectively without experience in research.

The other factor is summed up in the statement that colleges and universities are the logical and perhaps the only remaining centers for freedom of search for truth. The torch of knowledge is in danger of extinction. To guard against such a catastrophe these institutions must foster the continued search for truth, must zealously protect the research function and must in every way possible support research effort.

The Council on Research submits that to-day as never before in the history of the Pennsylvania State College there is an urgent need for a vigorous research effort on the part of the faculty and that research must have the fullest possible support of the administrative officers and the Board of Trustees.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

THE Libraries of New York University are continuing to acquire a few scientific periodicals from the Axis-dominated countries of Europe, according to the annual report of Robert B. Downs, director of the libraries, which has now been made public.

The books are acquired under a recent decision of the U. S. Government and the British Ministry of Economic Warfare to permit American libraries to pay up to the sum of \$250,000 for the purchase of journals which may be useful to the war effort. Since this amount is no more than a fraction of the sum ordinarily spent for European publications by institutions in this country, each research library has been allotted only those titles which it considers most essential to its needs.

The New York University libraries receive a highly selected list of periodicals in the fields of biology, chemistry, physics, geology and medicine from Germany, France, Denmark, the Netherlands and Italy. The subscriptions are purchased through dealers in

neutral countries and are inspected by the British at Bermuda and by the United States customs officials at the port of entry before delivery to the university.

According to the report, so far there has been little evidence of political tampering in the areas of the pure sciences. This is naturally not true in the fields of the social sciences. Although in the physical sciences much material is obviously omitted if it may be of military importance, it is felt that enough articles of scientific value come through to compensate for the expense and trouble of obtaining the journals. Gifts and accessions are reported as follows:

The university libraries received gifts of more than 10,000 volumes valued at more than \$75,000 during the past year. Notable gifts included a library of books on Judaica and Hebraica for the study of Jewish history, philosophy and religion from Dr. Mitchell Kaplan, and a collection of rare volumes in the same field from William Rosenthal.

The Fine Arts Library received several hundred books on art, including the files of a rare periodical devoted to the fine arts of Japan, from Robert Lehman, a member of the New York University Council; Dr. Moses Leo Gitelson established as a memorial to his brother, Raphael Gitelson, a special fund for the purchase of works in the field of American and British economic history; Henry B. Fernald presented several notable early editions in English literature, and Dr. Charles W. Gerstenberg presented an interesting collection of English and American literary annuals, or "gift-books."

Through a gift by Miss Margaret Barclay Wilson, the library purchased a collection of manuscript journals and letters of Henry Barnard, pioneer educational leader. The Society for the Libraries presented extensive microfilm collections of materials for the study of American culture, including reproductions of all known extant magazines published in the United States before 1800 and a collection of complete texts of 250 representative books about America beginning with 1943.

Mr. Downs states that in a recent survey by the American Library Association the collections of New York University had been rated "distinguished" in sixteen special fields: Classical papyri, German language and literature, French language and literature, French history (Huguenot), German history, French philosophy, Hegel, Jewish history and literature, sociology, education, international law and relations, economics, labor and industrial relations, meteorology, psychology and aeronautics. The survey covered a list of 75 subjects and the nation's libraries were rated in those fields by 500 scholars and other authorities. Mr. Downs also reported that the U. S. Office of Education and the New York State Education Department had named New York University as a War Information Center.