

assist in caring for reprint material dedicated to this use which the donors were themselves unable to store until after the war. This committee is especially concerned with the receipt of full and partial sets of periodical literature for all war-torn libraries, but is in full accord with my suggestion concerning the saving of unwanted reprint material, especially for Chinese libraries. Several organizations and many individuals are working toward this same general objective of anticipating the needs for reconstruction of libraries in the devastated areas. The greatest obstacles in their programs seem to be the lack of present storage space and of personnel to handle the accumulating material. These difficulties are slowly being overcome, but as yet there are only limited facilities for receiving material, except where the donor is faced with the choice of turning it in for the post-war reconstruction program or for the current waste paper collection. It is, however, hoped that there will soon be an extensive drive for literature for this purpose, and it is in this connection and with the approval of the present executive assistant, Dorothy J. Comins, of the above named committee of the American Library Association with offices at the Library of Congress, and of Charles H. Brown, the chairman of their Committee on the Orient and Southwest Pacific, that I am issuing this reminder of the need for saving reprint literature.

Daily reports of bombing, burning and looting on the far-flung battle-fronts give strength to our worst fears of wide-spread destruction of valuable libraries. Thus the future demand for reprints, both currently appearing and of earlier date, is sure to be urgent and all should anticipate the need. Besides the demands from war-destroyed libraries we may justly anticipate the similar needs of new institutions which are being established and which will be built after the war with an ever-increasing crescendo as a result of the war-time stimulus toward scientific development. Although current scientific and technical periodicals are being purchased and laid aside for the reconstruction program, it is impossible to provide for all needs even in the near future. Hence, some destroyed libraries

will welcome reprint material to represent the serials of which they will be unable to obtain full sets. Of course one should not confine one's efforts to saving only reprint literature, for all worthy periodicals and separate books will be needed. Broken sets of serials, and those which have been partially mutilated by removal of articles of special interest, can be used in completing other partial sets. Reprints are often considered by their owners as so specialized that, unless they are of immediate interest, they may as well be thrown away. A comprehensive program of collecting and distributing literature, such as is projected, will lead to their eventual arrival where they can be of value. Hence scientists should continue to save their unwanted literature for the peace-time reconstruction of war-torn libraries until they can be gathered together and properly handled in a coordinated program.

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THE report of the meeting of the Cleveland meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science which was published in the October 27 issue of *SCIENCE* erroneously stated (page 270) that the American Society of Parasitologists canceled its entire meeting. The society canceled its sessions at which general papers were scheduled to be read, but continued with its symposium on "Parasitology in Relation to the War" which it held jointly with the American Society of Zoologists and the Section on Medical Sciences. The program of this symposium is given in full in the report of the Cleveland meeting.

Following the symposium, the American Society of Parasitologists held a general business meeting, at which Asa C. Chandler, Rice Institute, was elected president for the year 1945 and Donald L. Augustine, Harvard University, was elected vice-president for the same term.

F. R. MOULTON,
Permanent Secretary

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

TABLES OF BESSEL FUNCTIONS

A Guide to Tables of Bessel Functions. By HARRY BATEMAN and RAYMOND CLARE ARCHIBALD. Vol. 1, No. 7, July, 1944. 104 pp. of *Mathematical Tables and Other Aids to Computation*, published by the National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C. Special Number, \$1.75.

BEGINNING in January, 1943, the National Research Council started the publication of a quarterly journal

edited by the Committee on Mathematical Tables and Other Aids to Computation. This publication is intended as a clearing house for information concerning mathematical tables and other computational aids in the wide range of book, pamphlet and periodical literature. Its scope includes not only the field of pure mathematics, but also such fields as astronomy, chemistry, engineering, geodesy, geology, physics, physiology, economics, psychology and other scientific disciplines.