

aries of Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona, have been extended by approximately 6,407 acres. These lands, formerly included in Coronado National Forest, contain some of the most spectacular scenery in Bonita Canyon, and belong, scenically and geologi-

cally, to the wilderness of rock shapes comprising Chiricahua National Monument. Because of the unique character of these examples of the work of erosion some 4,287 acres were given national monument status in 1924.

DISCUSSION

SCIENCE IN THE LIBRARY

MAGAZINES and the serial publications of learned societies are the most essential library tool of the scientist. Next in importance are the indexes and abstracting journals. Then come government documents, and last of all come books.

Any chemist knows that books in his field are nearly always a year behind the times. The material upon which the volume is based probably appeared in magazines six months before the manuscript went to press. By the time the library has ordered and catalogued the volume it is at least a year behind the material which is available in magazines. To repeat, any chemist knows this. However, librarians and non-scientists need to be reminded of this occasionally.

Similarly a magazine may contain some poor material, but over a period of years much worthwhile material of value to people in many fields is included. Likewise the editing board of a magazine is less likely to be interested in sales than is a book company. Hence a book may have been selected with an eye to its use as a text-book. When such a volume is purchased, its value is limited to those in certain classes and fields. If it is poor in part, it is likely to be poor in whole. In other words, it takes less good judgment to buy basic magazines than it does to select books.

However, scientific magazines are costly. No professor can afford to purchase all the titles needed in his field. Furthermore, such items should be made available to his advanced and graduate students. Clearly the cost and responsibility must be accepted by the library.

Occasionally, there is a temptation on the part of the librarian to accept the responsibility but to ask the science departments to share the cost. By some peculiar reasoning, librarians sometimes feel that titles used chiefly by English and sociology are of general interest, but that a title such as *Chemical Abstracts* will interest only chemists. It sometimes is easier for a scientist to check with his colleagues and to report interdepartmental use and interest in certain titles than it is for the library staff to do the same thing. Obviously if there is a general magazine budget a large number of scientific titles should be included. Equally obviously it is the job of the scientist to see whether or not this is being done.

Indexes and abstracts have two values. In the small library they enable the scholar to prepare a bibliography of materials needed. Using them he can intelligently select material to request in interlibrary loan, to have photographed, or to have filmed for him. In the large library they save time which would otherwise have to be spent thumbing through annual indexes of individual titles.

The man who seeks truth in the laboratory should be glad to cooperate with the librarian in establishing the relative value and necessity for the various indexes. Mutual understanding will help the scientist and the librarian in all phases of their work together.

Documents, like reprints, are too frequently piled up in libraries, or else shoved into unclassified pamphlet boxes. Men interested in receiving these reports of experiments should consult with the library staff to see that a regular and systematic treatment is given this material. Scientists should be just as interested as librarians in discovering and reporting successful ways of handling these items.

Any scholar worth his salt knows who the outstanding men in his field are. He knows, too, which laboratory centers are conducting experiments in which his students would be interested. When publications, reasonably priced, are announced by either of these two, he should not have to wait for a review or an examination copy to know the library should have the title in question.

In the case of unknown men, who have not published either in magazines or in books which are familiar to the professor, or in the case of a series in which all the work has not been good the instructor should wait for a competent review or else ask the library to order the book on approval. He should not order the book himself if he is doing it for the library. Most librarians will be glad to cooperate if they feel the instructor is trying to work with them, rather than attempting to work them.

Last of all, it might pay scientists to remember that most librarians are not former science majors. They need occasional hints on the objectives and methods of science. When they ask questions about needs and orders, their inquiries should be regarded as a healthy interest and not as a challenge.

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