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Trinity College
HARTFORD CONNECTICUT



TRINITY COLLEGE BULLETIN

Annual Report
by the
Librarian

HARTFORD - CONNECTICUT

OCTOBER, 1956

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*These members of the Board form the Executive Committee.

†Elected by the Alumni.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN FOR 1955-56

TO THE TRUSTEES OF TRINITY COLLEGE:

In accordance with Section III of Article Fifteen of the Statutes of the College, I submit the Report of the Librarian for the year ending June 30, 1956.

We made the startling discovery this past year that with the graduation of the class of 1955 no class remained which had had to use the old library building. The class of 1956, our most recent alumni, were in reality the first beneficiaries of the new facilities in the fall of 1952, arriving on campus a week before the upper-classmen. They received a preview of the Library as a part of their orientation week.

CIRCULATION STATISTICS 1951-1956

The measurement of the extent and quality of the academic work of the student body by the usual testing and grading is never completely satisfactory, most teachers and deans will admit. There are numerous external indices, and certainly library use is one of them. As predicted long before the new library building was a reality, library use has climbed from the dormant days of Williams Memorial. This is borne out by the following record of outside and reserve loans:

	<u>Students</u>	<u>Faculty</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>Total Outside Loans</u>	<u>Reserve Loans</u>
1951-52*	12,021	2,945	1,106	16,072	14,187x
1952-53**	14,094	3,029	1,705	18,828	9,356†
1954-55	20,188	4,202	1,977	26,367	12,944†
1955-56	22,655	4,972	1,593	29,220	13,073†

* Last year in old library

** First year in new library

x All books on Closed Reserve

† Does not include use of Open Reserve books in the building

CATALOGUING

	<u>Titles</u>	<u>Volumes</u>
<i>Books added to the Library:</i>		
New titles catalogued	2,996	3,402
Replacements and added copies		343
Continuations		535
Periodicals	53	1,870
Totals	3,049	6,150
Books withdrawn		2,015
Books reclassified	1,411	1,861
Books recatalogued	442	2,078
Microcards catalogued	4	
Recordings catalogued	42	
Subject headings changed	1,416 (approx.)	

As the above figures indicate, we were able to add, by purchase and gift, 6,150 volumes this past year, compared with 4,711 during the preceding year. This was in large part due to the increased book budget granted by the Trustees this year. For the first time in the seven years of the writer's service at Trinity, we have been able to cope with the many book demands made by the teaching departments. Tribute must be paid here to the Order Department under Mrs. Schatz and the Catalogue Department under Miss Ives for their ability to handle an expanding situation in such an effective manner.

GROWTH OF THE LIBRARY

Volumes in the Library, June 30, 1955	229,801
Additions July 1, 1955—June 30, 1956	6,150
	235,951
Volumes withdrawn, July 1, 1955—June 30, 1956	2,015
	233,936
Volumes in the Watkinson Library	130,000
Total	363,936

BOOK STACKS

Each year since the new building was opened for use we have reported on the continuing need for the completion of the book stacks which were omitted near the end of the building program as an economy measure. The summer of 1957 will bring us to the five-year mark at which time it was estimated we would need the full complement of shelving. Already we are feeling the pinch in many areas of the stack. Since this will be a large installation and steel deliveries are so uncertain, the order should be placed this summer. A sum of \$14,000 to \$15,000 is required for this work, of which about \$2,000 has already been provided by individual Library Associates.

GIFTS

The life blood of a healthy library comes not alone from ample book funds, but also from the gifts in kind of its many devoted friends. Trinity College over the years has been particularly favored by the high regard that its alumni and friends have had for the printed word and their desire to see important books preserved and used. This year has been no exception. The Librarian's only regret at this point is that space will not permit a mention, let alone a description, of the hundreds of worthwhile gift books that have been placed on our shelves this year. As in previous years all that can be done is to highlight the year by remarking upon a few of the most outstanding donations.

Mr. Charles E. Feinberg of Detroit, one of the foremost collectors of Walt Whitman today, has provided us with a long file of the Whitman Fellowship Papers (1894-1918) as well as several facsimiles of early Whitman items and the microprint index to *The Conservator*. These supplement his gift of a file of *The Conservator* last year, providing us with important material for the study and appreciation of one of the major figures in American literature.

Early in the year Mrs. Avery Coonley of Washington, D.C., sent us the five-volume set of Mary Vaux Walcott's *North American Wild Flowers* published by the Smithsonian Institution in 1925. The color reproductions of each flower are extremely good.

The number of alumni donors this year was especially large. Typical of the gifts was our opportunity to select from several book lists provided by Lloyd E. Smith, '23, of Racine, Wisconsin, a steady stream of drama and poetry on long-play records from Clarence I. Penn, '12, of New York, and over one hundred volumes, largely history and economics, from Albert E. Holland, '34.

The members of the student body can be counted on each year to add desirable titles to the library. This year the Beta Beta chapter of Psi Upsilon established a book fund of \$150 to be renewed annually for the purchase of modern literature. This makes it possible for us to acquire recent books by contemporary authors which we could not purchase otherwise. The Librarian and the fraternity brothers collaborate in the selection of the titles purchased.

The faculty list of donors is a long one again. Rather than enumerate each one this year, I should like to devote this space to our retiring colleague, Harry T. Costello, who has just completed thirty-six years of devoted teaching at Trinity. No one will ever know all of the many contributions that Dr. Costello made during the years to help the Library maintain its stature and prosperity. His interest in bibliography and book selection, his development of the Reading Course, his wisdom and counsel in Faculty Library Committee meetings, and his gifts of books and funds for books over the years are not likely to be matched again. This past year, for

example, he saw to it that the Library had an additional \$400 for the purchase of Philosophy books. Remembering all his talents and generosity, his colleagues and former students banded together during the spring to form the Harry T. Costello Philosophy Book Fund. Several hundred friends have donated \$2500 to be used as an endowment for the purchase of books in his name. A bookplate incorporating his suggestions as to design is now being printed.

The recent capital gift of \$15,000 from Edgar F. Waterman, '98, and his family "for the purchase of books and their upkeep" will enhance our book purchasing power this coming year. Gifts such as this magnificent one, coming as a part of Trinity's Program of Progress, will make it possible for the Library to add those important books without which an academic library loses its vitality and thus its teaching power.

A book fund of \$3000 has been created by the trustees of the Hollander Foundation to memorialize two self-educated Hartford citizens, Aaron and Simon Hollander. This fund will be available "for general purposes."

LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

The Library Associates organization with a membership of 200 and under the leadership of Clarence E. Sherman, '11, continues to prosper. Numerous friends other than alumni, faculty, and students have been attracted to the group to take part in its activities and make gifts of both books and funds. Of special note this year have been the gift of three thousand volumes of literature, history, and biography from H. Bacon Collamore of West Hartford, rare books of the Elizabethan period from the library of Allerton C. Hickmott, also of West Hartford, and the microfilm edition of the *Virginia Gazette* (second oldest newspaper in this country) and its index from C. Waller Barrett of New York.

The Reverend George Roberts of West Hartford presented the Library with his Henry David Thoreau collection this spring. This was a gift full of sentiment, for as a boy Mr. Roberts played on the Trinity campus and graduated to the study room of the Watkinson Library in its downtown quarters before going to Yale. Now retired, Mr. Roberts has given his treasured books in return for past favors both from Trinity and the Watkinson.

The annual meeting of the Library Associates was held on Friday evening, April 20, with more than 125 members and their guests in attendance. Ann Lyon Haight, the wife of Sherman P. Haight, '11, spoke on one of her favorite topics, "Are Women the Natural Enemies of Books?" Before her well-received talk many of the group gathered in Hamlin Dining Hall for an informal dinner. The Library displayed an extensive group of "Banned Books" in the lobby cases based on Mrs. Haight's book of the same name.

The day before the annual meeting the Library had the opportunity to entertain the Hroswitha Club, a society of lady book collectors. Fifteen of their number, including Mrs. Haight, visited the Wadsworth Atheneum in the morning, had luncheon at the President's home, and visited the Trinity and Watkinson libraries in the afternoon. Following their business meeting the Librarian spoke to them of the history of the two libraries and displayed some of the rarities in the Trumbull Room.

The Treasurer's report for the period April 1, 1955 through March 31, 1956, as presented at the annual meeting, follows:

Balance, April 1, 1955		\$3,161.98
Income		
(Dues, Sales of Gift Duplicates)	\$3,370.80	
Expenditures		
(Books, publication, and meeting expenses)	2,069.87	
Excess of Income over Expense	\$1,300.93	
Balance, March 31, 1956		\$4,462.91

The winners of the third annual Student Book Collectors Contest sponsored by the Associates were announced at the annual meeting, and their collections were on display.

First prize of \$25 went to Howard H. Rapp, Jr., '58, of Wynnewood, Pa., for a collection on antiques. The second prize winner (\$15) was Dale C. Nelson, '56, of Middletown, for a theological collection which he has planned as the start of a minister's working library. Barnett M. Sneiderman, of Plainville, a freshman, took third prize of \$10 with a collection on the Civil War. Peter Cheney, another freshman from Hingham, Massachusetts, received honorable mention for his modern literature collection. All four were the guests of the Librarian at the April meeting of the Grolier Club in New York City.

The third number of the *Library Gazette*, published by and for the Associates, made its appearance in April. Two members of the History Department contributed articles. In *Edward Porritt: Hartford's British Historian*, George Cooper wrote of this neglected scholar's work in the field of constitutional history. The Watkinson Library provided Mr. Porritt with a great deal of his source of material. Norton Downs undertook the difficult task of outlining and summarizing for the Associates the extensive holdings of the Watkinson in medieval history. Our Reference Librarian, George W. Adams, provided a bio-bibliographical sketch of Joseph J. Cooke who provided Trinity with its first rare books on any large scale. In all, it was an extremely successful issue.

This coming year we hope to focus attention upon William N. C. Carlton, a leading American librarian of the early twentieth century who served his apprenticeship in the Watkinson Library and became the Trinity Librarian before going on to the Newberry Library in Chicago.

EXHIBITS

The highlight of the exhibit program this year was the "Banned Books" exhibition in April based on Ann Lyon Haight's book of the same title. As noted above, Mrs. Haight spoke before the Library Associates' annual meeting. The exhibit was arranged in her honor. It created considerable stir in the Hartford community resulting in several newspaper feature articles and a personal appearance for Mrs. Haight on Radio Station WTIC. Faculty, students, library staff, an alumnus, and a Library Associate all contributed to the arrangements this year. The complete schedule of exhibits and persons responsible follows:

September	Tenth Anniversary of <i>The Trinity Review</i> (Student literary magazine)	John Brims, Editor
October	Emblem Books	Miss Kerr
November	German Art of the Romantic Period	Professors Taylor and Frese
December	Christmas in Magazines	Mr. Hayes, Miss Angelo
January	Harriet Beecher Stowe Manuscripts (Lent by Miss Katherine S. Day)	Joseph Van Why, '50
February-	Early Valentines in the Watkinson Library	Miss Kerr
March		
April	Banned Books	Mr. Adams
May-June	Woodrow Wilson Centennial	Mrs. Clarke

STAFF

At the start of the academic year, Mrs. Marian M. Clarke was appointed to the new position of Serials Librarian. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan and its library school, and brings valuable experience in several college libraries as well as in an industrial research laboratory to her duties here. One of her first tasks has been to undertake the development of a control system for all serials, including government documents. The supervision of binding preparation has been placed in her hands, as well. With someone available now to devote steady attention to it, the time that volumes are away from the library has been drastically reduced. In addition to her primary duties, Mrs. Clarke has been able to provide us with additional Reference Desk coverage at some of the hours that Mr. Adams is not available.

In September Marion Richardson was forced to resign her position as the Librarian's secretary for reasons of health. It was a great blow to the Library, for she had been one of the most popular as well as efficient members of the college community. The writer can attest to the fact that she produced a day's work in a half day, and always with great cheerfulness. Fortunately, we were able to secure Grace Lyons to fill in until the end of the year. This she did most capably. At the end of June Sally Ann Locke, a recent Bay Path Junior College graduate, was appointed Secretary on a full-time basis. This increased assistance in the Librarian's office will make

it possible for us to cope with the ever-increasing burden of correspondence in the new building, as well as to further promote the well being of the Library Associates organization.

Mrs. Dorothy Kussat was forced in October to give up her full-time work as clerical assistant to the Watkinson cataloguer due to a change of residence. For the rest of the academic year Miss Frances Sheehan, retired secretary to the chief of the State Bureau of Libraries, assisted Mr. Hayes in the recataloguing of the Watkinson. In late June Mrs. Ann Kelley, a library assistant in the Westerly, Rhode Island, Public Library and that city's school system took over these duties.

During the summer months of 1955 Nancy Hallberg, a graduate of Newington High School and the daughter of Walter Hallberg, technician in Trinity's Chemistry Department, was employed as a circulation assistant. She was a very real help to us during summer school at a time when the regular staff members were absent on vacations. Harry Hoyle, a candidate for the Master's degree in the Graduate School, assisted Miss Kerr in the Watkinson Library during the summer and spelled her while she was on vacation.

The evening and week end work during the summer session was handled by Roger Dorwart, the son of Professor Dorwart, and John O'Connell, '57.

An increase in the wage rate for student assistants, based on length of service and type of work performed, made the tasks of employment and supervision somewhat lighter this past year. Taken as a whole, the group showed a high degree of faithfulness. Special commendation should go to the shelvees, John Tulk and David Smith. The complete list of student assistants during the year follows: David J. Barlow, '57, Frank C. Barrie, II, '59, Richard W. Bond, III, '59, Robert P. V. Brott, '58, Vincent J. Bruno, '57, Albert L. Geetter, '57, Paul A. Giffin, '57, Howard L. Hill, '59, Roy A. Hills, '58, James G. Kenefick, '57, Warren L. Linberg, '59, George C. Macintire, '59, John B. Norris, IV, '58, John O'Connell, '57, James F. O'Reilly, '58, David Smith, '58, Roy S. Tucker, '58, John Tulk, '56, John Wilkins, '56, George W. Wycoff, '59, Palmer Wyld, '56, and Michael Zoob, '58.

FACULTY LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Library Committee met several times during the year and devoted the major share of its attention to the departmental book fund allocations. This work was made considerably easier and more satisfying this year by the very appreciable increase in book funds voted by the Trustees. With additional funds for library purposes included in the Program of Progress and several new gifts already in hand, as mentioned earlier in this report, the continued development of the Library as the vital adjunct to the teaching process seems assured. The Faculty as a whole are grateful for what has amounted to a rebirth of library service on the campus during the past four years.

INSTRUCTION IN THE USE OF THE LIBRARY

An outgrowth this year of earlier Library Committee discussions was a program of library instruction for freshmen. During the year each first-year English section was brought to the Library for instruction and practical work in the use of the card catalogue and reference books. This was over and beyond the orientation period during freshman week. The Bibliography Seminar of five meetings, for seniors and graduate students, was offered again this past year with considerable success. An average of twenty-five attended the various sessions.

THE WATKINSON LIBRARY

The work of recataloguing the Watkinson Library was carried on during the calendar year 1955 with funds made available by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. The work for the year 1956 is being financed by the Old Dominion Foundation which did so much to make the library building possible in 1952. During the fiscal year 3,759 volumes have been processed. This was not up to our expectations due largely to the fact that this project went through three changes of clerical assistants under Mr. Hayes, the cataloguer. A large part of his time this year had to be spent in the preliminary instructions of his helpers.

As Miss Kerr's appended report will reveal, the Watkinson book collection continues to mean a great deal to this academic community. Daily we find reason to be grateful that this remarkable library has come to Trinity.

CONCLUSION

In closing, your Librarian would like to express his thanks to the total college community for helping to make the Library an effective teaching instrument. It seems to be generally understood on this campus that the Library derives its nature from the College and that its existence, its program, and its cost stem from the fact that the College needs and wants it. I am grateful that there has been such general agreement as to library values among the faculty, the administration, and friends of Trinity. The course between financial stringencies and the ever-present demands for more and more services is not an easy one. That we have made real strides in recent years there is no doubt. That there is much more to be done is just as certain. I look forward to the opportunity of working in concert with so many others for the continuing development and well-being of the College and its Library in years just ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD B. ENGLE
Librarian

A P P E N D I X

Report of the Watkinson Librarian for the year 1955-56

TO THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WATKINSON LIBRARY:

"Our class wishes to thank you very much for giving up your time and showing us the books of medieval history and manuscripts. We enjoyed it very much, and all of us learned about the early books. It gave us a thrilled feeling to have touched those old manuscripts, and to have seen pages from the first book ever printed." This quotation from a letter written by sixth grader Betsy Edwards of the Mooreland Hill School, Kensington, Connecticut, is typical of many of the expressions of appreciation received from other groups visiting the Watkinson Library. Groups who came to the Watkinson Library by appointment during 1955 included a class from New Britain State Teachers College Extension Course, the "Rare Books Club" from Mount St. Joseph Academy, and two different societies from Bulkeley High School. Hartford's D.A.R. and "Four Corners Club" both included the Library in their April program. During the spring Prof. Taylor brought his Trinity art class in to see the original Durer and Nuremberg Chronicle and other 15th and 16th century woodcuts. Dr. Downs, Professor of Mediaeval History, found ample material here for a class lecture on illuminated manuscripts and 15th century illustrations as found in books. Dr. Frese's German class also found considerable interest in the German books of the same period.

The Watkinson Library made a contribution during the year toward the exhibits displayed in the cases on the main floor of the Trinity College Library. The 200th anniversary of the first appearance of Samuel Johnson's famous *Dictionary* furnished an occasion for showing not only this 1755 edition of the *Johnson Dictionary*, but many even rarer ones dating from the 16th century. Later in the year an exhibit was formed of those literary and artistic curiosities of the 16th and 17th centuries known as "Emblem Books." Pictures formed an essential element in the make-up of these books and were intended to be read as part of the text.

Near the end of the year, Professor Nichols arranged an exhibit on the "Art of the Theater" in the conference room of the Library, using plates selected from the invaluable *Monumenta Scenica* belonging to the Watkinson Library. These illustrations included stage settings, decorations, theatrical costumes, and pageants of all times and countries.

For the Christmas exhibit, Miss Anna Angelo and Mr. Grom Hayes drew upon both the Trinity College Library and the Watkinson Library to fill the exhibit cases with Christmas pictures which had appeared in different periodicals of the 19th and 20th centuries. These magazine illustrations covered every imaginable subject from Yule time folk customs in different countries, a picture of the first English Christmas tree surrounded by Queen Victoria and the Royal Family, political cartoons, and reproductions of famous paintings from the Biblical story.

Progress has been made by Mr. Hayes in the work of classifying and recataloguing the books. In addition to cataloguing the current accessions he has completed work on Reference Books, Bibliography, and Book Arts. The last includes books on the history of printing, lives of famous printers, typography, the illustrations of books, and paper making. At the present time, Mr. Hayes is working on two extensive and important classes of books, Periodicals, and the American Civil War and Slavery.

Twice during the year I have had an opportunity to bring the Watkinson Library to the attention of the public outside the college community. On February 14th, I was invited to speak on the Ross Miller radio program over WTIC. The program was conducted in the form of an interview with questions and answers re-

garding the origin and history of St. Valentine's Day, customs associated with the day, and the fine collection of early valentines owned by the Watkinson Library. In the second issue of the *Trinity Library Gazette*, I paid tribute in an article to that public spirited bookman, Frank B. Gay, second librarian of the Watkinson Library.

In purchasing books, we concentrate on those subjects in which the Watkinson Library specializes. Thirteen books were added during 1955 in the field of the American Civil War. Among these is J. C. Andrew's *The North Reports The Civil War*. This is primarily about the newspaper correspondents who covered the northern side of the Civil War for the northern newspapers. We are also subscribing to a new periodical called *Civil War History* which deals in detail on a non-partisan basis with that period of national tumult. It contains articles on civilian and military aspects of the period, book reviews, and notes and queries from its readers.

Among the books on geography, exploration and history other than American Civil War, twenty titles have been added. Among these are the eleven volumes published to date of *Imago Mundi*, a year book of cartography. Its scholarly discussions of early maps are illustrated with fine reproductions of the maps themselves. Paul Hogan's *Great River* was honored by the American Institute of Graphic Arts as one of the "Fifty Best Books of the Year." It chronicles historical events and social movements of four civilizations along the banks of the Rio Grande—the aboriginal Indians, the Spanish, the Mexicans, and the Anglo-Americans.

Much of the Library's contribution to research is made through its excellent collection of books of bibliography. Twenty-one volumes have been added to this type of material during 1955. Among the most important of these are the two volumes of Confederate imprints, compiled by M. L. Crandall. The Boston Athenaeum in the heart of abolitionist Boston boasts one of the most complete collections of Confederate imprints in existence. This list of Athenaeum holdings covers official publications, military, historical and economic works, belles-lettres, sheet music, educational publications and text books, religious publications, newspapers, periodicals, charitable and fraternal publications and almanacs.

The twenty-three "books relating to books" added during the year include works on the history of printing, book binding, the "26 letters," paper making, type faces and a fascinating *pot-pourri* of oddities to be found among books, called the *Bookman's Bedlam*, by W. H. Blumenthal. A new and useful periodical called *Archives for Printing, Paper and Kindred Trades* has been subscribed to by the Library. By subscribing to another magazine, *Graphis*, the Watkinson departs from its customary conservatism and offers the public a journal displaying ultra modern styles in pictorial representation, designing, printmaking, and commercial art.

We are endeavoring to build up a complete collection of the works by and about Hartford's poet, Wallace Stevens. The first, and sometimes the only appearance of many of his poems is in periodicals. We are constantly on the lookout to pick up these elusive little magazines. Two bound volumes of Stevens' works were purchased during the year as well as thirteen other works in literature and language.

The ten books on Fine Arts include the *Art of Beatrix Potter*, illustrator of children's books, *America's Music*, by Gilbert Chase, George Ferguson's *Signs and Symbols in Christian Art*, and James Field's *American Popular Music, 1875-1950*. One of the most impressive of these books is the volume of 77 reproductions in color and black and white of the engravings of Paul Revere owned and issued by the American Antiquarian Society. Each plate is accompanied by an historical sketch.

Among the year's six books on the American Indian is the *Eagle, the Jaguar, and the Serpent*, by Miguel Covarrubias. It is a survey of Indian art of the Americas. We purchased four books on birds, one of the best being Sacheverell Sitwell's, *Fine Bird Books, 1700-1900*, a bibliography with color plates of all the "fine" bird books

published during that period. A "fine book" in the words of the compiler is one that is well produced—well printed on handmade paper. It should be enjoyable to look at and to handle, the pictures must be reproduced as perfectly as possible. Mr. Sitwell's book exemplifies in the highest degree all these requirements.

Most of this year's eighteen biographies might well be listed in one or another of the above classifications, including as they do works on Jefferson Davis, Abraham Lincoln, Mark Twain, Benjamin H. Latrobe, and William Morris. One of the most delightful is Rockwell Kent's informal autobiography. *Its Me, O Lord*. Reproductions from the author's pictures are complementary to the text. Many of them were originally published as illustrations for other books or advertisements.

It is with considerable satisfaction that I am able to report that the Watkinson Library is making such a positive contribution not only to the intellectual life of the College Community, but to that of the general public as well. I look forward to an ever increasing use of the resources of the Library in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH A. KERR,
Watkinson Librarian