Annual Report of the Library Committee, 1967-68

There have been eight meetings of the committee to date during the present academic year.

In the spring of last year, the committee dealt with procedures followed in book and periodical ordering, faculty-library relations, and exchanges of materials with other libraries. During the present academic year the committee has reviewed the operation of the department of Collection Development and, in particular, the processing of orders.

The serious problem of staff shortages in the department of Collection Development was also considered. Discussions centered around the question of relieving bibliographers in the academic departments of the need to select items for order. A letter was circulated to departmental chairmen and directors asking for support for new acquisitions personnel trained in specific subject areas. The response to this letter was unanimously positive. The Chancellor has indicated that this proposal will be given careful consideration in planning the 1969-71 budget. The committee is of the opinion that it is imperative that an earlier start be made in creating a staff of area specialists and will direct additional energies toward that goal.

Other problems which have occupied the committee are the maintenance of the shuttle service between the Milwaukee and Madison campuses, book exchanges with libraries in foreign countries, assignment of faculty studies in the new library building, and policies concerning the use by scholars of special manuscript collections such as the Little Review papers.

Library Committee

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