



# THE FLYLEAF

PUBLISHED BY THE  
FRIENDS OF THE  
FONDREN LIBRARY  
AT RICE UNIVERSITY

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**FRIENDS OF THE FONDREN LIBRARY** is an association of bibliophiles interested in book collecting, and particularly interested in increasing and making better known the resources of the Fondren Library at Rice University. It shall be the purpose of this organization to secure gifts and bequests and provide funds, whenever possible, for the purchase of rare books, manuscripts, and other material which could not otherwise be acquired by the Library.

# **THE FLYLEAF**

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Published by the Friends of  
the Fondren Library, Rice  
University, Houston, Texas

# THE FONDREN LIBRARY AND THE FRIENDS RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT

## I

This issue of *The Flyleaf* comes to you at the end of the 1973-74 academic year. The Friends of the Fondren Library publishes no official annual report, but the ten signers of this statement, all of whom have been associated with Rice University in one capacity or another for several years, agree that a frank discussion of the present problems of the Fondren Library and the role of the Friends in helping to solve them is in order. Two firm convictions dominate our discussion. First, we strongly believe that a "hands off" attitude toward the growing difficulties of the library is untenable. Second, we believe that the Friends can provide much of the necessary leadership for solving these problems. We hope that this statement will provide food for thought, but even more we hope it will lead to constructive action.

## II

The main problem of the Fondren Library is financial. It should surprise nobody to learn that the library has been increasingly caught between rising costs and budgetary restraints. Rising costs affect the library in a number of ways: increases for labor, paper, binding, printing, and other materials contribute to rapidly escalating costs for books, serials, and general operating expenses. For example, binding and paper costs increased about 10% and 25% respectively this past year. Inflationary pressures are particularly serious at present. Recently we learned that the consumer price index increased at an annual rate of 14.5% for the first quarter of 1974. While many private economists assure the public that the index will rise, on the average, only about 8% for the entire year and perhaps decline a point or two over the next few years, almost all financial analysts predict that prices will increase thereafter at the relatively high rate of 6% or more per year, a level which would have astounded most Americans a decade ago.

But the inflationary pressures on the library have been and probably will continue to be *far greater* than the national increases. There is the rub. The cost of books and serials has skyrocketed in the past ten years:

- The average price of a U.S. serial publication (all subject areas) has risen from \$6.64 to \$15.20, or 129%.
- The average price of a U.S. title in chemistry and physics has risen from \$16.50 to \$52.23, or 217%.
- The average price of a U.S. book in social studies has increased from \$7.63 to \$16.93, or 122%
- The average price of a U.S. book has risen from \$6.93 to \$13.74, or 98%.
- Expenditures on books and serials have increased 96%, but taking into account inflation real expenditures have increased only 6%.

In the past few years international developments have created still other problems. The devaluation of the U.S. dollar has increased the price of

foreign books more than 10%, an important fact since the library consistently buys 20—25% of its materials abroad. The devaluation combined with rapid inflation in West Germany has increased the price of books from that country 50% or more.

### III

Budgetary restraints constitute the other side of the problem. Actually, except for this past year, Rice University has over the past ten to twelve years consistently increased the Fondren Library's budget. These increases have ranged from nominal to substantial. But the total library revenues have increased more slowly because government grants for the acquisition of new materials have declined from a peak of \$62,000 (\$79,000 including matching funds) in 1967-68 to only \$5,000 total for the three year period ending in 1974. Moreover, much of the increase in monies to the library came in the form of special capital funds appropriated by Rice University for planned programs of acquisitions to meet the special needs of new programs and new or expanding departments. The increases, in other words, were part of a period of rapid expansion. These funds have been spent, and no more special funds (aside from a few very small endowed funds) exist at present.

In the past decade the publication of books in the U.S. alone has been increasing by about 5% per year; the growth rate is beginning to level off but not decline. In the combination of North America, Great Britain, the major western European countries, and the U.S.S.R. the publication of new books has been increasing by 6 to 7% a year over the past ten years and is leveling off slightly. The most recent UNESCO figure for book publication in one year in all these countries is 316,000 titles. Among the points that can be made here is that research libraries like Rice continue to be heavily dependent on printed books. Another is that the future publication and cost increases will make it more and more difficult for Rice to acquire even one-eighth of the titles being published.

Given the enlarged claims of the several departments and faculty along with new programs (such as the Computer Center), the demands for the limited financial resources of Rice University have become acute. The situation may worsen still further when new graduate programs in Music and perhaps other fields begin in the near future. Under these competitive conditions the library becomes only one of innumerable items in the university budget. One result is restrictive ceilings on book purchases; the yearly total of new titles purchased by the library has declined since 1968. Another is the cutback in serials on three occasions since 1971. Some of these cuts could be justified originally as part of a periodic effort to weed out deadwood among periodicals and allow for purchase of new periodicals. The total number of serials in fact increased modestly until this year. But the cutbacks for this coming year call for a 10% slash across the board. The problem is that what a professor thinks dispensible this year may be indispensable when he undertakes a new project a few years hence; the cuts also fail to take into account the research needs of future faculty members, graduate students, and other researchers. But because the value of

these "marginal" serials is intangible at present, it is difficult to justify their continuation.

#### IV

The financial squeeze is of course not unique to the Fondren Library. Many colleges and universities are suffering from budgetary stringencies to a greater or lesser degree, and in consequence their libraries suffer along with other academic programs. If we aimed only for a good undergraduate library, we could argue that the situation is not alarming. But Rice also has many graduate programs, which in combination require an enormous variety of library materials. It is a truism that a prerequisite for a first-rate graduate school is a good research library. Rice has always emphasized research, and the Board of Governors affirmed in 1964 that in its long-range goals the University should serve not only as an educational center, "but also as a center of creativity where new knowledge and new ideas result from research and other scholarly-creative activities" (1973-74 Rice catalogue, page 38). We do not believe in growth for the sake of growth. But given the information needs of Rice we do believe we cannot afford to stand still. The Fondren Library is presently a medium-sized research library, and in 1971 it was admitted to the Association of Research Libraries comprising 81 institutional members. Membership in this association confers great prestige and also provides a constant stream of information on the problems and concerns of research-oriented libraries. But Rice ranks between 74th and 81st in all but one of the ten categories defining the criteria for membership. Although the Fondren Library does not face immediate loss of membership in the ARL, we must begin to formulate bold and imaginative plans if we intend to keep Rice safely in this organization.

#### V

How do the Friends of the Fondren Library fit into the picture? Financially, the situation is mixed. Although the Friends have a modest cash reserve, a decline in memberships this past year resulted in a deficit which had to be paid for out of the cash reserves. On the other hand, the fact that gifts and memorials to the Friends have increased steadily from about \$14,000 in 1963-64 to about \$30,000 in 1972-73 indicates that individuals' support for the library has grown steadily. From another perspective, however, this more than 100% increase, while substantial, has done little more than keep up with the escalating price increases of books. The library today spends about \$180,000 annually for monographs alone, so these gifts and memorials pay for less than 20% of these purchases. The percentage figure tells only part of the story; cash donations to the Friends, unlike several special gifts and funds, are not restricted to a single purpose. Thus the library, knowing it can count on the Friends' money, is considerably more flexible than it otherwise could be in developing priorities. The library can spend the monies contributed to the Friends on additional monographs or on back files of serials and books to fill out extant collections.

#### VI

What can the Friends do about this situation? One obvious task is a drive

to raise more money. We have contemplated suggestions ranging from better publicity of the gifts and memorials of the Friends to the establishment of a substantially endowed fund which would yield on an annual basis as much as the Friends now receives in gifts and memorials. Such a fund envisions a capital sum approaching \$500,000 to supplement the usual gifts and memorials and may be beyond the Friends' short-term reach, although the fact that it could seriously be considered suggests a possible challenge for the Friends. The Friends of other libraries have engaged in successful fund-raising efforts. For instance, the Friends of the University of Houston Library and the Friends of the Texas A & M Library raised more than \$180,000 and \$100,000 respectively last year, although both are public universities supposedly supported adequately by the taxes of resident citizens! We all believe that the Friends will not increase the library's financial and book resources if it does not become a more aggressive organization.

Yet the Friends can point to some actual and potential assets for meeting the problems and challenges facing the library. For one thing, we live in a rapidly growing urban community, and the Fondren Library is virtually unique among research-oriented libraries associated with private universities in the entire Southwest. There are many people in this region who would respond positively to the Friends' activities if we made a sustained effort to reach them. For another, the Friends already has the officers, directors, and loyal members as the nucleus for a greater effort, and several among them have germinated ideas for revitalizing the group. Basically, these ideas seek to blend the old and the new. We intend to continue to have experts give talks to the Friends but also hope to invite speakers who will be able to discuss contemporary subjects of a more general interest. It has been suggested that we start a book club for those members who would like to discuss a new book every month or so. Rice faculty members and writers in and around Houston could present their own reviews of selected books as the basis for discussions. Another suggestion involves workshops in which interested bibliophiles can hear experts in book binding, printing, etc. talk about their crafts.

Finally there are suggestions for an active social program beginning this fall. The board of directors of the Friends is presently considering a number of proposals, including a dinner-dance outdoors on the Rice campus open to members as well as interested students, faculty, and public, a cocktail party in conjunction with some special exhibition in the library, and perhaps a dinner inside the library for members for the same or some similar purpose. We hope to invite distinguished guests and/or speakers to these gala occasions. These gatherings can help to publicize the ongoing activities of the Friends to prospective members and donors.

## VII

A few Friends cannot plan and organize all these activities. Nor would we want an elite to undertake all these endeavors even if it were possible. An organization is vital only in proportion to the active involvement of a substantial number of its membership. Join the Friends of the Fondren

Library! We urge you actively to support the Friends. Board members will be calling for help from more Friends than ever this coming year. We also hope that you will feel free to advance your own suggestions to the leadership of the Friends as it faces the challenging opportunities of the coming years.

David S. Patterson, Editor, *The Flyleaf*

E. James Angelo, Administrative Assistant, Fondren Library

F. Chandler Davidson, Chairman, Committee on the Library

Sam S. Emison, Treasurer, The Friends of the Fondren Library

Mrs. Wilfred S. Dowden, Editorial Assistant, *The Flyleaf*

Mrs. C. M. Hudspeth, Secretary, The Friends of the Fondren Library

Mrs. Carl Illig, President, The Friends of the Fondren Library

Richard L. O'Keeffe, Director, Fondren Library

Mrs. Edward W. Kelley, Jr., Vice-President, The Friends of the Fondren Library

Robert L. Patten, Former Editor, *The Flyleaf*

## **FUTURE FORMS: A GENERAL PREVIEW OF TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE IN THE LIBRARY**

by E. James Angelo

The Fondren Library of Rice University is representative, in its basic operating forms and procedures, of the good academic libraries of this country today. It embodies a "state-of-the-art" application of a technological mix which is now reaching the downhill side of its short-lived peak. The total shape of that operation—from the physical dimensions of the building to the skills and attributes of the professional and allied personnel—has been dictated by the dominance of two forms whose eminence is about to be seriously challenged. These are the everyday printed page type of book ("hardcopy" in current jargon) and the gargantuan card catalog. To be sure, much has changed since these two made their first appearances, and many of these changes will continue to play a central role in the collection, storage, and dissemination of knowledge.

We have seen the introduction, adoption, and ultimate exploitation of technological improvements such as the typewriter, electric lighting, temperature and humidity control. Advancements in and expansion of the publishing industry, communications, transportation, education, etc. have all contributed to the form and fabric of today's library. Among the more recent technical innovations to affect libraries is photoduplication, of which Xerography is the most popular form. Viewed from close proximity in its present role, the Xerox machine seems to be an almost indispensable aid to daily operations; whether its significant life-span or lasting impact will rival that of the typewriter, or even the mimeograph, is doubtful. The rate of technological change is picking up.

Other changes have occurred which are at least equal in importance to the purely technological ones. These relate to the organizational forms and operational concepts which govern library activity. Prime example among



these is the committed role of the Library of Congress in the creation and publication of bibliographic information and the general acceptance and use of the LC system and its data by this country's libraries. The recent proliferation of library consortia of various sorts and multi-institutional agreements and commitments for several types of purposes appear to be marking the trend for the next major wave of organizational change.

It would be possible to list many more organizational features and technological capabilities, all of which have played important roles in producing the total mix of library procedures and activities of today. A singular feature of all those mentioned thus far is that they have not basically altered either of the primary media—the printed book and the card catalog (or its first cousin the book catalog). Quite the contrary, all these changes were introduced into libraries specifically to service these traditional forms. Their employment has been as peripheral devices or marginal enhancements to a basically unchanged core system. The “real business” of books and the analysis and presentation of their bibliographic content has gone on, accelerated, but has been little perturbed.

To the patron of the research collections of major libraries the presence of microfilm holdings is nothing startling or new, although neither is it an unequivocal blessing to all who have read a film or set of fiche. Similarly, some degree of automation of one or another library process is becoming more the rule than the exception at university libraries, just as it is with many another industry. It is these two technologies, micrographics and electronic storage and processing of information, that will lead finally to the complete reorientation of library forms to a new set of dominant media. The hardcopy form of publication and the card or book catalog will pass to second place in an environment structured in a new way. What was once the norm will become the exception, or not exist at all.

Clearly, the degree and rate of change may not, in all probability will not, be the same for the type of catalog and the form and format of “book” publication. Conceivably, a library could effect a complete and permanent change in its catalog, going from a set of card files to on-line computer storage with access by display terminals almost overnight. It would not be so likely to divest itself immediately and summarily of all hardcopy holdings of text.

The assault on the hardcopy catalogs is proceeding a bit more slowly in terms of the outwardly visible effects, but can be expected to be achieved much sooner and with a more sudden, resounding impact. Several machine readable bibliographic data bases are in existence, including the Marc records produced by the Library of Congress. The biggest attention getter has been the Ohio College Library Center (OCLC) which currently consists of an on-line data base and a centralized cataloging operation serving libraries from New England to Atlanta (and soon to Texas) as well as the Midwest. The OCLC operation is being expanded to include several more aspects of library technical processing, and plans are underway for replication of the entire system at several points around the country. However, the OCLC operation is still oriented toward the production of catalog cards.

Major development efforts are also underway at Stanford and Chicago to produce broad-scale automated processing systems and at least one major commercial firm is currently marketing its own design for an across-the-board library system. Many libraries—public, private, large and small—have for several years made effective use of computer applications for one, or a few, of their specific operations such as circulation control, the printing of current awareness lists, catalog card production, etc.

The knowledge that has been gained from these experiences, coupled with decreasing unit costs for most computerized operations and increasing costs for manual (labor-intensive) operations, has readied the stage for the large-scale application of machine-based processing systems. Such systems will, of course, be very dramatic in their effect upon internal library procedures. There will be a change in the relative requirements for various types of skills and new forms of organization will emerge, both within single institutions and among institutions.

The basis for forecasting these two dramatic changes is purely economic and requires nothing beyond the scope of already existing technology. The increase in the relative importance of microform publication has already begun to show itself, as is manifested quite clearly by the comparison of a relatively young research library with an established one. The new collection will invariably include a much greater percentage of titles in microform than does the older one (and more than the older one did when it was of a size similar to the newer one). What has not yet occurred is the total structuring of a major library, in all its parts and particulars, for the servicing of microform as the principal medium. In fact, this may never happen—some third or fourth medium may supplant both micrographics and the traditional hardcopy.

The next step beyond all of this—beyond even the major internal restructuring and the new organizational forms—is the complete reorientation to a new catalog medium. Changes in processing systems alone, without the change to a new product, go only part way down the road. The full exploitation of the power available in a machine-based library system will occur only with the termination of primary reliance upon traditional printed forms of catalogs. The new form might be COM (computer output microfiche) or it might be direct access through video display terminals to information stored on computer discs, or one of many other variations and combinations which are possible. It is likely that many of these will be tried and that more than one will be found satisfactory. This flexibility and adaptability in product format must be borne in mind by those who develop and those who use the new systems; the three-by-five card and its associated filing rules and manual procedures will no longer determine the values, the number, or the domain of the relevant operating parameters.

This library catalog of the future will provide all its users—librarian, scholar, student, Friend—a more powerful tool for serving their needs. Although its advent for us cannot now be precisely dated, the challenge exists to anticipate and plan for its arrival and to know how to tell the grain from the chaff in both the old and the new.

## DESIDERATA

*Richard J. Smith, Visiting Assistant Professor in Chinese History, has written the following description of some important research materials which have recently become available in his field.*

I. The *North-China Herald* is easily the single most important English-language newspaper published in China during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.<sup>1</sup> A British publication based in Shanghai, the *Herald* offers a unique perspective on affairs in China during the years 1850-1941—a formative period in modern Chinese history. The *Herald* is unique not only for its continuity and comprehensiveness, but also for its policy of giving space to a wide range of conflicting viewpoints. Although it served as a vehicle for official British policy pronouncements, the paper often found itself in sharp disagreement with British policymakers both in Peking and in London.

In addition to its regular correspondents, the *Herald* boasted a number of leading foreign officials, businessmen and missionaries who wrote for the paper as a public service. The *Herald* had wide circulation among treaty port residents, and was even read in translation by some Chinese officials who wished to gain insight into the policies, problems and progress of the West.

Located at Shanghai, which as early as the 1850's had become the leading treaty port in China, the *Herald* viewed at close range many of the most significant developments in modern Chinese history. The city remained a key center of commercial and diplomatic intercourse, as well as a major point of Sino-Western cultural contact. Shanghai's Customs Inspectorate, Mixed Court and Council, arsenals, translating bureaus, foreign-style schools and banks were among the many innovative institutions that contributed to the modernization of China. Shanghai was, moreover, the scene of many important historical events, including the defense of the city against the Taiping rebels in the early 1860's (a turning point in the huge and devastating Taiping Rebellion), the founding of the Chinese Communist Party (1921), and the Japanese aggression in the 1930's that eventually resulted in the occupation of the foreign settlement (1941). In short, the *North-China Herald* is the starting point for Western language research in modern Chinese history, providing a wealth of information on Chinese politics, trade, missionary activity, and the tensions of cultural change in a treaty port environment where, in the words of one authority, "two civilizations met and . . . neither prevailed."

The total cost of the *Herald* (in positive microfilm) for the period August, 1850 to November, 1941 is \$1710.00. If funds are not available for purchasing the entire collection, it may conveniently be divided into two parts of almost equal size. The first, costing \$810.00, covers China up to the Revolution of 1911, which resulted in the fall of the Ch'ing dynasty. The second, costing \$900.00, covers China up to the Sino-Japanese War in the late

1930's and early 1940's. If a choice has to be made between the two parts, I would suggest purchase of the first.

Professor Fred von der Mehden, Asian specialist in the Political Science Department, also believes that the *Herald* would be a very valuable purchase.

II. The Irish University Press Area Studies Series on China provides an extremely useful complement to the *North-China Herald*. Whereas the *Herald* offers a journalistic account of contemporary events in China from a treaty port perspective, the Parliamentary Papers reprinted by the I.U.P. provide a view of China's problems and potentialities from the standpoint of professional diplomats in China and British policy makers in London.

The I.U.P. reprint series is conveniently organized by topics.<sup>2</sup> These include Civil Disorder (anti-foreign outbreaks), Coolie Emigration, the Opium War and Opium Trade, the Taiping Rebellion, Exploration, Foreign Settlements, Hong Kong, Diplomatic Affairs, Military Affairs, Missionary Affairs, Commercial Affairs, etc.

As is evident, these themes are of the utmost importance in understanding China's turbulent nineteenth century history, at a time when Great Britain played the leading role among the Western powers in Chinese affairs. The topical organization of the Parliamentary Papers brings together documents that were widely scattered in the original 7,000 volumes of "Blue Books," thus greatly facilitating research.

Although it would be ideal if funds could be found to purchase the entire I.U.P. series, a few priorities may be established, with the hope that, as with the *Herald*, later additions may be made. Perhaps most useful for immediate purposes are the following:

Volume 32: 600 pp. \$56.00	The Taiping Rebellion, 1850-1864 (documents on an uprising considered by some to be "the greatest civil war in world history")
Volume 27: 448 pp. \$44.00	Military Affairs (documents on the problems associated with sustaining British troops in China, 1840-1869; of interest to military historians as well as historians of China)
Volume 1: 752 pp. \$63.00	Civil Disorder (documents on the origins and outcome of anti-foreign uprisings in China, 1840-1892)
Volumes 30 and 31: 704 pp. \$60.00 592 pp. \$53.00	The Opium War and Opium Trade (documents on a persistent moral and political problem for British policymakers, 1840-1885)
Volume 29: 592 pp. \$53.00	Missionary Affairs (documents on anti-missionary outbreaks, 1857-1872, including the famous Tientsin Massacre of 1870)
Volume 23: 464 pp. \$45.00	Foreign Concessions (documents on the "Scramble for Concessions" of 1898-1899—

from the British perspective. It was in this context that Secretary of State John Hay's famous "Open Door" notes were issued)

Volumes 24-26:  
720 pp. \$61.00  
696 pp \$60.00  
648 pp. \$78.00

Hong Kong (documents on Britain's sole colony in China, during the years 1846-1899. These materials provide valuable information on the practical problems of colonial administration in China)

Volumes 3 and 4:  
504 pp. \$51.00  
528 pp. \$49.00

Coolie Emigration (documents on an embarrassing but important aspect of Sino-foreign relations)

At some point it would be very worthwhile to purchase the volumes on Commercial Affairs, 1821-1899 (Volumes 36-40: 608 pp., \$54.00; 704 pp., \$60.00; 632 pp., \$56.00; 654 pp., \$66.00; 850 pp., \$69.00), and the large collection of Embassy and Consular Reports on Trade, 1854-1899 (total cost: \$1,392), but the latter represents a considerable outlay and perhaps should not be a first priority item.

III. The Claremont College China Missionaries Collection, published by the Microfilming Corporation of America, would be a valuable addition to the Fondren Library. It consists of the reminiscences of over fifty American and British missionaries to China, collected by Claremont in the 1950's. Describing the missionaries interviewed by Claremont, M.C.A. writes:

Some were born in China, almost all of them raised families there; all of them spoke Chinese. Collectively, their story is an eyewitness view of China over the past fifty years of the 20th Century. They saw leprosy, bandits, warlords and secret societies. They were there from the Boxer Rebellion to the Japanese invasion and occupation; from the Communists' "long march" to the establishment of the People's Republic. They witnessed the formation of the Nationalist Chinese government of Taiwan, and the Korean War from the mainland Chinese point of view.

Some of the missionaries give firsthand accounts of Pearl Buck, John Dewey, the Luce family, Taoism, Confucianism, Buddhism, The Manchus, Chou En-lai, Sun Yat-sen, Mao Tse-tung, Chiang Kai-shek and Mme. Chiang—fifty years of China passing through her most turbulent times.

The entire collection (on 105x148 mm. microfiche or 35mm microfilm) costs \$160.00.

<sup>1</sup>See Andrew Nathan, *Modern China, 1840-1972: An Introduction to Sources and Research Aids* (1972), p. 73; also Frank King and Prescott Clarke, *A Research Guide to China Coast Newspapers, 1822-1911* (1965), pp. 28-29, 78-80.

<sup>2</sup>Nathan, p. 70; for description of the topics see the I.U.P. information booklet.

## DAVIES DIARY

One of the most interesting recent library acquisitions is the gift of Mrs. Joseph I. Davies of the late Professor Davies' manuscript notes on his recollections of the early days at Rice. Accompanying the diary, which is now in the archival collection in the Woodson Research Center, are a number of slides, some of them early glass negatives.

Dr. Davies first came to Rice in 1914 with Julian Huxley (later Sir Julian), one of the Institute's stellar first faculty, and a member of the British family renowned for their work in biology and other fields, including literature. "Huxley," says Davies, "had spent some months at Rice during the previous year and he came back to England looking for a lab assistant. I was taking some courses at the University of London and decided I could go to school in Houston just as well as in London." Davies combined his studies with his lab duties, gained his Ph.D., and became a full-fledged faculty member in 1929. After fifty-two years of service to Rice, Dr. Davies died suddenly in May of 1966, just ten days before he was due to retire.

One of the glass slides is of Huxley at age twenty-seven, in 1914. Others are of the first buildings sitting treeless on a vast muddy prairie, and of the shack where students waited for the hourly shuttle trolley to take them to the main trolley line at Fannin and Eagle.

Dr. Davies' writing style was as pungent as his speaking style, and the diary speaks freely of his and Huxley's surprise when, after spending a summer in Woods Hole or Colorado, they would come back to Rice to be greeted by a strange face in the biology lab who would announce that he had been hired by President Lovett to be an instructor. After about the fourth summer, however, Dr. Davies reports that he ceased to be surprised by this practice, which Dr. Lovett understandably considered an extension of his original faculty recruitment, and was not displeased that fall to find in the department young Dr. Asa Chandler, who went on to become one of the outstanding biologists in this country.

One of Davies' anecdotes concerns the River Oaks pond, which is shown in one of the slides. Davies and Huxley often roamed the countryside, Huxley looking for birds and Davies for ponds and streams. One day they came across a "permanent pond with clear water and aquatic plants with a rich aquatic fauna," located about 200 yards west of the entrance to what is presently River Oaks. They noticed a man fishing in the pond, and when they asked him what he was using



for bait, he replied, "possums." Davies says, "this remark caused me to raise my eyebrows, and even Huxley must have raised his; at least he seemed incredulous." (Those of us who remember Dr. Davies' bushy eyebrows and his habit of raising them frequently during lectures can well picture this scene.) The possums turned out to be half-inch embryos the fisherman had taken from the pouch of the mother, which he had killed for food. "This was my first experience with Texas marsupials," says Davies, "and a vivid one."

The diary contains a good deal about various faculty members, mostly in the Biology Department. The period from 1926 on is telescoped into a few paragraphs and is illustrated by about two dozen Kodachrome slides of buildings and building sites. The last slide is labeled, "And buildings do get finished." The diary ends, "And I am finished too."

This gift of Mrs. Davies is truly a welcome one, not only because it adds to our corporate memory, but also because it is expressed in such a human and personalized way, painting a marvelous picture of that most distinctive and memorable member of the Rice community, Joseph Illot Davies.

Nancy Parker



Above: Pond in River Oaks about 1914. Opposite page: Julian Huxley in 1914. See comments on both pictures in text.

BOOK-A-MONTH CLUB MEMBERS 1973-74

MR. & MRS. RAYMOND A. COOK	MR. C. B. MURRAY
MR. & MRS. LESLIE GRADY, JR.	MR. & MRS. EDWIN P. NEILAN
DR. GLEN E. JOURNEY	MR. OSCAR M. PALMER, JR.
MR. H. MALCOLM LOVETT	MR. & MRS. JOHN F. STAUB

The following listings include gifts and memorials received between December 1, 1973, and March 31, 1974.

Gifts for the purchase of books have been received from:

MRS. FANNIE SCOTT HOWARD  
 MISS FREDERICA E. KILLGORE  
 MRS. FRANKLIN K. LEVIN  
 MR. HARRIS MASTERSON for Texana materials  
 MR. HAROLD E. MORTIMER  
 MR. WILLIAM M. NATHAN  
 OWEN WISTER LITERARY SOCIETY

SPECIAL GIFTS

Fondren Library attempts to have all works by members of the faculty and professional staff represented in our collections, preferably two copies, one for the stacks, and one for Archives. We deeply appreciate the donation of such works by the authors. Recent donations of this nature are as follows:

MR. JOSEPH L. BATTISTA	<u>From Little to Little</u>
MR. JUAN GARCIA	<u>Gramatica Espanola, Por Que la Gramatica es Una Ciencia</u>  two copies of <u>De Spaanse Burgeroorlog en Zijn Gevolgen</u> , containing his article, "Foreign Intervention on the Sea"
MR. MARIAN KRZYZANIAK	two copies each of offprints of his articles which appeared in <u>Finanzarchiv</u> and in <u>Public Finance</u>

Other authors, not connected with Rice University, have also presented copies of their works as follows:

MR. EDWARD BERNARD	<u>The Future of the Human Race</u>
MRS. DWIGHT J. EDSON	<u>Wise and Otherwise</u>
MR. HARRY A GOLEMON	<u>Financing Real Estate Development</u>
MR. GEORGE W. HEADLEY	<u>The Headley Treasure of Bibelots and Boxes</u>



## SPECIAL GIFTS

Mrs. Rolland Bradley presented from the estate of MR. ROLLAND BRADLEY, a red leather bound copy of his Master's thesis: "Proportional Representation in the United States," and the original manuscript of a book which he authored, entitled Our Basic Faith.

CAUDILL ROWLETT SCOTT, INC. presented a copy of A Bucket of Oil; the Humanistic Approach to Building Design for Energy Conservation, by Caudill, Lawyer and Bullock.

EXXON CHEMICAL COMPANY has donated several thousand volumes and journals to the Library.

The Legal Department of PHILLIPS PETROLEUM COMPANY contributed to Fondren Library Arkansas Reports, 1837-1885, and Louisiana Reports, 1877-1885. These contain legal case histories from the time of the Civil War and Reconstruction.

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MR. STEPHEN K. SWIFT presented Fondren Library with the following items: A Magyar Hirek Kinces Kalendariuma, 1971-73; Hungarian Review, 1969-73; Annuario Pontifico, 1952, 1957, 1958, and 1962; Our Mythical Rule of Law, by Edgar J. Schoen.

Many other individuals have made donations of books and journals to the Library, but it is not possible to list them all.

## GIFTS IN KIND

Impressions of the Big Thicket, with paintings by Michael Frary and text by William A. Owens, was donated by Mrs. Charles Cobler, in memory of MR. DILLON ANDERSON.

Mr. & Mrs. Price Daniel presented a copy of their book, Executive Mansions and Capitols of America, in memory of her brother, MR. ROBERT JOHN BALDWIN, a graduate of the School of Engineering at Rice.

Mrs. Hardin Craig presented, from the estate of MR. HARDIN CRAIG, JR., as a memorial, The Mariner's Dictionary, by Gershom Bradford.

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In memory of MRS. RALPH ELLIS GUNN, Dr. & Mrs. Reginald Platt donated Texas: A Picture Tour.

A copy of Heroes of Texas, containing biographies and portraits of famous Texans, and compiled by significant Texas historians, was given in memory of MR. DAN HARRISON, by Mr. & Mrs. Fred Shelton.

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Mrs. Charles Cobler memorialized MR. WRIGHT MORROW with a gift of The Stars and Stripes, a work by Boleslaw and Marie-Louise D'Otrange Mastai, which depicts the American flag as art and as history from the birth of the Republic to the present.

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## A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO BEN BLANTON

The recent death of BEN F. BLANTON, Director of Information Services at Rice University, brought a great sense of loss to the entire university community. He was an active member of Friends, liked and admired by all who knew him, as is testified by the many memorials received. We wish to thank especially Mrs. Blanton for donating to Fondren Library Mr. Blanton's office library, consisting of several hundred volumes, reflecting his varied interests.

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