

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MUSIC LIBRARY

< 1943 - 1944

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## Circulation

Total circulation for the year, including 9,989 phonograph records, was 18,687, or an increase of 1,641 over the year before. There was an increase in record circulation of 1,380, so it is apparent that most of the increase was in phonograph records. It should be noted that the chorus music was given to Mr. Lindberg this summer, and for that reason summer circulation figures did not include this type of music, which often circulated as many as 40 or more copies a day when a new number had to be given out to students.

This summer, as last, a number of students from other parts of the University came to the library to study because it is air-conditioned. At one time the library became so crowded we had to discourage some of our opportunist visitors.

## Record circulation

Total record circulation for the year was 9,989, an increase of 1,380 in record circulation over the year before. The listening rooms are seldom empty, and students and faculty members from all over the campus come to listen to records during their free hours. This year we have had as listeners a number of soldiers from army camps near by, many of them returning several times to the library. One of the most notable of these visitors was Rupert Trapp, baritone of the Trapp family choir, who was disappointed to find we did not have the two Trapp family record albums, but seemed content to listen to early choral music and some English folk songs.

It would be a good idea to have a portable record-player which could be carried to different vacant rooms, and Dr. Doty has given us permission to buy one; the only thing we have to do now is to locate a good one that is for sale.

## Broken records

We were unable to buy any records this year; after placing orders for about \$1,500 worth of new records last year and receiving only about \$400 of the order, we found the purchase of records most unsatisfactory. Particularly unsatisfactory was the replacement of records, and for this reason we have accumulated quite a list of broken records which should be replaced as soon as the war is over. In some cases where we especially needed a replacement, as for instance the Mozart G minor symphony, we bought an entirely new recording of the work so the students would have it for study.

## Relations with clientele

We have continued to maintain an atmosphere of friendliness in the library, and many of our clientele have commented upon this. We have kept the library open on Saturday afternoons for students to listen to records before examinations. We lent records and furniture to the Drama department, who ruined two of our tables, but Dr. Doty plans

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to have them repaired at the expense of the Drama department. This summer we provided records and a listening room in order that one of the graduate students in history might make a report to his class.

### Music library committee

The Music library committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Fitzgerald, met with considerable regularity during the year and worked on a revision of the Dewey decimal classification for music; the revised tables have now been mimeographed. Perhaps it might have been better if we had studied the Library of Congress classification system before we finally decided on a change in our own system.

The committee has also been of help in deciding on policies for the library and in making decisions as to what materials should be relinquished by the library and given back to the Music department.

Another accomplishment of the committee was to draw up cards for the cataloging of band, orchestra, chamber and choral music. In the case of choral music, three different colors of cards were used: a different color is to be used for male, female and mixed voices, thus making the same list serve as an index to type as well as to composer and title. These cards were turned over to Mr. Lindberg when he took the chorus music.

### Record cataloging

During the year we got only a very few new records. However, we had not finished cataloging records left from the large order of the year before, so there was plenty of record cataloging to do. One of the biggest chores we have had to do was the cataloging of the four new albums of L'Anthologie sonore, the Gramophone shop's history of music on records. We have just finished ordering about \$600 worth of new records and replacements on broken records, and a good part of the coming year will have to be spent on cataloging as many of these new records as we get.

### Instruments and chorus music

This year we had charge of the instruments until the end of the first summer term in July when we turned them back to the Music department and Mr. Lindberg was delegated to take care of them. The constant checking in and out of instruments, the keeping up with whether string instruments had all the strings they needed, and the sterilization of woodwinds and brasses proved too much of a job for a small staff already loaded down with checking out books, music and records. We also turned all chorus music over to Mr. Lindberg in July; he is Dr. Jones's assistant and has to check the chorus roll, and it is much easier for him also to keep up with their music. We have had more time to get caught up on listing of uncataloged music now that we no longer have charge of instruments and music for chorus.

### Departmental collection

Circulation of DC books in Music was 491 for the year, against 546 for the previous year. However, the year before the books were new to music, and I have noticed that the first year DC books go into a branch, there is usually a very high circulation, which is not always maintained in succeeding years.

### Equipment and quarters

In our annual report last year, we brought out the fact that our shelf space was almost filled, and this year we added a great many new books and the ten-volume set of Vierteljahrsschrift für Musikwissenschaft, which we brought over from Main. To offset these additions to the library shelf space, we sent back all the four-hand piano arrangements of symphonies to the Main library. With acquisition of the new shelf in the stack room, lack of shelving in the library reading room will be partially remedied.

Wall cases for sheet music are much too small, and we attempted to replace them with filing cabinets from Remington-Rand. However, when we measured the inside space of the new cabinets, there was exactly the same amount of space there is in the ones we already have, so we did not have the new ones installed. Instead, we gave up the choral music, which is now kept in shelves off Room 200.

No matter what shifting is done, however, or what new stack space is installed in the library as it now exists, the fact remains that the Music library is much too small. In this connection I should like to make the following recommendations for future additions to the library:

1. A separate office for the librarian.
2. A reading room without open shelves and a separate stack space.
3. At least four listening rooms; these rooms should be on the opposite side of the stacks from the reading room so that people in the library would not be disturbed by the cacophony which would result when all listening rooms were in use at one time. These rooms should be equipped with the best phonographs available: Magnavox, Amesley, or Capehart. There should also be one or more portable players which could be checked out from the library and carried to wherever the borrower wished to use them in the building.
4. A musicology seminar room next to the library to be equipped with a grand piano and a microfilm reader.
5. Adequate lighting for the entire library.

### Last year's objectives

This year we have finished cataloging orchestra music on new printed cards worked out by the Music library committee and put the music in manila folders inside pamphlet boxes. The folded end of the folder has been labeled and this end is put in the front of the box so that the contents are visible as soon as the box is opened. All the members of the faculty who use orchestra music have commented on the excellent way this music is arranged.

Chamber music, and music for violin, and voice was also put in manila folders, labeled and stored in pamphlet boxes. Mr. Ulrich helped us select chamber music which he could spare from his chamber music reserve shelf and we sent this music to be specially bound; as soon as these volumes have been received from the binder, we will send other chamber music to be bound.



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Piano music was divided into two classes, single piano and two-piano music, and each category labeled and put in pamphlet boxes also. As soon as time permits, we will catalog as much of this music on the cards worked out by the Music library committee, as there are cards for various types.

### Objectives

Our most important objective is the building up of our various collections, and with Dr. Grout's help we shall try to fill as many gaps as possible. We shall continue to work with him on all the checking and ordering connected with this project.

This year we got copies of the Song index and Children's song index, and I think some attempt should be made to purchase the more worthwhile collections indexed in these two aids.

We are now working on the recataloging of the chamber music on cards worked out by the Music library committee, and the cataloging of some new chamber music which has been recently added to the collection.

Since the revised Dewey decimal classification has been worked out, we hope the catalog department will begin cataloging the backlog of music which has been accumulating for several months. At some future time we also hope to get music which was lumped into the general number, m780, and given abridged cataloging, reclassified and recataloged under the new numbers.

Because we are a charge collection and have only an author and composer list of books in the library, we find lack of subject headings a very great handicap, especially since we are so far from the Main library. I wish some means could be devised whereby we could have subject headings and a more thorough cataloging of our collection than a mere author and composer list affords.

We hope to get the microfilm music ordered from the Library of Congress in the Music library after the Catalog department has cataloged it. We have a microfilm reader lent us by Archives, and if this music proves as popular as we think it should, at some future time we probably should have another reader.

Some more adequate means has to be devised for taking care of the unclassified materials in the library. We now have, in addition to the various kinds of music already mentioned, three or four sets of songbooks, as "Songs for every purpose and occasion," "Red book of program songs," etc., multiple copies of several oratorios, a few copies of "Sixty chorales harmonized by Johann Sebastian Bach," and a great many other items in varying quantities. Besides all the materials we now have, Dr. Grout would like to have all multiple copies of scores he has purchased for Music appreciation and Listening hour kept by the library; these scores are now in the room where instruments were formerly kept, to which the library does not have a key, and in Room 105, from where they may be stolen by any acquisitive person.

This material has accumulated over a period of two and a half years back because there was not time to work with it. The point has now been reached where something is going to have to be done with all these materials. As long as there is one person on the job who knows

what is in the library, that person (in this case, I) is always consulted when something cannot be found, but no one knows better than I the fallacy inherent in this way of doing things.

Some drastic change is going to have to be made in the organization of the library and in the materials kept there, and in shelving space before the set-up will be anything like adequate. It may be that many of the materials I have mentioned should be given back to various groups in the department. All materials remaining under supervision of the library might be listed in one file, with uncataloged items on different colored cards so that they could be pulled out at any time. Dr. Grout and I have discussed putting cards in the catalog for all uncataloged music he has bought. The catalog card could indicate the type of music, and the music could be stamped with the type; or if it was thought desirable to keep all music bought for a certain purpose together, "Listening hour", for instance, could be stamped on both the catalog card and the music itself.

These are only suggestions as to a way to take care of different phases of the library's problems. I do not know what the best solution, or solutions, is going to be, but I do know that something must be worked out as soon as possible to take care of these problems.

CIRCULATION STATISTICS  
FOR THE MUSIC LIBRARY 1943-1944 AND 1942-1943

	Home use		Building use		Phonograph records		Overnight use		Total	
	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43
September	495	236	244	94	681	318	49	19	1754	667
October	302	361	239	265	560	809	86	101	1265	1608
November	429	257	258	217	545	592	87	89	1333	1384
December	294	314	164	163	641	888	101	295	1090	1158
January	449	328	172	276	1099	799	252	62	1363	1787
February	351	727	252	216	745	764	43	102	1954	1804
March	422	704	283	206	811	683	114	102	1493	1776
April	363	411	259	215	870	650	124	91	1547	1411
May	426	213	314	444	1062	692	145	53	1734	1398
June	317	153	282	228	979	748	73	15	1806	1126
July	400	455	246	256	1030	750	62	40	1698	1474
August	<u>342</u>	<u>445</u>	<u>209</u>	<u>218</u>					<u>1650</u>	<u>1453</u>
GRAND TOTAL	4597	4604	2922	2798	9989	8609	1179	1035	18,687	17,046