## Libraries, Librarians and Society 図書館, 図書館員と社会

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## 要旨

この論文は、イギリスの図書館事情を、歴史的背景、公共図書館、国立図書館、大学図書館、図書館 員の地位、図書館基準、機械化の動向の諸側面から紹介したものである。

歴史的背景としては、300年の歴史をもつ図書館の推移を、主として19世紀以降に入ってからの図書館振興に関連する条令について、年表的に紹介している。

公共図書館はイギリスの社会文化, 社会教育の根幹であり, 現在における 普及状況を数字的にふれ, 本分館併せて 3,460 館, ブックモビール 530 台, 4,000 箇所のサービスポイントは, 日本の 763 館に比較して別世界の感がある。 人口 12,500 人当り 1 館の普及に対して, 日本の普及率は, 131,600 人当り 1 館と, その差異を著者は指摘している。

国立図書館は、既存の National Central Library, National Lending Library for Science & Technology, British Museum Library, National Library of Scotland, National Library of Wales をあげ、特に前三者の規模および機能の概略を紹介している。British Museum Library (1753 設立) は、衆知のように国家的な参考調査図書館であり、これに対し National Central Library (1916 年設立) は、公共図書館の国立本館的機能を持ち、図書館間相互貸借、利用頻度の減少した資料の保存センター、逐次刊行物の総合目録の発行等を中心業務としている。National Lending Library for Science & Technology (1954 年設立) は、32,000 種の逐次刊行物、180,000 種のモノグラフ、32,000 種の外国紀要、マイクロ資料多数を擁して、科学技術分野の情報センターである。

大学図書館は、数百年の歴史の厚みの上に、4百万冊のケンブリッジ大学図書館をはじめとし、8万冊クラスのカレッジ図書館を含め、44大学図書館の存在にふれている。

図書館員の地位は、社会的には、ほぼ教員と同等に認められ、特に、図書館協会のシラバスによる試験制度が、図書館員の教養を高め、地位の向上に大きな影響をもたらしたことにふれている。

図書館基準は、1959年の Roberts Report に、現在の基盤がおかれ、特に理念として、中央と地方、大都市と中小都市の格差をもたらさないように、基準の適用が考慮されている。

最新の動向として、前記の国立図書館に加えて、Central Science Patent Collection の設立が検討さ

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## Libraries, Librarians and Society

れ、更に、総合的な British Library なる国立図書館の設立が建議されていることを紹介している。 また、機械化の動向として、出版物の量的増加にふれながら電子計算機の採用、 複写技術、テレックスなどの大幅な採用など、図書館活動の多面化を紹介している。 一見保守的に見えるイギリスが、文化活動の中核となる図書館については、実に積極的、進歩的であるのは注目に値する。 (S. W.)

Most people engaged upon the study of librarianship will almost certainly have studied the background to their own library movements and, possibly, also the history of some other library development. In Great Britain we are proud of our history of the provisions of libraries both for the universities—for learning, for the nation—for preservation, and for the people—the public libraries. The Bodleian Library at Oxford, which serves the Univ. of Oxford, was founded in 1602-almost 370 years ago. It is also interesting to point out that of the 44 universities in U.K., 6 were founded 500 years or more ago and 30 were enrolling students before the beginning of this century. The National Library-The British Museum-was founded in 1753 and now has a stock of 8,000,000 printed books. The Public Library movement has been growing in Britain since the 15th century and culminated in the 1st Public Library Act of 1850.

Before 1850 the work of the endowed libraries (the collections of literature left in the care of the church for the local population) the church and monastery collections, the charity schools libraries, parochial and municipal libraries, the institutional libraries, the university libraries, the private subscription libraries, books clubs and circulating libraries is well known and well documented. From these grew a desire for the spread of the provision of books for all the people which culminated in the Public Library Committee Report of 1849. As Samuel Smiles said in evidence before that Committee:

"amongst those who read, unquestionably there has been an improvement in their habits of order, temperance and character generally."

Let me tabulate the landmarks in the provision of Public libraries in Britain:

1849 William Ewart's motion in the House of

Commons, leading to the appointment of the Select Committee on Public libraries.

1849 Select Committee on Public libraries Report

1850 Public Libraries Act received Royal Assent on August 14th. It permitted councils of towns of 10,000 population and over to provide a library building, librarian, light and fuel. No provision for the purchase of books and rate limited to ½d in the £1.

1855 Public Libraries and Museum Act. Rate raised to 1d in the £1 and the purchase of books permitted.

1866 Public Libraries Amendment Act

1870 Education Act passed.

1876 American Library Association founded

1877 Library Association of the U.K. formed

1878 1st Library Association conference (By this time 98 authorities had adopted the Acts and had set up public libraries)

1884 Public Libraries Act

1885 1st professional examinations held in librarianship for the Library Association

1887 Public Libraries Acts

1892 Public Libraries Act
(By 1899, 393 authorities had adopted the Acts)

1901 Public Libraries Act
(By 1909, 570 adoptions of the Acts)

1913 Carnegie United Kingdom Trust

1919 Public Libraries Act. Removed 1d rate limit and permitted establishment of county libraries in England and Wales

1964 Public Libraries and Museums Act

1966 1st National Libraries Week in Britain

Today there are 460 central libraries (public libraries) with 3,000 branches and 530 mobile libraries—a total of nearly 4,000 service points in the library network open to the general public. By comparison Japan has 763 public

libraries and branches.

So much for the background, the history of library provision. As you can see the first half of the nineteenth century saw the setting up of many learned libraries; the establishment of mechanics' institute libraries; the consequent struggles to set up public libraries.

After the passing of the first Public Libraries Act in 1850 we saw the very slow development of public libraries, crippled by inadequate finances. Financial support came from Andrew Carnegie and his U.K. Trust. Great help and encouragement was given to the Library Association to set up an examination syllabus to train librarians to a recognised level, to the National Central Library and to other bodies for library work and research. After the First World War the 1919 Act stimulated the development of public libraries, saw the establishment of the county library system, a system which covered all areas not at that time providing libraries, and the start of inter-library co-operation and special librarianship. ASLIB was founded in 1924 and its first directory was published in 1928.

After the Second World War the trends in co-operation have continued and the growth of technical and special libraries has been spectacular. Mechanical developments have been introduced (punched-cards, photo-copying, Telex, computers etc). A greater emphasis has been placed upon education for librarianship. This in turn has raised the status of the librarian, which in turn permitted the recruitment of more promising people, a raise in salaries, in expenditure and a change in attitudes towards the profession of librarianship. This spiral upwards has a cumulative effect and has resulted in a further increase in demand for qualified librarians, resulting in higher salaries, better status and so on. This, then, brings us very much up to the present situation and its problems. Today, as you have seen, there are enough libraries to serve the public and people:

at *National* level (6 deposit libraries established by the 1911 Copyright Act)

at University level (total bookstock in the 44

universities of 23,000,000 volumes and 200,000 periodicals)

(Compare Japan 53,000,000 volumes in 377 major universities)

and at *public library* level (one library for every 12,500 people) (Compare Japan with a public library for every 131,600 people).

What is aimed at now is the establishment of the best possible service at all levels—National, University, special, technical and public—in terms of efficiency, coverage, availability, adequacy, co-operative acquisition and interlending services.

How do we try to do this?

At National level we have encouraged the establishment of specific national libraries. These are the National Central Library, the National Lending Library for Science and Technology and the British Museum.

The British Museum was established in 1753 with the aim of providing a national reference collection of books, contemporary and antique, British and non-British. It is divided into three main departments—Printed Books, Manuscripts and the Department of Oriental Books and MSS. In addition there is a separate Newspaper Library. The British Museum now contains about 8,000,000 volumes, 500,000 volumes of newspapers, 100,000 charters and rolls, 10,000 incunabula, 1,000,000 items of music, 500,000 maps and 12,000 current British and non-British periodicals.

The 1911 Copyright Act stated that British publishers must deposit copies of all new publications in the British Museum Library, the National Library of Scotland, The National Library of Wales, The Bodleian Library, The Cambridge University Library and the Trinity College Library, Dublin. In this way the nation's literature has been and is being preserved.

The National Central Library (NCL) was founded in 1916 and received its Royal Charter and a Treasury grant in 1931. By the 1964 Public Libraries Act the finances of the NCL were arranged so that half are provided by library authorities and half from the Treasury.

The duties of the NCL are to arrange the

interlending of books between libraries, a prime function since the library profession in the UK places a great emphasis upon co-operation in purchasing policy and interlending. The NCL is also responsible for the British National Book Centre (BNBC) which makes available, free of charge, books no longer required by libraries in Britain, and it is responsible for the compilation of a union catalogue of holdings in British libraries. NCL also compiles the British Union Catalogue of Periodicals (BUCOP) and provides a lending service to centres of adult education.

The National Lending Library for Science and Technology (NLLST) was formed in 1954 and was based on the existing Science Museum Library and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research Library (DSIR). It became fully operational in 1962 and provides literature, both British and non-British, on science, technology, agriculture and medicine. The literature covers printed books, periodicals, serials, reports. micro-films etc. It is entirely state-financed and places great emphasis upon providing photocopies and lending services for its users. The stock today is of 32,000 current serials, 180,000 books, many in Russian and other non-English languages, 32,000 overseas theses, 272 kms of micro-film and 150,000 microfiches. It is the focal point for collecting and translating periodical articles and books from Russia and it issues the "NLL Translations Bulletin." As proof of the ability of NLLST to provide a speedy reference, photocopy and lending service the volume of book loans increased from 118,000 in 1962 to 716,000 in 1968 and the number of photocopy requests from 8,000 in 1962 to 63,000 1968. The services are, of course, international and available on a charge basis in Japan.

At university level the present situation is that the 44 universities all have adequate library facilities, backed by interlending and national photocopy aquisition services. The libraries vary in size from the Bodleian and the Cambridge University Libraries with 4,000,000 volumes each, London (4,500,000) to the new universities such as Surrey, Kent, Essex etc with stocks between 80,000—150,000. (Compare

Tokyo University with 3,000,000 volumes.)

The University libraries are financed by grants from the Treasury, from local education authorities, from Trusts in the various subjects and by industrial concerns. The duties of the university libraries is to provide books and periodicals and other material for the staff and students of the various departments of the universities concerned. They have no obligation to anyone else.

Let us now turn to the Public Library level, the most important library for the general member of society, the library he or she supports in local taxes (rates) and to which he or she has immediate, free and open access. This is the level at which most librarians are employed; this is the level of most "contact".

By far the biggest changes have occured in the public library movement. Up to 1919 there were various restrictions on the amount of money to be spent but these were removed in 1919 and the number of libraries, the sizes and the services offered grew rapidly. One thing that has always concerned librarians is the status of the profession and to this end the members of the profession have been striving to achieve a higher standing in the community. This is being achieved—partly because the value of libraries run by professional people has been realized and accepted, partly because the standards set by librarians themselves have been high both in terms of the kind of service provided and the manner in which they have been presented. Now the status of a librarian is relatively high. University librarians are paid professorial salaries and enjoy FSSU terms. Chief librarians in public libraries are also paid the same kind of salaries and a graduate librarian can start earning as much as a graduate teacher. This raising of the status has had a beneficial effect not only on the man himself (more pay, better housing etc) but on the amount of money an authority will spend on library services. Expenditure by authorities on public libraries in Great Britain doubled between 1963 and 1968 and now costs the taxpayers £45,000,000 ( $\mathbb{x}$ 38,000,000,000) a year. More important has been that the number of posts

in libraries for qualified librarians has risen by 35%. Of the £45,000,000,  $\frac{1}{2}$  is spent on salaries, 4 on premises and the other 4 on books etc. In general it is more true to say that a person in Britain with a degree and/or professional qualifications commands a greater status than in Japan. This is, of course, because less people, proportionally, take some form of higher education in Britain than in Japan: we do not over-produce graduates. They are still soughtafter commodities and can, therefore, in most professions, still command status and salary. In all this the work of the professional training and education department of the Library Association has been most marked. Almost from its outset the Library Association has interested itself in the training and education of librarians. The first examinations in librarianship were held in 1885, 86 years ago, and since then the syllabus has been revised many times until today's high standards have been realized.

Another way in which the status has been raised for librarians has been the attempt to divide all staffs into professional and non-professional grades. Qualified librarians do the administrative and organisational tasks and fill the senior posts: the as-yet-non-qualified staff and those who never wish to qualify do the day-to-day work. This has proceeded together with a change in the method of training librarians and recruiting staff. There are today two types of entrant into the profession, the graduate and the non-graduate high school student, but only one way in which to quality i.e. at a full time library school. For the academic qualification time is about two years and for the non-graduate about three years. Both must then complete three years in a recognised library—national, special, university, technical or public—before full membership and a Charter is granted. All these things have had an effect upon raising the status of librarianship and has, in turn, made people more conscious of the high standards offered by all kinds of libraries—special, university, national, research, learned and public. Now we are trying to ensure that standards of public libraries are uniform throughout the country and are main-

tained at a high level, the highest for the need of the area in which the library is situated. In this way there should be no unfair discrimination. The fact that a man lives in a small rural area should not mean that he has a worse library services than a man living in a large, wealthy city. Proportionally authorities should spend the same money and provide the same kind of service. To ensure this there have been surveys and reports calling for national standards. The Roberts Report 1959 actually recommended the amount that should be spent and stated that the Minister of Education should have overall control to ensure that standards were achieved and maintained. It also recommended that salaries be raised to attract the right kind of person into librarianship.

The Roberts Report was followed by others:— Standards of Public Library Service 1961 Inter-Lib. Co-operation 1961

Education Training for Scientific & Technological Library and Information Work 1968

Supply and Training of Librarians 1968
The Dainton Report of the National Libraries Committee 1969

The British Library 1971

The early reports, of course, had a tremendous effect and did result in the passing of a new Public Library Act in 1964. This places all public library work under the superintendence of the Secretary of State for Education & Science. It adds new provisions for the improvement of the services and the addition of museums and art galleries to library services. It provides for library—co-operation to be unified into a nation-wide system; for inefficient library authorities to lose their powers and to be taken over by nearby more efficient authorities thus forming larger regions and states that library authorities must as a duty provide an adequate and comprehensive service. Sweeping changes indeed and powers which when fully realised and acted upon will ensure a modern and adequate service. But is all this enough? As the public library, as the university library, as the special and national library services improve they bring with them the

automatic increase in use. This in turn places a further burden on the service and although it improves it must go on improving and modernizing not only to take into account the increase in material output and coverage demanded by the 1964 Act but to match the increased use and the *more specific use* that such expansion brings with it. The opening this year in January of the Open University with its 25,000 registered students will place a further demand upon the public library service, and a specific demand at that.

How will we cope with this? The Dainton Report (1969) goes some way to point the future pattern for National Services to relieve the burden on all types of libraries. It recommends the re-designing of the National System and the division of work by the creation of a new NATIONAL LIBRARIES AUTHORITY. The work of book provision should then be divided up as follows:—

BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY will become NATIONAL REF LIB
NLLST will remain as NLLST
NCL will remain as NCL
NATIONAL REFERENCE LIBRARY OF
SCIENCE & INVENTION will become
THE CENTRAL SCIENCE PATENT
COLLECTION

The Report recommends increased expenditure, moves to central areas, increased loan facilities and the immediate study for the use of computers to improve services. The Government White Paper entitled "The British Library", 1971, accepts all this advice and has now announced a start on all the Dainton Committee Report's recommendations. After the consideration of the White Paper by Parliament, the main stages which can be foreseen in the development of the British library are:—

- Establishment of the organisation committee.
- b. Passage of legislation to set up the organisation and provide for the transfer to it of the staff, property and stock of its component institutions.
- c. Formal establishment of the British Library.

Preliminary work on the new building in Bloomsbury opposite the present British Museum will go ahead without delay under the auspices of the organising committee and work on the site might begin even before the British Library comes into being as an organisation. Similarly the development of plans for concentrating lending facilities, and to increase their scope, at Boston Spa in the NLLST will go ahead under the auspices of the organising committee.

The computer image is now so important. Libraries are faced with the problem of a larger and much more specific demand from their users and a much greater output of material to deal with. Each year Britain publishes about 30,000 different titles of books and 7,800 periodicals, newspapers and annuals and in the world the annual book output must have reached about 250,000 different titles to say nothing of government publications, reports, periodicals and newspapers.

The scanning of all this material, particularly the periodical press which is today more important than the book press, is an almost impossible task. We must buy abstracts and bibliographies and to compile these, and gradually to replace these, we must use machines. The 1966 BRASENOSE COLLEGE (OXFORD) conference on mechanization of library services pointed the way and the Dainton Report also stresses the urgent need to examine the use of computers. Computers will be used to store and retrieve information from existing library catalogue cards, subject references, periodical article listings etc and print lists accordingly.

Telex will be need to pass information speedily from library to library. Photocopying will be used for slower spread of longer articles. All these are now being studied or used. The universities of Southampton, Newcastle, Lancaster, Durham, Cambridge, Edinburgh and The Department of Education and Science's Office of Science and Technological Information (OSTI), are engaged upon quantitative and qualitative analyses following extended use of computers for library problems.

At the moment one really wonders about the

complete use of machines in librarianship. The Brasenose Conference (1966) realized the immense problems apparent in even using the computer to replace a simple thing like a library catalogue. The gigantic number of symbols needed to reproduce all the entries, the ease of opening a catalogue anywhere in either a printed or a card form compared to using computer and the enormous cost—estimated at £300 per hour—are all factors for thinking twice about the use of machines for many routine and public-orientated functions.

Many problems of using computers have been solved and their use and application to problems of librarianship and information storage has been growing over the past years. Some of the uses of computers are well known. Amongst them two London Boroughs, Camden and Barnet, serving a joint population of just over 500,000, use a computer to produce a printed catalogue of their library holdings. The University of Newcastle's Catalogue Computerization Project, an OSTI sponsored investigation into the problems of converting and handling a library catalogue by computer, are well documented.

The British National Bibliography (BNB) is now entirely produced by computer, based on the Machine Readable Catalogue (MARC) service developed at the BNB in collaboration with the Library of Congress. Computers have been used since 1968 in the production of the British Technology Index (BTI), a project again financed by OSTI. The initiative for this particular decision came as a result of the Institute of Printing's Computer Typesetting Conference held in 1964.

Brunel University has replaced its card catalogue of periodicals and serials with a list kept and maintained on tape from which many print-outs can easily be made. West Sussex County Library has for the past five years been fully automated and has, since 1967, used a computer-operated, book-issue system which will soon be installed in many other public libraries in Britain and overseas.

The Country Library of Flintshire has a computerized cataloguing system which has

been operating since early 1968 and the library reports that they can now give far greater subject information of book-stock resources to their readers.

The U.S. National Library of Medicine produces its "Index Medicus" by computer, and its tapes are exchanged with other interested centres like the NLL and the University of Newcastle.

The Universities at Toronto and Bochaum, in Germany, produce their catalogues by computer and the "Deutsche Bibliographie", like BNB, is computer produced.

The advance goes on, and with it the continued use and growth of other forms of machines. The punched card is now widely used in Britain for most routine library tasks from keeping lists of periodicals as at NLL, to recording book-issues in public libraries. Photocopying of articles, the use of photography in recording library issues and in the preparation of books and catalogues, specially as practised by Mansell in their preparation of the British Museum Catalogue, the Library of Congress Catalogue and the Bibliography of Social Sciences, are well advanced.

The use of Telex has spread throughout Britain and speeded up the process in the exchange of, and the requests for, information. Today half of the 44 universities in Britain have Telex and exchange information by this means. From this it looks as if the future of librarianship in general will be very closely bound with the increased use of machines and an increase in co-operation. The machines will speed up the process of digesting the vast output of material-books, periodicals, reports and commercial journals—store this information and permit quick and comprehensive retrieval. Co-operation at all levels, backed by subject specialization, co-operative purchasing, subject conservation and interlending, will make this material freely available to all.

An eighteenth-century librarian also gave a cautionary picture:—

"The custodian of a literary deposit should especially guard himself against that unfortunate disposition which would render him like the dragon in the fable, jealous of the treasures entrusted to his keeping, and lead him to conceal from the inspection of the public the riches which had been brought together solely with the view of being placed at its disposition." For the public librarian there are added tasks. The 1964 Libraries Act has created a whole new feeling in the provision of library services. Already smaller, less efficient, libraries have disappeared. Expenditure on buildings, on modernization and on staff has risen. The emphasis that the Act places upon conservation of local material has resulted in libraries setting up local collections, museums and galleries. This trend will obviously increase.

Coupled with this is the need of special groups within the area of a library. These special needs can often be met by using the services of a national organisation or library for example using the National Library for the Blind for blind persons and the photo-copying and translation services of NLL for industry within the area served by the library. The problems of the other groups of special readers must be dealt with at a local level; the increase in use for adult education, particularly as a result of university courses broadcast on radio and television; the partially sighted readers; the physically and mentally handicapped; the hospital and prison inmates.

Emphasis is shifting to the collection, preservation and lending of non-book materials; photographs, paintings, works of art, micro-film, gramophone recordings, films, tape recordings and film strips. All these require specialist knowledge as well as different handling and storage techniques.

Mr. Arnold, the Intelligence Section Manager at I.C.I. Heavy Organic Chemicals Division, says in his article in the Library Association Record of August 1969:—

"Public librarians have nothing but admiration from me for the way in which they have built up their specialized services; many have been in the forefront of the excellent co-operative schemes existing between commercial and technical libraries of all kinds, to take only one service of many others. I still feel, however, that in the service public librarians can and should be giving to the general public, they have touched only the fringe of what is possible. No doubt they could continue, each in their own fashion, in rather the same way as they have for some years past, confident that those with ability and hard work will reach some administrative or specialist height. I would ask them, however, to think seriously whether there may not be some who have a rather different—and I think more important—part to play in what I consider to be a necessary renaissance of the gifts of the imagination...

Public librarianship as it is understood today should be left to those who wish to manage, administer, or practise a library techniques, and for some time there will be the need for those interested in these facets, though it is almost certain that pressure will be brought to bear on librarianship to make it change, whether it wishes to do so or not. The future of the book is already being questioned and as a repository of purely factual knowledge is gradually being superseded by the computer, though how far this can go is debatable."

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