

A MOVING STORY
BEING
AN INFORMAL MEMOIR OF THE PAUL HARVEY LIBRARY
AND SAINT JOSEPH HALL
NOTRE DAME COLLEGE, MANCHESTER, N.H.

1989-5

by

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"Books are not men, and yet they are alive.
They are man's memory and his aspiration,
The link between his present and his past,
The tools he builds with."

--Stephen Vincent Benet

BE IT KNOWN THAT:

This brief, informal history of the Paul Harvey Library was written on an impulse, after thirty-one years of service therein. Had it not been for the kindly encouragement, the goading of the Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Robert Michael, it would not be at all. Laid onto paper by the heart rather than by the head, it is intended as a whimsical "piece" for the library archives--and for the memories it will call up in the faculty members who lived those hard but happy years with the college. It lays no claim to propriety, to formality, to rhetorical perfection. It is only a proof that in old age, one lives as much of the past as of the present or the future. It was never meant for publication in any form; it was a "fun thing" in the making. Hopefully, it will fulfill another purpose--to acknowledge the humble people of the day and to elicit chuckles from their memories. Should it come into your hands, please treat it gently and do not impinge upon its right to be private property. Thanks!

Gertrude Gagnier, C.S.C.

Notre Dame College was founded in the early nineteen-forties as Holy Cross Institute for the certification of the Sisters of Holy Cross involved in education in the parochial schools which they directed. With time, the lay teachers in these same institutions requested the privilege of following the courses given at St. George Manor on week-ends or during the summer. As demands became more numerous and insistent, the need for a four-year institution within the confines of the city of Manchester was spelled out ever more clearly. There was an expressed need for a college for students of the lower-middle class with reasonable ability, but very limited financial means. In 1950, Notre Dame College opened its doors to fulfill that purpose.

As no institution of learning can properly exist without a collection of books to supplement classroom teaching, from the outset, the NDC administration in particular, Sister Laure Kegresse, Dean, and Sister Claude Graves, President, gave prime importance to establishing a library. Some books were purchased; others were donated by Sisters who had completed their degrees; still others came from various benefactors among whom were priests, religious, parents, and friends. During the first years, the books were classified in the good old Dewey classification system and shelved for general use. (Fortunately, no one had decided to shelve them according to height as was the rule in many older libraries, public or private.) At the outset, the role of librarian rotated among the members of the religious college faculty.

The first library, shelved on beautiful wooden hand-crafted stacks, was set up in the Administration Building in what today is the second-floor lobby and the office of the Controller. The first classroom building was still in the process of reconversion in the building which had previously served as stable with horses' stalls, carriage house, and butler's quarters. Once finished, St. Joseph Hall as it was baptized, provided a one-room library, a "closet-bookstore", four classrooms, and a rest-room on the second floor. On the ground floor was set up the biology/chemistry laboratory (which periodically exuded characteristic nauseous odors for the benefit of the people upstairs). The former stable, up to this day, boasts of a "floating floor", the purpose of which was to prevent wall damage caused by stamping horses. (It is rumored that the first science teachers were privileged to remove remnants of oats and hay from their new domain.) As a result of the accommodating floor, today's furniture placed around the circumference of the room needs front props of various heights if it is to set steady and straight.

The former carriage house with its Trenton Street entrance properly adapted, immediately became a very busy all-purpose hall with elevated stage under which were stored staging, athletic equipment and supplies unlimited. Within

"those sacred walls" were conducted all possible types of activities, many of which were fund-raising events organized by the Holy Cross Sisters on campus, aided by their Sisters in other convents, by relatives, friends, and students. In those days, the rapport between faculty and students was of the happiest. Our most faithful alumnae are counted among our early graduates. A busy place, indeed, that carriage house became:

- practice space and recital hall for talented students of vocal or instrumental music; (occasionally, faculty members availed themselves of the opportunity to satisfy their hankering to "tickle the ivories" as they had done in their younger years--those pianos in the hall were tantalizers!) gym and auditorium for the students--tennis, volleyball, basketball, archery--who says that physical education was neglected in those days?
- rehearsal space and stage for the yearly presentations offered by the Thalian Players of Notre Dame who willingly and enthusiastically borrowed their male characters from among the St. Anselm College students. The Sisters who rehearsed these plays or musicals and prepared their own props--noteworthy among whom, Sister Louise Parent, Sister Armand (Caron), Sister Loretta Giroux, as well as Miss Shirley Ruble--worked meticulously and delivered really professional productions. Participants and audiences still speak fondly of them;
- concert hall where members of the first chorale, the Cecilian Choristers directed by our first great music teacher, Sister Cecilia Bellerose, provided many an enjoyable evening to appreciative residents of Manchester and of surrounding towns;
- ballroom for college dances and proms. The hall was then transformed into myriads of appropriate settings dreamed up, constructed, set up by students aided by parents or friends; the musicians from the music department, or N.D.C.'s first band, furnished music for dancing feet while hearty laughter reflected carefree spirits;
- the rallying place for the first Christmas parties prepared and hosted by Scionoda (Science Club of Notre Dame) for disadvantaged children sent from various local schools. These were always considered the most rewarding of all the festal gatherings under the leadership of Sisters Juliette LeBlanc and Lorraine Paille;
- the stage for a lively Folk Dance Festival (admission, the whole of fifty cents per ticket) which filled the hall to overflowing with a fascinated audience--and gave unlimited fun hours to dancers and their sister-directress, Sister Cecile Charette with an ever-ready accompanist, Sister Anita Marchesseault;
- a dining area for numerous bean suppers set up, prepared, served and cleaned-up afterwards by faculty and students (the dishwashers' hands are still wrinkled from their stint in soapy water)
- rehearsal hall where the "101 Angels of Song" (101 Sisters

of Holy Cross) prepared and, under the guidance of Mr. James Parks, recording agent for ASCAP, cut their four albums of instrumental music and of songs many of which had been composed and directed by Sister Cecilia and her musical companions in the congregation. The many practice hours were followed by live appearances of the group in Springfield and New Bedford, MA, Manchester and Nashua, NH, ventures which netted a pretty sum to help replenish the ever-dwindling bank account; the locale for a spirited French Folk Song Festival where hundreds of students performed their songs and dances to an ecstatic gathering of Franco-American parents and friends; last, but not least, a modest chapel to accommodate for daily liturgies or peaceful visits to the Blessed Sacrament the increased number of religious attending the summer sessions.

What an impressive spirit of togetherness united faculty and students in bonds of love and friendship which live on into the present! If only the walls of the old carriage house were to reminisce today, what delightful tales they would weave!

From their first location at the Administration Building the library's beautifully-crafted wooden stacks were moved to a better room on the second floor of the "new" classroom building early in the fifties. The single card catalog, the four wooden tables, the chairs, the "circulation desk" (an ordinary typing table) and the stacks were set up for the best possible servicing of students. The library collection had now grown to a fair size--but in those days, certification insisted on "aiming at 10,000 volumes". Book donations came in regularly from convents and from private homes--not always "vintage quality" materials--faithfully and meticulously processed by Sisters with a minimum of library training and a maximum of dedication. In 1956, the first qualified librarian, Sister Mary of St. Genevieve of the Angels, CSC (Gertrude Gagnier), was named to the college. At the sight of a hallway and neighboring room lined five feet high with cartons of books awaiting processing, only the unbounded enthusiasm of one fresh out of library school could ward off a deep depression. Time saw the mountains being leveled and the bookshelves being filled, in spite of the fact that the librarian simultaneously taught a class in Religion, another in Composition and Rhetoric, and managed the bookstore. How could it all be accomplished? Smaller classes, fewer meetings, and youth which can "climb every mountain" added to God's grace for the moment, saw her through.

Outstanding among our early benefactors was a group of distinguished ladies who united to form the Library Guild of Notre Dame. Among its 1952 founding members were Mrs. Greta Ainley, Mrs. Domina Barbeau, Mrs. Eliane Duval, Mrs. Corinne Parker, and Mrs. Pauline Tougas. (Dr. Adolphe Provost and

Mrs. Jean LeBlanc, Mrs. Rodolphe Jacques and Miss Lucille Chandonnet were soon to follow with a good number of new members being continually enrolled.) That first year, they contributed or raised \$7,000 for the purchase of books and \$2,000 for equipment. In addition to this, they were avid collectors of books, begged or even filched from any book-lover who happened to cross their paths. These ladies organized innumerable activities to raise funds for library purposes. The early faculty will attest to the exquisite Valentine or Silver teas, parties staggered from Christmas to Christmas (generally scheduled in excellent rhythm with the Lord's plans for a good soaking rain or a raging nor'easter), sophisticated fashion shows, dessert-card parties, bridge-dance parties, flea markets--you name it, and the Guild members had already thought about and organized it. Naturally, each organizer tried desperately to outdo her predecessor with the financial returns of her endeavor. Some very novel plans were devised to attain the desired purpose. One such which you will find in the Appendix, was the ingenious idea of Greta Ainley, a former student of Holy Cross in St. Albans, VT, and a New Hampshire Legislator at the time. She personally prepared, duplicated, verified, and stuffed hundreds of copies into envelopes which she stamped and addressed by hand to relatives, friends, neighbors, fellow legislators (and I tend to believe, even to a few non-friends) in an unabashed plea. Needless to say, the idea caused many a good laugh and brought back to Greta numberless witty, friendly remarks and generous checks.

In the late sixties when these valiant first-hour workers could no longer continue their "apostolate of the book", the bank account was regretfully closed, but the contributions of the Library Guild of Notre Dame cannot and will not be relegated to oblivion; they will live on in the hearts of the library personnel and of those students who benefitted from such dedicated generosity. The Guild's last valuable contribution, realized through Corinne Parker's determined and persistent efforts, supplied a hundred sturdy vinyl-covered card tables which would be used for parties in the new Holy Cross Hall. Many of these, a bit the worse for wear, are still to be found in a variety of locations on campus.

In 1959, as the library stacks started to groan under their load, and additional classroom space became imperative, it was decided to move the ever-growing library to the first floor of the newly-acquired Rosary House at 2422 Elm St. Faculty, staff and students were invited to lend a hand--and any working four-wheeled vehicle--to transport the books. As usual, there was a constant stream of willing workers. When the onerous task of transportation was completed, and the collection re-situated, thanks to such ardent, pleasant, hard working volunteers (unpaid, of course) as Nancy Lorden, Cynthia (Ciechon) Dee, Barbara (Benz) Richards, Marilyn

(Benz) Lindquist, and occasional others, what a lovely setup the library presented. The freshly-painted rooms, the exquisite woodwork well-washed and oiled, and the bright, airy, spacious, inviting atmosphere were reward sufficient for the hours of work entailed. While the library was "up north" on Elm St., the shelf-list of books was completed, a feat which proved of great assistance at inventory time.. But, alas! Private homes regardless of their sturdy foundations, are not built to bear the weight of a library. Walls began to crack, floors sagged in spite of supports placed under the floor from the cellar, and base-boards could no longer live up to their name. The definite problem demanded a rapid solution.

None too soon, in 1965, the new Holy Cross Hall was completed and dedicated, and the classrooms and laboratory crossed over to larger and better quarters. Little St. Joe's became free to receive once more its friendly library. Although a local moving concern had "volunteered" to do the moving this time, the library staff, aided by a few faculty members, and voluntary library aides, proved to be the very best and speediest packers and stackers. The old lab became the reading/reference room, and the old carriage house, proud of its new metal stacks, was made to house the rest of the book collection. Jackie Vincent, the first naive little work-study student assigned to the library, still recalls the awe she experienced at the sight of an aproned librarian hidden among cartons of books which lined the aisles between the stacks. The monumental task which, at first sight had seemed insurmountable, progressed well enough to allow the students to use the library when the new scholastic year began.

The Library of Congress Book Classification having been proven preferable to the Dewey Classification for college work, the New Hampshire College and University Council librarians not already on L.C., in 1970, decided to convert their holdings. To keep in stride, the N.D.C. librarian undertook the task. The chore was staggered over a number of months so that the materials being used for the current class work would be readily available when needed. Older books and fiction "rode in the caboose" of the reclassification train. To save on card-stock, the call number on the original catalog cards was blacked out neatly, and the new one entered below it. Our card catalog still evidences this procedure.

At about the same time, subject cards began to be added to the catalog, section by section as the books were processed or used. This information being so valuable, the staff continued it retrospectively.

Sections of the second floor of St. Joseph Hall would still serve a few more years as sleeping quarters for six Sisters, and for a bright college infirmary with a sprightly

registered nurse, Sister Juliette Boucher (a former missionary to Pakistan) serving both Sisters and students.

During the 1975-76 school year, the Graduate Division was experiencing its first stirrings of life, seeking a modest "nursery" in which to be born. Nancy Sandberg and Judy Widders, professors and early "nurse-maids" of the venture, struggled persistently and bravely to foster NDC's newest "infant". The purchase of an additional building on campus permitted the vacating of the Sisters' rooms at St. Joe's, and there the new Graduate Division proceeded to utter its first feeble cries. Soon, well-nurtured, it put down sturdy little legs, ready to keep step with its sister-programs in the mother institution. Three sets of drab walls literally glowed under their fresh coat of eye-opening paint. New colorful drapes graced the frequently sunless north windows, and carpet (!) was laid over the linoleum floor covering. But, most of all, an enthusiastic crew of faculty and staff kept a stream of eager students coming and going with happy hope and full trust in their new graduate school.

With the departure of the infirmary for its new location, the vacated space was utilized for the library's art and music collections, the most-frequently "endangered species". Two small former bedrooms were converted into listening rooms for the use of students working on audio-visual materials assigned by their teachers.

A third room was reserved as a hideaway office for Mrs. Shirley McLaughlin, Secretary to Dr. Henry (Hank) Munroe, director of the New Hampshire College and University Council. The original (1967) N.H.C.U.C. office in the Administration Building of the college had become much too constricted for the amount of work required of the personnel. The Council had made its debut here: Hank and Shirley had readily adapted to our campus; they had taken to heart the interests of our small institution which, fortunately, is well-centered geographically among the colleges of the Council. Choice and convenience caused them to seek larger quarters on this campus. Since the space could be provided, the Consortium officers contributed financially to the construction of a new section above the reference room at St. Joseph Hall. Mrs. McLaughlin has now retired, but, in spite of employee turnover and additional personnel, together with expanded responsibilities, many of our friends of the early days are still with us. They have offered to the library, besides good sound advice, several items of furniture, valued moral support, tons of second-hand paper for copier use, and in 1988, two computers with printers and programs. In their quiet, unobtrusive ways, Hank, Shirley and company have been very good to us, and the librarians stand high to salute them. To Doug Lyon who joined the staff several years ago, this librarian now owes her original impetus toward computer literacy (a long-dreaded miracle of technology)--as well as

appreciation for time, encouragement, and patience graciously bestowed upon her and her staff.

When the crying needs of the Graduate Division and its rapid growth resounded loudly and strongly enough, it was awarded better quarters on the ground floor of Holy Cross Hall. The rooms vacated thereby were appropriated by the Technical Services department of the library which had hitherto been wedged into the tiny, cluttered nine-by-twelve room separating the circulation area from the librarian's office.

At the same time, an already-overcrowded library was whimpering again. What to do but push out on the east wall of the reference room, invade the precious clothes-line space of the Sisters, and build an addition in its place. Modifying a solid outer wall was no small chore for the maintenance department; removing the outer threshold presented its own problem--not even a jackhammer (with all its noise and dust) succeeded in completely wearing down the granite threshold of the lab entrance. Unbelievable is the amount of dirt that can accumulate within fifty-year-old walls! Ask the library staff now enriched by the appointment of Sr. Mary of Magdala (Loretta Giroux), a second qualified librarian who would devote twenty-four generous years to library service here. Naturally, more space meant another move, gladly effected as soon as the air was clear enough to manoeuver therein.

After the 1965 completion and dedication of the new Holy Cross Hall, consideration was given to the construction of an edifice to shelter a library, a chapel, and a performing arts center. When the President of the college brought up the subject at a meeting of the college's Board of Trustees, two board members, Mr. Andrew Isaak, architect, and Mr. Paul Harvey, construction engineer, offered to look into the cost of the enterprise.

College authorities had, for several years, entertained the hope of obtaining the Trenton-Chestnut corner lot, but the owners were adamantly opposed to the sale. Prayers to our good provider, St. Joseph, rose fervently that he intercede for the college. Had the medals buried in that lot with this intention in mind ever pushed up shoots, a forest would stand there today--but God, who was listening, was not to grant the favor before His own good time, many years later. The dream died a-borning!

Mature consideration of the entire plan for further library expansion resulted in the decision to postpone the original idea to a financially more favorable time and to replace it temporarily with the addition of an aisle extending east, invading that section of the grounds which had served faithfully since that first June as site for graduation

exercises. (The Manchester Parks Department had furnished the stage, and all available hands had been "volunteered" to transport the folding chairs. As skies darkened, many a prayer arose that the rain might be delayed at least another day so that the graduation might proceed without the rain's drenching people and furniture.) No two persons did more to further the new project than Mr. Isaak who drew up the blueprints and Mr. Harvey whose construction crew put up the building. Both men, sporting hard hats, visited the site regularly, offering advice, encouragement, and support to workmen--and to the librarian who was fitted to her own hard hat for visits to the construction site. In May 1982, the completed structure was dedicated to Mr. Paul Harvey whose generous yearly contributions had helped bring a dream to fruition. Mrs. Denise (Duval) Gosselin, a member of the first graduating class, requested the pleasure of donating the clock for the new stack room in memory of her mother, Mrs. Eliane Duval, a founding member of the Library Guild.

The addition once completed, had to become "library". Of invaluable aid in planning the interior space was Mrs. Norma Creaghe, Librarian, who had just completed the supervision of a new wing at St. Anselm's Geisel Library. Norma pored over the blueprints for the purpose of making the best possible use of all existing space, old and new. The librarians owe her gratitude--no end--for her friendly, experienced, willing advice dispensed for a very slight fee. Using her plans, the arrangement was agreed upon, the furniture purchased, and the maintenance men of the college requested to set up the bases for the stacks which had arrived unassembled. When their own chores called them elsewhere on campus, the general call made to the Sisters for their assistance, as usual, brought heartening results. Several of them gave up precious hours of relaxation in the evening or on week-ends to assemble the new stacks. Some, adept at manoeuvring hammer, screwdriver, or wrench, applied their efficiency skills to advantage; others, less skillful, less strong, moved materials, handed screws, bolts or tools, measured spaces, and put up shelves. When the chairs had to be assembled, the same dedicated crew was on deck. The carrels, single or double, were eventually set up by the men of the college maintenance crew.

Then came the new moving procession which involved faculty and students (now enhanced by the presence of the male element). Whoever, and whenever they had a free hour or so, they came--a heartwarming reality--with evident good will and pleasant bantering to boot. A few professors surrendered their students for an entire class period to help advance the work--God love them! Four or five rows of books from the lower stack room found their way into fresh new surroundings where the library staff completed and verified their positions. The art and music books came down to their proper locations. How good to see at last some library-growth

space! As for the gaping shelves vacated in the lower stack room, they were not to remain empty for long. The books which were destined to remain there could now stretch their elbows and breathe for the first time in many years, aided by a much-relieved library staff.

Simultaneous with book reorganization, there surfaced a number of much-needed improvements:

- the complete revamping of the periodicals' back-log. In accumulating over the years, the magazines had claimed all available space--under the stage, in closets, in every backstage corner, and in the library cellar. It was high time that they be properly weeded, then housed in order and sequence. Once again, librarians, library staff, and students put the change into motion. At Mrs. Creaghe's suggestion, periodicals were relocated in the former library/classroom/infirmary/"fine arts" room, second floor, southwest corner. Today, with the exception of newspapers, the periodicals remain in that location, a tribute to such fastidious periodicals librarians as Sr. Angela St. Amand, who placed and maintains the collection. Those sections of the Sunday New York Times which are retained help the furnace area to keep up with current events, while other newspaper-format publications have found a spot in the original "closet-bookstore"/bathroom space.
- the collection and consistent processing of the audiovisual materials now accumulating at a rapid pace. Because the library's newer hardware provided for the use of materials outside closed rooms, Norma had suggested that the temporary partitions which separated the small rooms on the second floor, be removed to house the AV holdings. This, deemed feasible, was accomplished as soon as the maintenance crew could get to it. Moving again! All the AV software had to be transferred from its multiple storage positions into the new space, systematized, completely inventoried, cataloged, listed, and inserted into its own section of the card catalog. Time and dedicated staff handled the project, so that by October 1987, all that remained to be done was a good study of the vertical file materials also stored in this room.
- the adjustment of a decent processing department with office for the assistant librarian and a good work room on the second floor--another sore spot to be treated to its own sort of ointment and band-aid. This accomplished, workers no longer needed to get up, move over, or pull in elbows to accommodate someone else as had been the case downstairs. Although the "dumb-waiter" which had been requested never materialized, the staff seems to fill the role by toting materials up for processing, then, back down for shelving. Fortunately, work-study students now help do some of the leg work.
- the restructuring of the library entrance, still a bone of contention. Muttered Sister Jeannette Vezeau, C.S.C., College President at that time, "It just doesn't give a

decent first impression of the library", being small, dark, and graced with a trio of hideous radiator pipes and an ever-dusty staircase--nor did it accommodate the handicapped student confined to a wheelchair. Everyone concerned brainstormed to find a solution to the dilemma. Then one day, Fran Wiggin, librarian in Bedford, came to see our improved locale. With ease and grace, she surveyed the room and came up with a suggestion so simple and direct that we wondered why we'd not had the brain wave ourselves. Replace the last two windows with an inside door; construct a small lobby with outside entrance to accommodate wheelchair students; advance and enlarge the circulation desk for easier servicing. Presented to the college maintenance director, the transformation was executed quite painlessly, if on a longer-than-hoped-for time schedule. An added bonus was the installation of large bulletin boards strategically situated for easy access and comfortable reading.

A library is always enhanced by the provision of a group-study setting separate from the regular library work areas where students can study for easier concentration without disturbing others who need peace and quiet to work well. The stage area was considered our best location for this setup. Using surplus library chairs and the round pedestal-dining room table that had belonged to Mrs. Rodolphe Jacques (another good benefactress), mother of Sister Juliette LeBlanc, the room was readied. Until this table went on to a higher calling in the office of the college president in 1987, it served the library patrons well. Countless groups used the facility to advantage.

As the college population increased, additional library hours and services were inevitable. To ease the strain, some ten or twelve semi-retired Sisters of Holy Cross succeeded each other as library aides. These Sisters were a tremendous asset to the college by offering what they could of time, energy, and working ability for a mere pittance. A salute and word of gratitude are also in order for a number of Holy Cross volunteers who donated precious summer vacation hours to relieve the tedium of the college librarians' work. Noteworthy among these are Sister Rolande St. Denis who, after serving several summers in succession, was finally assigned part-time to the library, and Sister Estelle Neveu who took over during an entire summer session to free the librarian for a well-needed rest and a thirty-day retreat. In my humble opinion, these good people are numbered among the library's very special benefactors, the "unsung heroines".

Lay employees soon had to be hired. First came Mrs. Janet Carr, an erstwhile lonely widowed lady with a wealth of fascinating backgrounds, having been successively--if not in this exact order--actress on small and on larger stages,

concert vocalist, radio announcer, ghost writer for a few volumes of a science-biography series, nurse--and always, tutor to someone or other. In spite of her years, Janet brought unbounded energy, an avid thirst for knowledge and research...and a stentorian voice which she restrained with much difficulty in the quiet library atmosphere. Students felt very much at ease asking Janet for help and were never disappointed in her detailed responses. She has since passed away, and we do hope that someone "up there" requires assistance, because Janet would never be completely happy unless there were someone who needed her.

Mr. William Thayer, our first gentleman employee, came to replace Janet when she left. Bill also proved to be an excellent reference librarian--a bit too excellent, ready to do the searching even after hours and off campus to accommodate the tearful researcher who'd procrastinated before preparing a report. Bill was the first to acquaint himself with the Bibliofile program on our Consortium-donated computer. He avidly availed himself of every opportunity to scan its numerous possibilities for our library. He left us after seven years to pursue graduate studies in the field of library science.

Ann Carle, now in charge of technical services, applied for the vacated position and was hired on her own merits. Her several years of experience in other libraries had demonstrated the value of her possible contributions to ours. Ann brought with her, besides unusual mechanical skills, outstanding dexterity in various crafts (including carpentry!), and a fluent on-hand understanding of computers with a view to their practical library uses. It is she who patiently steered this librarian through the first throes of computer-literacy; she is now leading other library aides through the same paces.

Since 1956, the book collection has risen from 7,225 to 51,500 in spite of frequent and much-needed weeding. Periodicals have tripled in number; AV materials of all types have accumulated; the hardware required for in-house use of these has been purchased. Considerable sums are expended yearly from the college budget to update and expand our treasures; benefactors, individual or corporate, continue to bring books to enhance our collection. Local law firms, updating their references, send us their discards which might still be of use for students in the paralegal courses. Debbie Thompson, an N.D.C. alumna, librarian at the Hillsborough County Law Library, visits us periodically to evaluate these books in the light of local use.

When the 1988-89 scholastic year began, upper class students were thrilled to see a transformation in the library's reference room. During the last semester of the 1987-88 year, Dr. Robert Michael, Dean of the College, Vice-

President for Academic Affairs, and scholar in his own right, together with Ann Carle and other staff members, had been surreptitiously masterminding the metamorphosis of the west reading room. Gentle little hints were wafted innocently into conversations so as to clue the unsuspecting librarian that something better was in the works. (No need to worry her, to disturb her peace of mind with the prospect of additional chores to tend to in her comfortable little bailiwick!) When they deemed the time to be ripe, the masterminds opened up the silently-manoeuvred plan for her approval. Let's admit, change comes hard as one adds up the years, but one need not be adverse to progress; so it was with the librarian. Every bitter detail had been discussed and carefully weighed; the seating capacity would actually be increased! Therefore, three weeks before Freshman Orientation, the staff was put into motion to collect all the furniture into the center of the room. Work-study students arrived armed with ladders, paint buckets, rollers, brushes, and drop cloths--and the alterations got under way. The drab brown paneling got to smile with a soft blue finish; the paints gleamed in white. Meanwhile, guides and indexes which had previously been shelved there were installed onto stacks which had been laboriously brought down from their attic storage space and installed in the regular reference room--yes, again, Ann had it all devised, measured, moved in, and ready to use.

To replace the standard library furniture, stuffed chairs retrieved from dorm-disposal, once scrubbed down and polished, brought a very different atmosphere to the room. Shifting of periodicals' stacks and remaining furniture opened up the center of the area, providing a more airy as well as more comfortable atmosphere. Everyone loves "the new look", and rare is the moment when there isn't at least one student working there in relative comfort. So, masterminds and aides, thanks for the ingenious reorganization, the first improvement since our last move! The circulation area got its face-lift a few weeks later when Sister Suzanne Payette, College Health Director, applied her skills to its improvement. The shifting of furniture in that area provided space for the new IBM computer. With time, a few additional shekels, and direct connections with the Manchester Public Library, interlibrary loans will be speeded up; with a little more time and a few more shekels, students will be able to research the Dialog database for their studies. Though these last two projects are still in the future, we hope to provide additional services in our tomorrows.

And now, our wise old ceramic owl, gift of an unknown benefactor of the early years, looks out over a domain very different from the one over which he first reigned. Does he feel lost next to the new computer, the Magazine Index, the Canon Copier, the Microfiche Reader, the Kardex File (gift of the departing Graduate Division), the Ibico Spiral Binder?

Regardless, he must join in the pride, the joy, the gratitude of the noble souls who have labored long and well to make of Notre Dame a proper educational institution, serving faculty as well as students avid to go out into the world as better persons, to help raise others up to their greatest potential "under God"!

(This edition was completed on the feast of St. Nicholas, 1988)



NOTRE DAME COLLEGE

Library Guild 1976

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I Pledge Allegiance at all times	10c
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I live in a house, apartment	10c
I have a mother and father	20c
How many children	10c
Grandchildren	10c
I have a T.V. set	10c
How many radios? Hi-Fi?	10c
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