

Law Library Journal *Centennial Feature**

*Law Library Journal: The First Fifty Years***

Bernita J. Davies***

*Editor's Note: This article first appeared under the title "The History of the Law Library Journal" in the Golden Jubilee issue of volume 49 of Law Library Journal, published to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the American Association of Law Libraries; Davies was a former Editor of the Journal.*¹

¶1 As a child I can recall my father, when asking my mother to take on an extra bit of work, saying over her remonstrances, "Oh, you can do that in your spare time." As the activities of my family grew, the phrase became a household joke—one of those not very funny sayings that have significance only for those who know its background. There was never enough time for all the work my mother had to do, but somehow she stretched the hours until there it was—all finished. Just so, in that limbo of nonexistent spare time, our Association has published its *Journal*. The charter members who foresaw its need were busy men. Its editors accepted responsibility for its publication with the knowledge that their days were already full. The contribution of many an article has been possible only because of those last 20 minutes in an 80 minute hour.

¶2 The *Journal* has been a source of pride to the Association. It has also been the cause of countless hours of worry, labor, and toil on the part of those responsible for its continuation. It was among the first projects undertaken by the charter members who felt keenly the lack of bibliographical aids to legal periodical material. Consequently, at their first session in 1906, they appointed a committee to formulate a plan for indexing articles in current legal periodical literature and to report on some form of publication. The committee's report the following year

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1. For a discussion of years fifty to seventy-five of the *Journal*, see Charles R. Dyer, *A Short Look at Twenty-Five Years of the Law Library Journal*, 75 *LAW LIBR. J.* 187 (1982).

included, in addition to a recommendation that the Association undertake to compile and publish a supplementary volume to Jones' *Index to Legal Periodicals*, a further recommendation for the publication of a quarterly journal "to contain one article of interest to law librarians, reviews and notices of new legal periodicals, wants and exchange lists, and a quarterly index to current periodical literature . . ." 1:22-'31. This report was adopted and another committee appointed to undertake the publication of the quarterly along the lines suggested. Thus, in a rather casual manner, as far as the record shows, the *Index to Legal Periodicals* and *Law Library Journal* were conceived. From a hind-sight view of the Association's years of experience with the two publications, the ambition, fortitude and courage of the proposal is amazing.

¶3 Having no minutes of the first meeting, it is impossible to know the amount of deliberation given to the project by that small group in attendance at Narragansett Pier. That there was some foreboding is indicated by Mr. Small, the presiding officer of the group, who later said, "At the first meeting we merely suggested that there might be a periodical and an index to leading periodicals. No one would undertake it . . ." 24:155-'81. Considering the calibre of the committee members who recommended publications at the second meeting—F. W. Schenk, F. B. Gilbert, and G. G. Glasier—the pros and cons were no doubt carefully weighed. Mr. Glasier sums it up thus: "If being amateurs in the publishing business, they failed to realize the difficulties to be encountered, their realization of the need, their enthusiasm and their faith in their fellow librarians *over-came* any possible doubts and they went boldly ahead." 43:154-'50.

¶4 This enthusiasm assured acceptance of the report. Two committees were appointed, one on the publication of the *Journal*, the other on the *Index*. Even at that early date the over-lapping of committee functions became evident, and in December, 1907, the executive committee, acting on the request of the committee on the *Journal*, transferred its duties to the committee on the *Index*, constituting it a board of editors with authority to publish a quarterly under the title *Index to Legal Periodicals and Law Library Journal*. Accordingly, the twin publication was born bearing the date January, 1908. The board of editors included Frederick W. Schenk, managing editor, C. D. F. Belden, H. L. Butler, E. A. Feazel, and Frank B. Gilbert. Karl Steinmetz, a law student at the University of Chicago, was hired as business manager.

¶5 For many years the *Journal* was the weaker of the twins. This was natural as from the beginning the attention of the Association was concentrated on the need for an index of periodical literature. Indeed, that need was one of the reasons for organizing the Association. Moreover, the *Index* was by its nature the more time-consuming of the two and, consequently, loomed larger in the minds of the editors, whose reports were filled with details about the *Index* but paid the *Journal* small heed. When, in addition, we consider the fact that the *Journal*, as an item of cost, failed to pay its own way, it is small wonder that it languished, at times

appearing only as a one-page adjunct to the more healthy, revenue producing *Index*.

¶6 As the official organ of the Association, however, the first volume contained its minutes, the reports of committees and the papers contributed at the annual meeting. The first two numbers were devoted to the proceedings of the second annual meeting. The minutes appear in terse condensed form, but the address of welcome to Asheville by Miles O. Sherrill, the response by Mr. A. H. Mettee, the president's address, and that of Frank B. Gilbert, were reported in full. Reports of officers and committees, a list of members and the constitution of the Association were also included. The question of classification of treatises first reared its head at this meeting, and papers in favor of both author and subject arrangement were set out at length in the first issue. An editorial explaining the policies and plans of the *Index to Legal Periodicals and Law Library Journal* made clear the fact that the publication had no connection with any existing enterprise. "It is the independent publication by the Association, subject to no influence other than an earnest desire to serve its mission faithfully and to advocate, as far as is consistent, a higher standard and usefulness of law libraries." 1:31-'08.

¶7 At the third meeting of the Association, President Small spoke at some length and with pride of the "quarterly," pointing out the debt of gratitude owed to Messrs. Schenk and Steinmetz and recommending that the Association consider thoughtfully the future of the publication. Whether or not the members gave heed to the president's admonition with reference to the *Journal* is doubtful. No direct indication of interest appears until 1913 when President Poole voiced the hope that the *Journal* would be developed to include a list of the best local practice books and references to court rules. While recognizing that the editor could not be expected to do more, he reminded the members that the *Journal* portion of the quarterly should be made more readable so that it too would be a drawing card for subscriptions. "No one," he went on to say, "would pay \$5 a year for what is in the *Law Library Journal* now." 6:23-'14.

¶8 The quarterly had indeed been struggling for survival, and if the members were not aware of its plight, those in charge of its continuance must have realized it from the discouraging events which marked its progress. Having started the publication on its way and completed the second volume, Mr. Schenk had passed his editorial duties on to Gilson G. Glasier, librarian of the Wisconsin State Library. Fortunately, Karl Steinmetz had transferred to the University of Wisconsin Law School at the same time and so had been able to continue his help with the indexing. Harold Butler had succeeded Steinmetz as business manager, and the State Journal Printing Company of Madison, Wisconsin, had become the printers. With no thought for the *Journal* the indexing alone in those days was a man-sized activity. After the entries for the periodicals indexed were written, each on a separate sheet, they were turned over to the editor to be classified and arranged before being sent on to the printer. While much of the spade work was done by Mr. Steinmetz, many of the index paragraphs were written by Mr. Glasier, who also had the burden of final editing and

proof-reading. This system had continued even after Steinmetz, having finished his law school training, moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, to practice law.

¶9 Finally, the work becoming too burdensome, Mr. Glasier had resigned as editor after volume 4, number 1, and Karl Steinmetz had been called upon to fill the breach. Steinmetz had accepted reluctantly. The secretary's report for the year states that because of the lengthy negotiations the second issue of the volume was so long delayed that it was decided to skip number three and proceed forthwith with number 4. However, the volume was eventually completed and with volume 5, Mr. Schenk had again accepted the responsibility of editorship.

¶10 And so the matter stood when Mr. Poole made his somewhat blunt remarks with reference to the worth of the *Journal*. As a matter of fact, the *Journal* had grown considerably in stature by its sixth birthday. It included the official proceedings of the Association, sketchily at first, but with increasing detail until in volume 5 they appeared in semi-stenographic form. Between its covers were pictured the interests of the members shown by the papers presented at the annual meetings: papers on cataloging, exchange of duplicates, circulation, binding, insurance, the status and education of law librarians and similar subjects. Frank Chipman's "Beacon Lights of the Law," Frederick Stimson's "The Forms of Law" and Robert Whitten's "Two Decades of Comparative Legislation" were among those dealing with more historical phases of library interest. Bibliographies of statute law, reports, text books, bar association proceedings, and foreign law had been stressed by means of both papers and committee reports, and library buildings and collections described and discussed at length. Lists of members and committees had been a regular feature and in volume 5 appeared the List of Law Libraries in the United States and Canada. Through the *Journal* the members had been given news items and announcements of coming meetings with detailed information as to train fare and hotel rates. How pleasant it would be now if we could be advised that a lower berth from Boston to Catskill, New York, would be \$2 and an upper \$1.60. That upon arrival two persons in a double room without bath would be charged only \$3 per day each and for an extra dollar could have a room with bath.

¶11 In 1910, Mr. Butler, the business manager, had reported an exchange of advertising space with several law journals and the use of letters to the members, deans of law schools and the trade as means of obtaining additional contracts. He had closed his report by fore-echoing a plaint of all future business managers, "What we want is more advertising." 3:16-'10.

¶12 The results of Butler's activity were evidenced in the early volumes by a number of full-page ads, among which were Banks Law Publishing Company's offer of the first 206 volumes of the United States Reports for \$412; Callaghan and Company's list of "Standard Legal Authorities"; Lawyer's Co-operative Publishing Company's explanation of needs filled by L.R.A.; and Durand Steel Locker Company's description of steel book stacks. "Why not have adjustable steel racks in your library?" the Durand ad asks, and under a picture showing a 10 shelf sec-

tion with a five step ladder close by, continues, "They have no frills, but are strong, neatly constructed and finely finished in baked on enamels. Cost no more than good wooden racks." 5:54-'12.

¶13 But even though the *Journal* had some entries on the credit side, both the editor and business manager agreed with President Poole in its need for improvement. Mr. Schenk, the editor, spoke of his desire to include, twice a year, a list of the latest session laws, state reports, and court rules and to publish the proceedings in one issue, with hope of developing other features in the remaining numbers. Calling for support, he voiced a plea in common with all editors, "It is hard at best and suggestions and encouragement will lighten the task." 6:26-'14.

¶14 With all the planning and pleas the *Journal's* existence continued to be precarious. Although the Association had voted to carry out the editor's proposals, the reports received at the ninth annual meeting were far from encouraging. The editor's illness had delayed the January issue. No April *Journal* was published and no progress had been made toward the proposed improvements.

¶15 However, some members had given thought during the year as to what should be expected from the *Journal*. For example, in a letter to the president, Mr. Frederick Colson wrote his ideas of its proper scope and character. The *Journal* should not, he said, publish legal articles of the character found in law reviews or attempt much in the way of ordinary book reviews. Neither should it compete with publications such as the *Monthly List of State Publications* or the *Publishers' Weekly* but rather cooperate with them by pointing out where they fell short of law library needs. Affirmatively, he listed legal bibliography and personal notes and information generally relating to law libraries and law librarians to be the scope of coverage for which it should aim. In this letter we find the first mention of the need for an endowment and more frequent publication if the *Journal* were to grow and include the type of bibliographies envisioned.

¶16 Another encouraging factor was the assumption of management by the H. W. Wilson Company of White Plains, New York. The first statement of ownership under its guidance appeared in the July, 1914, issue. These statements continued to list Mr. Schenk as editor through volume 8, although, according to the minutes, Gertrude Elstner Woodard, secretary of the Association, had compiled the material. With volume 9, Miss Woodard officially assumed the editorial role, continuing at the same time her duties as secretary.

¶17 The industry and efficiency of Miss Woodard belied her small stature, which according to those who knew her was such as to make it difficult for her to reach books on high shelves. Under her editorship a number of new departments were initiated which have continued in one form or another to the present.

¶18 In the first issue of volume 8 appeared "Notes on Legal Bibliography" edited by Frederick C. Hicks, law librarian of Columbia University. Its purpose was "to record bibliographical information which will aid in finding and using the books which contain the law." 8:7-'15. In the first instance it included two pages of

classified book references with short annotations; by the end of volume 8 it had been expanded to 10 pages.

¶19 Volume 8 also included the first book review. Unsigned, it describes in detail the *Official Index to State Legislation*, a cumulative numerical and subject index of bills introduced in all state legislatures, which had been published under the direction of the National Association of State Libraries and the American Association of Law Libraries. Still another “first” in volume 8 was the list of American State Reports and Session Laws Exclusive of Side Reports showing the latest volumes to appear and their sources.

¶20 While two issues of the following volume were devoted to the Association proceedings, numbers 1 and 4 included articles which had not been scheduled as part of the convention program. That too marked an innovation as did, also, lists of state acts cited by popular name, rules of state and federal courts as published in the National Reporter System, and a check list of the *Index to Legal Periodicals* and *Law Library Journal*.

¶21 Plans for expanding the quarterly came to a halt as a result of World War I. Because of increasing costs, the Association voted at the 1917 meeting to increase the subscription price from \$5 to \$7.50 per year; but even with an increase in the price as well as curtailment in size, the publication lost money. The treasurer’s report showed a balance of a scant \$4.19 at the 1918 meeting at Saratoga Springs. However, another change in policy effected at this meeting, the sale of the quarterly on a service basis, brought a 28 percent increase in revenue for the year 1918–19 and for the moment the financial problem seemed to be solved.

¶22 In line with the quarterly’s history another problem soon took its place. Miss Woodard who had ably edited the prior six volumes resigned because of the pressure of work. A cumulative index to the first 10 volumes of the *Journal* had been completed during the last year of her editorship. Few have been so worthy of the resolution of appreciation which was passed by the Association at her retirement.

¶23 Another busy woman took her place. With volume 13, Elsie Basset of the Columbia Law Library began her editorship. News of the *Journal* was reaching beyond our shores by this time, and note was made of an offer to cooperate in the Association’s work by Mr. Bedwell, the keeper of the Middle Temple Library, London, who added, “The papers in the *Law Library Journal* are always most interesting.” 13:35-’20.

¶24 Cooperation was to be called for soon on the part of all members. Lulled into false optimism by the increased revenue brought in through the adoption of the service charge, the committee on the *Index* and *Journal* had not worried over a deficit in 1920. An added default in 1921 aroused them to the fact that unless action were taken and taken fast, the quarterly would face liquidation. Here again one is impressed by the loyalty of the members toward their publication. Mr. Small expressed the feeling of many when he said, “This Journal and Index have (sic)

been conceived by this Association and we must not see it fail. We should see it through even if we have to go into our pockets to make it up." 14:35-'21.

¶25 Nineteen twenty-one brought double trouble since Miss Basset, finding the duties of editing too onerous, submitted her resignation effective with the completion of volume 14.

¶26 Again Miss Woodard assumed the task, editing volumes 15, 16, and 17. They are outstanding because of their biographical content. "Remarks on John William Wallace" by Luther E. Hewitt, "J. G. Marvin, an appreciation," by Margaret Center Klingelsmith, "Charles Carroll Soule" by F. E. Chipman are but a few of the contributions of this period. *Law Library Notes*, a department filled with miscellaneous information and announcements, appeared in volume 16 superseding the Open Forum which had been published but once, in volume 14.

¶27 The financial condition of the quarterly was clearing to some extent. By 1922, due to decreased printing costs, the committee could report a small profit. Upon action taken in the previous year, dues had been raised from \$2 to \$3, the *Law Library Journal* being included with membership. However, over \$1,000 was needed to pay the former as well as the present editor, and promised revenue from a successful subscription campaign was not forthcoming at once. Still ever dauntless, the committee on the *Index* and *Journal*, under the chairmanship of F. O. Poole, laid its plans to raise the deficit. Subscription libraries were circularized regarding the need with a request that each pay to the Association such amount as it could afford, not to exceed \$25. The replies were most gratifying—so much so that the deficit was paid off and a balance of well over \$300 remained on hand for future needs. Thus again the cooperative spirit and methods which combined to keep the quarterly alive are apparent.

¶28 Upon the resignation of Miss Woodard in 1925, Mr. Eldon R. James, librarian of Harvard Law School, was secured to edit the *Index*, and the *Journal* portion of the quarterly was delegated to the secretary-treasurer of the Association, Miss Lucile Vernon. This tri-functional aspect of the secretary-treasurer's job continued for many years. Miss Vernon, editing volumes 18–22, Arthur S. McDaniel, 22–24, Lotus Mitchell Mills, 24–27, were hardworking but unsung since, after the resignation of Miss Woodard, it was not until the last year of Miss Mills' editorship that the editor of the *Law Library Journal* was named on the masthead of the quarterly.

¶29 Very little was done through the *Journal* to celebrate the twenty-fifth year of the Association. A suggestion by the president that a number of articles be reprinted for the silver anniversary was not acted upon. However, a past presidents' section with papers and letters from past presidents was included in volume 24 as part of the proceedings of the twenty-fifth meeting.

¶30 Another letter, this from a future president, also appeared in volume 24. In it William R. Roalfe discussed the need for an expansion of Association activities. Later known as the Roalfe plan, among other things, it called for a separation of

the *Journal* and *Index*, an increase in the number of issues per volume, and the appointment of an executive secretary to take charge of the activities of the Association. In commenting on this proposal, Dr. George Godard remarked, “. . . if one individual is to lead and conduct the work of the Association along the present and extended lines, he would have to have the strength of a Samson, . . . the wisdom of a Solomon, and the Association would have to have the wealth of a Croesus . . . and we have no Samsons, we have no Solomons, and we have no Croesus.” 25:194-’32.

¶31 While true the Association was no Croesus, many of the characteristics of Samson and Solomon could be identified in Miss Helen Newman, who in 1934 was elected executive secretary and as such assumed editorship of the *Journal* with volume 27, number 4.

¶32 Many innovations were put into effect during her editorship. Beginning with volume 28, the volume numbers were printed in Arabic numerals in accordance with the recommendations of the joint committee on standardization and reference data for periodicals. Editor’s notes which correlated information, presented biographical items and described the more informal convention activities appeared regularly. As time went on new departments were initiated: the Editor’s Bulletin Board, Current Comments, Periodical Births and Deaths, Reference Question Clearing House, a Page from the Editor’s Letter Book, Exchanges, and a Selected List of Recent Library Literature. This last was an outgrowth of the material formerly published in the *Law Library News* which the *Journal* absorbed in 1937. It was discontinued in 1940 because of difficulty in obtaining up-to-date information. A similar list, *Current Legal Publications*, issued by the Duke University Law Library, took its place in July, 1942. A great deal of emphasis was placed on bibliographies and check lists during this period. A subject-title index covering volumes 21–29, continuing the I-XX cumulation of 1930, was prepared under the direction of Helen Hargrave as an N. Y. A. project, and the section on Law Library Statistics initiated in volume 27 was expanded during the ensuing years.

¶33 January, 1936, found the *Law Library Journal* separated from the *Index to Legal Periodicals*, although for the time being the policies of both publications were directed by one committee. Having been incorporated in 1935, the Association was in a position to accept a \$5,000 grant from the Carnegie Foundation in January, 1937, which the executive committee voted to use for the expansion of the *Journal*. At this time, also, the printing contract was transferred from the H. W. Wilson Company to the Library Press, Washington, D. C. Plans were made to publish five issues in 1937, six in 1938, and from eight to ten in 1939–41. By that time, it was estimated, the grant would be exhausted but the *Journal* should be self-supporting.

¶34 Because of financial conditions preceding World War II, the plans were never fully executed. Paid advertising was accepted for the *Journal*, as distin-

guished from the *Index*, in 1940, and Matthew McKavitt, Department of Justice librarian, appointed advertising manager. He was followed the next year by Joseph Andrews of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. As assistant editor in charge of advertising, Mr. Andrews was instrumental in obtaining substantial revenue not only from advertising but from the sale of back numbers and sets of the *Journal* which, after being collated by the editor, had been stored in Myron Taylor Hall of Cornell University. This effort plus the success of the committee on promotion of the *Journal* in obtaining subscriptions made it possible to extend the use of the Carnegie grant to July, 1943. However, the *Journal* had not become self-supporting as had been hoped nor had the goal of publishing eight to 10 issues been reached although from 1938–43 a bi-monthly schedule was maintained and each issue materially expanded.

¶35 Early in 1937, a separate committee on the *Law Library Journal* had been appointed. Its Report for 1941–42, included a number of proposals to expand the *Journal* further by adding more readable material and broadening its scope of appeal to other librarians and members of the bar. As accomplishments toward that end the committee enumerated the addition to the *Journal* of Who's Who in Law Libraries, a section devoted to informal biographical sketches; a series of articles on law library resources; studies of organization; and the evaluation of reference tools. The report also included reasons for and against the policy of including lectures delivered under the auspices of the committee on post-admission legal education of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, four of which had appeared during 1942 and about which there was sharp division of opinion.

¶36 It was with sincere regret and some misgiving that members received word of Miss Newman's resignation as editor on the completion of No. 5 of volume 35. For eight years she had directed the *Journal's* course, giving fully of her energy and talent to increase its effectiveness. Her final report urged caution in any consideration of further expansion.

¶37 Indeed it was a time in which caution was necessary. That the war years presented a struggle both editorily and financially cannot be doubted. Lack of contributors and subscriptions, and curtailed staffs together with added work in the regular positions of those in charge combined to make the continuance of the *Journal* an arduous task. Nevertheless, unlike many publications, it appeared, more or less on time, slowly increasing in pagination throughout the period.

¶38 Much of the credit goes to Miss Jean Ashman, law librarian of Indiana University, appointed to follow Miss Newman as editor. The war's impact was evident from the beginning of her editorship with No. 6 of volume 35. There being no annual meeting in 1943, no proceedings issue was included in volume 36. By the beginning of volume 37, it was clear that a bi-monthly publication could not be financed and that even as a quarterly, the issues must be curtailed. To effect savings, Alfred Morrison, in addition to his duties as president, assumed those of advertising manager, a post which he continued to fill without compensation until

November, 1945. Likewise without compensation, Arthur Fiske struggled with *Journal* finances during the following year. To aid the editor, the nature of the committee on the *Law Library Journal* became that of an editorial staff, its membership increased with the editor acting as chairman.

¶39 As a quarterly it was possible to include most of the features of former volumes, although at less frequent intervals. The contents were influenced by the war. In check-lists, bibliographies, articles and comments emphasis shifted from civilian to military concern. In its way the *Journal* contributed to the war effort.

¶40 Late in 1946, Harrison McDonald accepted the position of editor, which was now combined with that of business manager. By 1948, he could report improved conditions—a shorter time lag in issuance as well as receipt of ample material for publication. However, since in the same report he appealed to the members for contributions, one assumes that the type of material at hand was not all *par excellence*. Officers' and committee reports were printed in the May issue at this time thereby decreasing the size of the proceedings number, which had grown to unruly proportions. Miss Pauline Gee undertook the laborious task of compiling the index.

¶41 The next several years were relatively uneventful ones in the history of the *Journal*. We find the reports of committees again appearing in the proceedings issue which in turn was shifted to November to allow sufficient time for editing—the extent of “sufficiency” being incomprehensible to anyone who has not seen the minutes in unpolished form. During 1952, Bernita Davies, law librarian, University of Illinois, held the dual position of editor and business manager. It was at that time that “The President’s Page” first appeared.

¶42 Mrs. Davies’ stop-gap term culminated with volume 45, after which William Stern of the Los Angeles County Law Library accepted the position. A man of unusual energy, Mr. Stern added a number of features during his editorship. Instead of an occasional book review, several were printed in each issue plus a number of Book Notes—pocket editions of reviews. Departments of “Questions and Answers” and “Compensation of Law Library Personnel” became popular innovations. “Current Comments” was divided, the second section being called “Membership News.” Mortimer Schwartz and Dorothy Salmon, acting as a subcommittee of the committee on the *Law Library Journal* prepared the index for volume 46, having in mind headings which might be used for a proposed cumulative index.

¶43 Again the future of the *Journal* looked bright. For volume 47, an assistant editor, Riley Paul Burton, University of Southern California, was added to the editorial staff. The amount of advertising received was most encouraging, the average number of pages per issue being 20 compared to an average of 10 in 1950. Moreover, reader reaction to the contents of the *Journal* was heartening. Replies to a questionnaire distributed to the Southern California chapter disclosed that most members read 75 percent of the text and advertising, and that in each library

one or more people used the check-lists and Current Publications. The President's Page was voted the most popular section with articles on law librarianship next, followed as a close third, by information on salaries.

¶44 Yet again, editorial turnover was rapid. In May, 1954, Mr. Stern's resignation, effective July 31, was reluctantly accepted. Harriet French, appointed to continue Stern's work was forced by illness to resign in the middle of the year and was followed by Mortimer Schwartz, law librarian University of Oklahoma. Due to a decision that the assistant editor should be in close proximity to the editor, Dorothy Salmon, who had assisted Miss French, resigned in favor of Pauline Carleton, but lately on the staff at Oklahoma. Similarly, the position has shifted to George Skinner, who replaced Miss Carleton.

¶45 The policy of having the editor act as chairman of the committee on the *Law Library Journal* had been discontinued in 1946. Now the position of advertising manager has been restored—presently filled most efficiently by Earl Borgeson, who accepted the position in the wake of Charles McNabb. No longer does the editor of the *Journal* lead four lives.

¶46 The editorial work, too, is now departmentalized. For the past year, Betty LeBus and Charlotte Dunnebacke have compiled "Current Comments" and "Membership News," Marion Gallagher was in charge of "Questions and Answers," William Murphy edited the "Check-list of Statutes and Reports," Jean Ashman and Dorothy Scarborough the list of "Current Publications," while Helen Hargrave solicited and edited book reviews and notes. Moreover, one of the problems of 49 years standing—how to obtain enough suitable material for publication—may have been answered when Dillard Gardner was made editorial consultant to discuss plans and methods of writing with anyone desiring to become a contributor to the *Journal*.

¶47 Thus it stands at the outset of 1956—48 volumes—a record of the work and play, the aspirations, disappointments and achievements of the American Association of Law Libraries, a mirror showing the capabilities, warm friendly personalities, and cooperative spirit of its members, a monument to the foresight of its founders.