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## George Fox College

## JOURNAL

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*"The wisdom which is from above, by which all things were made and created, which the holy fear of God in the heart is the beginning of, keeps the heart clean."*

Journal, George Fox, 1677

## The Function Of The College Library

BY MARY B. DADE, B.L.S., LIBRARIAN

Books have always been regarded as a necessity in the establishment of colleges. Traditionally, the library was the storehouse and the librarian the guardian of these books; this idea still persists in some places, even though the library has changed greatly in its policy and philosophy. Today, the library serves as the core of the entire college, the source for research in all phases of the curriculum.

It is true, however, that the possession of the library helped determine the location of at least one of our early colleges. In 1701, ten Connecticut clergymen made a gift of books for "the founding of a College in this colony". Rev. Thomas Buckingham, of Saybrook, one of the ten original trustees, was in possession of the library in 1716 when the college was named Yale and the decision was made to move it to New Haven. But when men came for the library, he astutely replied that he had no books belonging to Yale. It took all the law officers available to collect the books from the patriotic townspeople of Saybrook, who still did not admit defeat in their effort to keep the college in their town. Bridges disappeared during the night, and wheels from the ox-cart carrying the books would be missing each morning; still, the "college" moved.

The college library is a constantly changing institution, adapting resources to the needs of its community of faculty, students, and alumni. The primary objective of the college library is to make its services contribute as effectively as possible to the instructional program of the college.

In order to determine whether or not the college library is successfully adapting its functions and services to current educational developments, the objectives and accomplishments of the library need to be examined periodically. Such an evaluation is a continuous process of appraisal and improvement.

With objectives such as the following, we hope the George Fox College Library will become the focal point of all educational processes within the college and its community of alumni and church.

*Objective I:* To furnish books required for collateral reading in connection with courses offered, together with related material required by the faculty members for instructional purposes.

In the George Fox College Library the reserve shelves are among the first with which college students become acquainted. Our entire collection, including the reserve section, is on open shelves where students freely select their own material. This is generally considered the most satisfactory policy in a small college library, since it makes the books more readily accessible. Faculty and library have cooperated in the selection of material needed. Adequate financial support is important in carrying out this objective, since a change in curriculum or faculty makes new demands on the library. The conference room is frequently used by students and faculty when library materials are used in the lesson presentation.

*Objective II:* To furnish books for voluntary recreational reading by students and to promote their use.

A college library needs to be a live, growing collection, with standard reference sources and current books of general interest. If a college does not motivate its students to continue learning throughout the rest of their lives, it has not

completely fulfilled its responsibility. The library shares this responsibility in encouraging students to read a wide variety of books not limited by a subject field. An attractive library with comfortable conditions and adequate lighting, books in good condition, and occasional book reviews, all help achieve this objective. An adequate library building would also provide space for individual research, storage for rare books, and fireproof rooms for audio-visual materials.

*Objective III:* To provide a comprehensive selection of authoritative books covering all fields of knowledge and to make their content available.

Not only has the total amount of printed matter increased very rapidly in recent years, but the information an individual needs for effective living has seemingly increased proportionately. Such extensive reading required of students necessitates the provision of adequate library materials.

An evaluation of the entire library, planned by the library committee of the faculty and still to be completed, will tell which fields of knowledge are well supplied as well as those that are neglected. The reference section of the library has received a particularly critical review. Vital, up-to-date material is essential in furnishing information needed in everyday class work.

Essential bibliographic material includes indexes, such as the *Readers' guide to periodical literature*, which easily double the value of the indexed periodicals standing on the library shelves. Others, such as the *Essay and general literature index*, are valuable in making minor subjects and individual articles and essays accessible. The most important "reference" in a college library, however, is its own catalog. Full value of the books acquired is achieved only through careful cataloging, so that all material available is listed by author, title and subject.

*Objective IV:* To train students in the use of library materials and integrate the library with the instructional program.

Freshmen at George Fox get an early introduction to the library, through a visit during Freshman Days. A map of the

library and a brief statement of library rules and practices are presented, following an introduction to the library and a trip through its rooms. Later, English classes meet in the Reference Room to learn more about bibliographic resources. Book lists, furnished the faculty periodically, give current additions to the library which they might find of interest or of value in class work.

*Objective V:* To collect and preserve material of historical interest to the library's community, in our case, to the college and the church.

Our "Quaker Collection" includes books from the date 1659. George Fox's *Journal*, in the first, third, eighth, and latest editions, is a part of this collection in which we take particular pride. Wouldn't it be interesting to have all editions? Friends of the college and members of Oregon Yearly Meeting of Friends Church could help this collection by keeping it in mind when books of historical interest to Quakers are available.

It is difficult to state concretely just how effective a college library may be. The use of books, during a stated period is one indication, though not entirely satisfactory. The circulation, or home use of books, has increased steadily during the last five years at George Fox.

The library has not achieved all of these objectives. Perhaps the librarian is more aware of its weaknesses than anyone else, but with the help of administration, faculty and students, progress has been made in each area. The thorough evaluation which we are making this year has aided in the formulation of our goals for the future. We invite your interest, and hope you will visit the library when you are on the campus.

A selective list of religious books recently purchased for the library is given with the thought it might be of interest to friends of the college.

Anderson, S. E.—*Every Pastor a Counselor*. Van Kampen press, 1949.

- Bainton, R. H.—*Travail of Religious Liberty*. Westminster press, 1951.
- Bible—*Revised Standard Version*. Thos. Nelson, 1952.
- Brinton, Howard—*Friends for 300 Years; the history and beliefs of the Society of Friends since George Fox started the Quaker movement*. Harper, 1952.
- Carnell, E. J.—*Theology of Reinhold Niebuhr*. Eerdmans, 1951.
- Chase, M. E.—*Readings From the Bible*, Macmillan, 1952.
- Fairchild, H. N.—*Religious Perspectives in College Teaching*. Ronald, 1952.
- Ferm, Vergilius—*Encyclopedia of Religion*. Philosophical library, 1945.
- Ferm, Vergilius—*Religion in the Twentieth Century*. Philosophical library, 1948.
- Finegan, Jack—*Archeology of World Religions*. Princeton University press, 1952.
- Gauss, Christian, ed.—*Teaching of Religion in American Higher Education*. Ronald, 1951.
- Greenway, Leonard—*Basic Questions About the Bible*. Zondervan publishing house, 1948.
- Kavanaugh, John—*The Quaker Approach to Contemporary Problems*. Putnams, 1953.
- Long, E. L.—*Science and Christian Faith*. Association press, 1950.
- Messenger, R. E.—*Medieval Latin Hymns*. Capital press, 1953.
- Miller, M. E.—*Harper's Bible Dictionary*. Harper, 1952.
- Oursler, Fulton—*Greatest Book Ever Written*. Doubleday, 1951.
- Rainstock, Arthur—*Quakers in Science and Industry, 17th and 18th Centuries*. Philosophical library, 1950.
- Stevenson, Burton—*Home Book of Bible Quotations*. Harper, 1949.
- Sweet, W. W.—*Religion in the Development of American Culture, 1765-1840*. Scribners, 1952.

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## CALENDAR

- May 8—A Cappella Choir Banquet.  
9—Foreign Missions Fellowship Missionary Conference.  
12—8:00 p. m., Wood-Mar Hall Auditorium, Junior Recital, Marilyn Barnes, Alto.  
14—Junior-Senior Banquet.  
19—8:00 p. m., Wood-Mar Hall Auditorium, Senior Recital, Klane Robison, Tenor.  
29, 30—8:00 p. m., Wood-Mar Hall Auditorium, Operetta, "The Magic Flute", by Mozart. (An English Version)  
31—3:00 p. m., Newberg Friends Church, Baccalaureate, Speaker, Donald McNichols, Dean and Chairman of Administrative Committee of George Fox College.
- June 1-4—Final Examinations.  
4—8:00 p. m., Wood-Mar Hall Auditorium, Class Day Exercises.  
5—10:00 a. m., Wood-Mar Hall Auditorium, Commencement, Speaker, Dr. Harry L. Dillin, President, Linfield College.  
—7:00 p. m., Alumni Banquet, College Dining Hall.
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