A library, and the local publications that depend on its growth and evolution, are closely woven into the historical record of any worthwhile medical college. Their transcendent importance to the life and development of teachers and students alike requires no extended comment. But the distinctive quality of libraries was defined by Dean Cutter, at the dedication of the Archibald Church Library, in an arresting metaphor:

Libraries are the storehouses of thought; the granaries, as it were, of the mind; the quiet places where, instinctively, all else is extra-territorial save the method and manner of study.

CIVIC LIBRARIES

Teachers and alumni of the Chicago Medical College played prominent roles in the early history of medical libraries in Chicago. The first attempt to assemble a library for the use of the medical profession was made by the Chicago Medical Society. The Great Fire of 1871 destroyed this collection, including hundreds of volumes deposited there by the Chicago Medical College. Impressed with the inadequacies of library resources in Chicago, Dr. J. M. Toner offered his personal library of 27,000 volumes to the Chicago profession, if a fireproof building were provided to house it. This philanthropically-minded practitioner of Washington, D.C., was a national figure in the medical world. The offer was made in 1878 through N. S. Davis, who canvassed the possibilities of arranging an acceptance but was unable to meet the conditions.
Two private ventures then attempted to satisfy the local need. The Chicago Medical Press Association, which arose to handle the merged *Journal and Examiner* of the two rival medical colleges, started a medical library in 1876 for the use of the profession. Within its life of eight years, under the leadership of Norman Bridge (class of 1868), the collection grew to 16,000 bound volumes. At this juncture it was added to the new medical department of the Chicago Public Library. Later, in 1889, the Chicago Medical Society sponsored the Medical Library Association of Chicago, of which N. S. Davis was President and Bayard Holmes (class of 1888) was Secretary. It planned to erect a $30,000 building through contributions. Not much money was raised for a building, yet about 16,000 books were collected. Also a private library of about 4,000 volumes had been bought from the estate of Dr. J. S. Jewell, an illustrious graduate of the first class of the Medical Department of Lind University.

The first public medical collection was begun by the Chicago Public Library in 1883. Within seven years nearly 4,000 books and many journals and pamphlets had been assembled, in addition to the 16,000 volumes received from the Medical Press Association in 1884. Both N. S. Davis and Bayard Holmes, as the chief officers of the Medical Library Association of Chicago, appealed to the newly-founded Newberry Library to establish a medical department. This was accomplished in 1889, when a start was made by taking over the collections of the Medical Library Association and of the Chicago Public Library. Through this consolidation the medical profession obtained the use of improved resources, which also included, by gift, the large library (11,000 volumes and 14,500 pamphlets) of Dr. Nicholas Senn (class of 1868).

Meanwhile, John Crerar willed the City of Chicago $2,000,000, which the trustees of the estate decided to devote to the establishment of a library (1897) whose field would be the physical, natural and social sciences. In 1906 the Crerar and Newberry libraries, both endowed and dedicated to the service of the people, wisely agreed to specialize rather than to compete. The John Crerar Library retained science, including medicine, as its province. The Crerar Trustees authorized the purchase of the Newberry collection on science; it contained over 65,000 volumes and pamphlets, and files of 400 periodicals. With this addition, the John Crerar Library became
one of the great medical repositories of the nation, a position which it has never relinquished.

THE COLLEGE LIBRARY

Over the years, in the previous century, the annual announcements of many medical colleges remained silent on the subject of a library. After 75 years of existence the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York reported having only 1,200 volumes. In the West an exception was the pioneering Transylvania University, which claimed 8,000 volumes when it still fostered the earliest medical college (founded in 1817) west of the Appalachians. At the other extreme, Rush Medical College did not start to organize a students' library until after it affiliated with the University of Chicago in 1898, and found that President Harper favored such a move. In general, a trend toward significant libraries did not begin until near the end of the nineteenth century.

Provision for a library was in the minds of the Founders of the Medical Department of Lind University during their period of planning for a new medical college. Four months before the opening of the first term, a committee was appointed "to report upon a suitable place for the foundation of a college library, and the regulations thereof." It was decided that the Faculty Room should also house the library. During the first year of the college the library contained between 400 and 500 volumes, and a committee was designated to appoint a librarian and enforce the rules as adopted. By the next year the number of volumes reached 700, and four years later it became 1,000. The third Annual Announcement recorded what had been accomplished up to that time:

During the past year, a Medical Library has been provided, containing about 700 volumes, embracing many very valuable works. Such regulations have been adopted as to render all books in the Library accessible to matriculated students of the College.

In 1863 the College occupied the first building of its own. Here the library shared space with the free dispensary on the ground
floor. At the end of the 1863-64 academic session, Dr. Davis assumed the residual debt on the building, on the condition that $2,500 from the annual earnings be earmarked for the chemistry laboratory, library and museum, before a dividend could be declared to the teachers. The 1864-65 Announcement referred proudly to the collection of 1,000 volumes and promised:

The Library soon will also have constantly on the table all the principal Medical Periodicals of this country, together with some from Europe, which the students can consult at their pleasure. It is expected, in this way, the student will acquire that taste for professional reading which will ensure his steady progress to eminence and usefulness.

The move toward support of the library by college funds was short-lived at best, because the library was dissolved in 1871. No further financial responsibility would be assumed by either the Medical School or Northwestern University for 36 years.

The Alumni Library (1883-1907), located in Davis Hall, and its librarian; about 1901.
When the larger, second College building was erected, on Prairie Avenue, there were listed among its facilities a library and reading room. After a year, nevertheless, ardor for a library cooled. In September, 1871, the Faculty voted that those members who had loaned or donated books would be given two weeks to reclaim any that were wanted, after which the remainder would go to the library of the Chicago Medical Society. As already stated, this collection burned in the Great Fire of 1871; hence the lot from the Chicago Medical College could have been in its new depository for only a week or so.

THE ALUMNI LIBRARY

Strangely enough, the College was without library facilities for more than a decade, and the Annual Announcements remained silent on the subject. But, in the 1883-84 issue, a statement made clear that there was a reading-room, supplied with files of the leading medical journals and containing the nucleus of a library. This bare announcement was an official acknowledgement of the fact that in 1883 the Alumni Association decided to take on the re-establishment of a library as a project. The Association was destined to continue its efforts to this end for 24 years. A first move in this direction was to divert $200, which had been collected shortly before for the establishment of a physiological laboratory, toward a library. During the following year $118.50 was spent, including the cost of binding, shelving and other necessaries; 145 bound volumes and 75 periodicals were then on hand.

The Proceedings of the Alumni Association reported little activity for several years, but in 1889 they record that the "library [is] increasing, and eleven dollars in the treasury." In the 1889-90 session the library was moved from its original location on the ground floor "to basement, from basement to attic and at last . . . domiciled in a former prosector's room adjoining the upper lecture room." At this time the collection consisted of 223 bound volumes and 21 files of medical periodicals. In addition, 501 graduation theses were on hand, out of the thousand-odd that had been submitted since the founding of the School. The thesis requirement was abandoned in 1891, and the accumulated collection was apparently discarded in one of the periodic thinnings of library resources. This is a matter of
regret, since such student efforts constitute items of considerable historical interest. With a better appreciation of potential, long-term values there might have been preserved a collection comparable to the unique library of medical theses saved from the early college at Transylvania University.

Much later (1901), the Annual Announcement described the library of this period condescendingly:

The older alumni... remember the College library as a small ill-lighted room in the basement of the Chicago Medical College building on Prairie Avenue; a room in which the several antique volumes of work on practice, a few hundred unclassified pamphlets of problematical value and a few current college journals gathered the dust of months and years, and groups of students met from time to time to gossip an hour away.

When the two new College buildings were erected on Dearborn Street, no provision for a library seems to have been included in the plans. At least, its home for two years was in what was intended as a bacteriological store-room in the basement of Davis Hall. The modest collection was badly in need of organization and cataloging. Rising to the need, the recently-installed student Y.M.C.A. volunteered to do this, and also to take over the care of the collection, provided suitable quarters would be made available for a joint medical, dental and pharmacy library. This offer was approved by the alumni, but came to naught.

It was a donation of 600 volumes from an alumnus that served as the chief factor in instigating improved conditions for the library. The Annual Announcement for 1896-97 broke a long silence on library matters by proclaiming these developments:

**ALUMNI LIBRARY**

The Alumni Library of about 1,000 volumes... is conveniently located on the lower floor of Davis Hall. The library is open from 12 to 2 daily, and is under the immediate care of Miss May T. Hillen, Librarian. The gross profits on the sale of college books made at the clerk's office are donated to the increase and care of this library.

It had taken twelve years for the library, building anew, to regain its size of thirty-odd years earlier, before the dismemberment took
place. And this renascence had been due wholly to alumni initiative and management. Beginning with 1896, efforts were intensified to accumulate an adequate reference library. To this end, control was vested by the Alumni Association in three trustees who sponsored a retail textbook and stationery enterprise at the College. The business profits were used to buy new books for the library. Another decade would pass before the Medical School assumed any responsibility other than paying first all, and then part, of the librarian’s modest wage.

When the Dental School moved out of Davis Hall in 1896, the Medical School purchased the two upper floors from the University and occupied them. This enabled the Alumni Library, now boasting more than 2,000 cataloged volumes, to take over “commodious and well-lighted rooms” on the third floor. At this period the profits from the sale of books were amounting to about $250 annually, and were soon to double. In 1901 the Library moved again, this time to occupy a lengthwise half of the fourth floor, and to extend its usefulness by remaining open eight hours each day. The alumni trustees increased their number to four, adding one member annually from the most recent graduates. They also created an advisory council, composed of one student from each class, which assisted in the administration of the Library. In this way the Library became a co-operative institution, controlled by the alumni and students.

In the early years of the new century, the Alumni Library continued to grow. In 1903 there were 4,396 bound volumes (including
departmental collections), and many thousands of unbound items. Profits from the sale of textbooks to students were modest for a while, but in the ninth year (1905), the total gain amounted to $1,500, and 565 books were added to the collection. Two years later the Alumni Association voted to tender a summary of its management through the past eleven years to the Trustees of the Uni-

Original main reading room of the Archibald Church Library.

versity, and to "present to the Trustees its library, they to support and maintain it in a creditable way." The gift and the attendant responsibility were accepted, but the Medical School decided not to continue longer the sale of books to students. In this manner the Alumni Library, as such, came to an end in 1907, after operating under alumni stewardship for more than two decades. As a practical service, this accomplishment comprises a bright chapter in the long history of the Alumni Association.

Several years before the transfer of ownership took place, there had been criticisms of the increasingly overcrowded library quarters, and warnings that "steps must soon be taken to provide rooms in better keeping with the importance of the department." Shortly after the transfer, it was voted to spread the library across the hall-
way into the other half of the fourth floor of Davis Hall. Space previously allotted there to the Y.M.C.A. was converted into a reading room. At the end of the 1913-14 academic year it was decided that the library should yield to the needs of the expanding clinics and move into a large room on the ground floor of the Laboratory Building, previously used solely as a physiological laboratory. Here it remained as long as the Medical School retained the Dearborn Street site. Even before the library abandoned Davis Hall, a committee had thinned down the collection by discarding "old and useless text books, taking up valuable room that could be used to better advantage for current periodicals." It is likely that works of historical value may have been lost in this purge. Later, as the year for moving to the northside campus neared, valuable works, including some medical classics, were placed on tables in the main entrance hall, with an invitation to passers-by to select whatever pleased and carry the volumes away.

During the two decades (1907-26), under University management at the Dearborn Street site, the library grew slowly and not at all spectacularly. At the time of transfer from alumni control, the number of bound volumes was said to be 6,000; in 1916 it was 10,000. By 1925 the volumes had reached either 11,000 or 13,000 (the records are contradictory), while journals received by subscription and gift numbered 75. At this time the annual expenditure for books and periodicals was only $1,760, and the sole librarian also worked for the registrar. For a pretentious School the inadequacy was truly embarrassing.

THE ARCHIBALD CHURCH LIBRARY

In the summer of 1925, Dr. Irving S. Cutter became Dean of the Medical School. His mind already contained a clear picture of the kind of library that should occupy specially designed quarters, and serve a School whose ambitions and opportunities were entering upon a new phase. Also, the vision of the Faculty had been sharpened, in the previous year, by the announcement that Dr. Archibald Church, Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases, and Mrs. Church wished to subsidize the medical library on a scale that, at the time, seemed to give promise of solving its problems.
The bronze Library clock, now not in use.

The Announcement of this gift by President Scott read as follows:

Dr. and Mrs. Church desire to supply the faculty members and students with a most comprehensive and up-to-date medical library. They desire this library to be a day-to-day library for students and instructors, as Dr. Church has informed the Trustees that his plan is not to build up with this fund a great, permanent medical library, but one that will adequately and correctly reflect the opinions of the best medical authorities of the day upon all medical questions.

This is a most confusing statement, and it would seem that something must have fallen out between the original declaration by Dr. Church and its paraphrase by the President. How day-to-day authoritative information upon all medical questions could be accumulated without automatically building a great, permanent medical library, is scarcely understandable.

The actual contract between the donors and the University provided that the net principle at the expiration of designated annuity payments would become the Archibald Church Fund, and the
library would be named the Archibald Church Library. It was further stipulated that:

The income be used for the maintenance and upkeep of the library of the Medical School of the University . . . and that the University shall make suitable provision for the housing, upkeep and care of said library in its Medical School building, to the end that said library shall at all times be available for the use, for reference and study, of medical students and practitioners in the City of Chicago.

Four years later (1928), Dr. Church, now retired, announced that Mrs. Church was so pleased with the development of the library that she insisted on doubling the original gift of $100,000 to it. The advancement of the library was in keeping with their desire to see the School so well housed, completely equipped and adequately endowed that it would attract outstanding men to its Faculty. Both gifts were received by the University on an agreement that benefited the donors on a life-time annuity basis. Both lived into advanced old age. So it was 34 years after the agreement before the residue of the greatly depleted principal, and a far greater amount bequeathed from the estate, became available ($133,000) to the library. During the fund-raising connected with the observance of the University Centennial, the Medical School designated the Church Library as its special beneficiary. The response totaled $389,000.

The new library originally occupied the east wing of the Ward Building. As agreed, it was named the Archibald Church Library in recognition of the prospective endowment and the donor’s outstanding attainments and long period of devoted service to the Medical School. The dedication of the Library came in June, 1927, at the end of the first year of use, as a part of the general dedicatory ceremonies for the new campus and all of its buildings. The principal address was delivered by the Dean, who envisioned the Library as becoming “so complete, so broad in scope, so accessible that it will satisfy the most eager student-mind and the needs of the most exacting scientific research.” The keynote was expressed as an aphorism: “The heart of this, as of any institution of higher learning, is its library.” Consciously or not, the Dean was paraphrasing a similar sentiment that had been expressed by Thomas Carlyle many years before: “The true University of these days is a Collection of Books.”
Under the ambitious leadership of Dean Cutter the Library grew with amazing speed. By 1941, when he retired, there were 91,870 bound volumes, while subscriptions to periodicals numbered 592. Of the greatest importance had been the obtaining (or filling-in) of complete files of all important journals in the basic and clinical fields. Equally ambitious was the accumulation of extensive special collections, such as rare books embracing the great medical classics, an extraordinary portrait collection of some 5,000 items and valuable manuscripts of various kinds. In the years since 1941 there has been no slackening in the steady growth. At present the bound volumes number 190,000; by 1971 journal subscriptions peaked at more than 2,000.

In a national survey of medical libraries, in 1951, the Archibald Church Library stood sixth in the number of bound volumes, seventh in paid journal subscriptions and seventh in total expenditures. Although the great state universities rated high in budget (including the first and second positions among all schools), their high-
est standing in bound volumes was just behind Northwestern. These statistics substantiate the justice of the claim that within just one-quarter of a century the library of the Medical School rose from mediocrity to a position of eminence in the country. Twenty years later the standing in bound volumes slipped to ninth, in journals-received to 14th, while space and staff were, respectively, in the 38th and 41st positions.

Necessary expansion was provided in 1965 by annexing the ground floor of the contiguous Searle Building and appropriating the space between the Ward, Searle and Morton buildings for a two-story stack room and basement. Yet progress exacts its toll. Gone from the original main room is the high and beautifully decorated ceiling — a casualty to overhead air conditioning; dispersed are the portraits of Northwestern 'Greats' that had crowded its walls. A neighboring loss to practicality, but this owing to the cost of restoration, was the stunning ceiling of the main foyer of Ward, done in gold and parti-coloring after a famous ceiling in an Italian palace. Even now the Library could use additional space to advantage, and future demands will become imperative. A solution is not distant, because the transfer of the Outpatient Clinics from the Ward Building is liberating three floors, some of which contiguous space is earmarked for Library expansion.

THE RALPH A. REIS LIBRARY

In addition to collections of medical books in various affiliated hospitals, special mention should be made of the collection assembled by Dr. Ralph A. Reis, Emeritus Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology. It is located in the Prentice Woman's Hospital and consists of rare and classic books on permanent loan from the John Crerar Library. This valuable collection represents the acquisitions of an alumnus ('20) who had been a bibliophile since student days.

PUBLICATIONS

The earliest publication of the new medical college was, naturally enough, the Annual Announcement, which is mentioned here
chiefly because, from 1902 to 1910, it became combined with the Spring issue of *The Quarterly Bulletin* to comprise a publication specifically designed to interest and enlighten prospective students. It also served periodically to enclose, as a supplement, a complete directory of graduates.

In theory *The Chicago Medical Examiner*, founded by N. S. Davis in 1860, was an independent medical journal, as its founder and editor asserted with warmth on more than one occasion. In practice, it followed the custom of the times and served chiefly as an outlet for the writings of the Faculty of the new school, and of its graduates and friends. It was the semiofficial mouthpiece of the new school and its educational philosophies, just as *The Chicago Medical Journal* served as the house organ of Rush Medical College. Anyone will be repaid by browsing through *The Examiner* to admire its ambitious scope and general excellence as a monthly periodical (p. 122). All will be entertained by following the running skirmish conducted by N. S. Davis, through editorials and news notes, in opposition to similar material published in *The Journal* by its then editor, the President of Rush Medical College.

With the merger of the *Examiner* and *Journal* in 1875, and the elevation of the joint enterprise to a nonpartisan basis, the Chicago Medical College was left without a publication of its own. No move to remedy this lack was made until 1899, when it was decided to publish a monthly journal called *The Bulletin of the Northwestern University Medical School*. A letter from the business representative, soliciting a page-advertisement from the University Trustees, included some basic information concerning the venture:

> At a meeting of the Medical Faculty it was decided to publish a high-grade medical bulletin, modeled after that of Johns Hopkins University, to be published monthly by the Faculty. At present the editorial management is under the supervision of Drs. Church, Edwards and Van Hook. That this publication will be of great practical advantage to not only the Medical School, but to the University proper is apparent, for it will show what is only partially appreciated — the very high grade of work done by us.

> We are the only medical school in the country of any importance without a medical journal, and we want — now that we are to have one — to make it the peer of anything in the medical college line. The journal will be a 40-page monthly of high scientific order and will be creditable in every way.
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It was presumed that the cost each month for 1,000 copies would be about $50; the management was given the power to incur expenses not to exceed $200. The first issue was dated June, 1899. After two volumes had been completed, publication slowed from a monthly to a quarterly basis, the number of pages in each issue was increased and the name changed to the *Quarterly Bulletin of the Northwestern University Medical School*. As a new feature, each June issue, called the Student's Number, took the place of the Annual Announcement of former times. It also contained pictures and informative articles of promotional value and, from time to time, included a directory of the alumni. This method of handling the Annual Announcement continued for eight years. From the beginning the declared purpose of the journal was to devote its energies "to the interests of the School and the publication of scientific productions of the faculty, students and alumni." The phrase "interests of the School" connoted college and faculty news, abstracts of faculty publications, reunion reports and alumni items. The first volume had a subscription price of two dollars, whereas the charge for the second volume dropped to one dollar. A change of policy, beginning with the third volume, sent the publication to all graduates free of charge.

The *Quarterly Bulletin* started off bravely, with articles of fair quality; then several changes of editors occurred. The Faculty Minutes of December, 1907, contain a plea for a better type of publication, under new editorial guidance. Pursuant to this end, Drs. Charles A. Elliott and Allen B. Kanavel took over the task. After five years. Dr. Kanavel reported that the quality of articles then being submitted was not of a standard that would redound to the credit of the institution. In his opinion the money spent upon the journal could be used to greater advantage elsewhere. A committee reviewed the situation and recommended that publication be discontinued; and so, in December, 1912, in its thirteenth year, the *Quarterly Bulletin* was laid to rest, at the moment unmourned.

After an entombment of 27 years the *Quarterly Bulletin* was resurrected successfully, in the spring of 1940, at the instigation of Dean Cutter. Its professed objectives were essentially as before; additional new features were to be editorials and articles "devoted to medical history, for which the source of material will be the valuable collection of the Archibald Church Library." Upon resum-
A TREATISE

ON

THE CHRONIC

INFLAMMATION AND DISPLACEMENTS

OF THE

UNIMPREGNATED UTERUS.

BY

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PROFESSOR OF OBSTETRICS, ETC., CHICAGO MEDICAL COLLEGE, MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

LIND UNIVERSITY.

PHILADELPHIA:

LINDSAY & BLAKISTON.

1864.

Title page of the first medical book written in Chicago; 1864.
ing publication, the *Bulletin* completed 33 more annual volumes, first under the editorial direction of Dr. Michael L. Mason, and then of Dr. Barry J. Anson. Unable to compete successfully with purely scientific journals of the first quality, it, nevertheless, attained high standing in its own class. This was attested in 1960 when it received the "Honor Award for Distinguished Service in Medical Journalism" from the American Medical Writers' Association.

In 1963 it was decided administratively to cease publishing the largely scientific *Bulletin* and replace it with a non-technical magazine to be distributed without charge to alumni, faculty and students, and to the deans of other medical schools. The result was the *Northwestern University Medical School Magazine* which contained articles of a general nature and material of particular concern to all interested in the Medical School. This publication continued for eleven years under the editorship of Dr. Leslie B. Arey. Then again came a shift in administrative policy, to the effect that the interests of the total medical-dental-hospital center would be better served by another type of publication that emphasized material aimed toward promoting public relations. Accordingly, in 1975 there appeared a new product bearing the title, *Northwestern University Medical Center Magazine*, and initially edited by Dr. David E. Shoch.

A comprehensive consideration of other, extensive publications, for which the Medical School deserves credit either directly or indirectly, must be omitted. Books alone make a formidable list, whose entries became increasingly frequent with the years. The start was the pioneer work, *A Treatise on the Uterus*, published by Professor Byford in 1864. This book represents the first medical work to emanate from a Chicago author. As stated previously, editorships among the Faculty began with N. S. Davis and his *Chicago Medical Examiner* in 1860. Later, James S. Jewell founded the prestigious *Journal of Mental and Nervous Disease* in 1874. The indefatigable Dr. Davis initiated the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and became its first editor in 1883. Much later (1905) Franklin H. Martin founded *Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics*, the guiding management of which has since remained in the Northwestern faculty. In 1952 Ralph A. Reis founded *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, and in 1959 William F. Windle founded *Experimental Neurology*. 
The supreme importance of research publications cannot be over-emphasized and needs no supporting comment, so alert is everyone to their potential worth. Less appreciation exists for the invaluable service performed by successful books that evaluate and synthesize rapidly advancing knowledge. They instruct not only students throughout the country, and sometimes other countries, but also their teachers as well. President Harper, of the University of Chicago, once said that he was unwilling to assign a greater value to the contribution of the research worker than to the competent teacher or writer of a first-class textbook, who made available and interpreted what was already known. During the eleven years of the *N.U.M.S. Magazine* written and edited books by faculty and alumni of the Medical School were noted or reviewed. The leading publisher of medical books in the United States maintains that Northwestern authors have led through the years in the writing of successful medical volumes.

A compilation of the publications and other activities of the Medical Faculty down to 1925 was the work of a committee, led by Dr. S. W. Ranson, whose extensive report is accessioned in the Church Library. Far more impressive in number and variety would be a similar report, embodying the creative efforts of the succeeding fifty years, and even to the present time. The University can well be proud of the record of its Medical Faculty in scholarly production.