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About the Institute
The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Report on 1st Hertzberg Binding (163 books) 5/14/74

Bill--Yesterday I spent an hour examining to greater or less extent all of the books done by Hertzberg in the first binding (details below). I then went through a cartful of the last books done for us by UO bindery. The general impression I had wasthat Hertzberg-bound books are much more flexible and much easier to use--they cooperate with the reader. As I turned to the UO binding products the change in 'feel' was immediate and unpleasant.

I am not sure that cleat bound books will outlast oversewn ones, but while they do last they will deliver much better service. Cleat binding does not tempt or force the user to strain the binding beyond its strength, and, being flexible, it yields to such lesser strains as may occur. Oversewing does tempt, and even force, one to strain the binding, and, being almost rigid (it is a 'strong' binding, like cast iron) it can be made to tear the paper, eventually suddenly ripping through the back or breaking its own sewing.

I feel convinced that, granted library books by the million (espacially journals) cannot in general be sewn in folded sections, cleat binding is a far better value while it lasts, and a better bet for the collection as a whole, than oversewing, while, in addition, in most cases it can be repeated, which is not generally true of oversewing.

There remainsthe comparison with adhesive sewing, in particular, double-fanning. I have seen few examples only--they were all much more flexible than cleat binding or oversewing. But the fundamental bonding of the leaves is far less extensive than in either of these two, the ultimate bonding being not the adhesive, but the adhesive-paper bond, and the bond within the paper itself. If either of theseis insufficient (wrong adhesive for type of paper, or just poor paper) the binding (so-called) has a good chance, it seems to me, of failing at some future time--perhaps largely depending on senescence phenomena. If double-fanning could be obtained for vastly less cost I should feel it was a good buy for much little used and/or moderately ephemoral material, but such is not the case. As a matter of fact, Vinabind is now often being used for such material, although unfortunately also for some of more important quality. I think double-fanning adhesive does merit occasional use where inner margins are very small (1/4" of less, as some journals are now using) but this isa special consideration.

Specific remarks on Hertzberg No. 1

1. Some dozen out of 163 books sent were oversewn for no eveident reason, despite the instruction to use cleat binding whenever possible. These are reserved for discussion with Mr. Hertzberg.
2. Six or eight books were sewn 'through the fold' on what seems to be plastic tapes. In one case the number of folds was 12 with extra charge 65¢; another 18 with extra charge $1.25. Both of these were in basic range $7.15 to $8.00 --hence, an extra charge range of 8% to 15%. How many books Hertzberg would do for this percentage should be determined, for this type of binding will last indefinitely, and should certainly be used in a selected list of especially expensive and important journals, reference books, and nearly always in re-sewing classic works of all centuries. (More to this would be a request for a complete description of the bindings to be obtained for various prices--the price list as furnished is an enigma)
3. Notable in the Hertzberg bindings are head and tail reinforcements of cords pasted inside the fold-over at each end of the spine. These alonewill give any book at least a 10% longer life. I have never noted them in commercial library binding.

George Fankhauser

COLLEGE PLACE BINDERY. Bookbinders

BOX 97, 15 S.E. THIRD STREET, COLLEGE PLACE, WA 99324 • TELEPHONE (509) 529-4220

April 4, 1974

Mrs. Jane Younger, Serials Section
University of Oregon Library
Eugene, OR 97403

Dear Mrs. Younger:

Enclosed is the material that I mentioned on the telephone and would have Mr. Bryan deliver to you. You may show it to Mr. Van Schaack also and anyone else that might be interested in seeing the evaluation of the various types of library binding.

One of the booklets is a "Technological Impact On The Library Binding Industries" which was put out by an Engineer who is a member of the Library Binding Institute and has worked with them for many years. In his test he is drawing comparisions in the Oversewing, Cleate Sewing and Ehlermann Adhesive or Double Fan Binding, showing what tests were made and the results of these tests. I think that after reading them you will be able to have a better idea of what the different types of binding are and will be able to evaluate their potential in your library.

I am also sending along from the Library Bindery Institute a report that was made on "The Comparative Strengths of Five Types of Binding on Seven Different Books Each." It is quite self explanatory and will I am sure be very interesting to you.

The ultimate conclusion that has been seen in the testing programs for various types of binding is that the Oversewing Method is still by far the most durable and most lasting and a method that surpassess all the rest, even tho the other methods have their special place in the Bookbinding field.

I would like to quote something that I thought was very interesting which I am sure that you would be interested in also. This quotation was sent from the Library of Congress to two binder's who at the present time have their contract and it goes as follows:

"The Library of Congres is aware of the New Smyth Cleate Sewing Machine and has examined bindings produced by this machine. We have concluded that at the present time the sewing of the Smyth Cleate Machine does not meet the Libraries requirements of strength and durability. The Library therefore respectfully insist that the Smyth Cleate Machine not be used in the binding of books under this contract. If and when it is determined that the Smyth Cleate Machine produces work equal to or better than the product produced by other methods this requirement will be rescinded."

It is interesting to note how the Library of Congress feels about this particular method of sewing.

If there is anything we can do for you, please feel free to call us and we would be very happy to work with you and to take care of any needs you might have.

Sincerely yours,

M Bogdanovich

Michael Bogdanovich
Manager

MB:kw

Sept. 10, 1973

Dear George:

How very nice to get a letter from you!

The torch, as you put it, has (perhaps) shown the way to a few of the troops, and maybe even one or two library binders, but I fear the great (and influential) herd remains unconvinced. And if they have seen the torch, they have neglected to make mention of it. One high official in this noble institution told me that, since we were short of binding funds, we should lower the quality of the binding. By Zeus, though his logic is irrefutable, his stupidity is nonetheless monumental.

The collection in this place is in a shambles, at least insofar as the general collection of some 12-14,000,000 volumes is concerned. George, never in my life have I seen a library where the book is held in such utter contempt as it is here. People stand on them, kick them around, roll book trucks over them, shelve them on their fore-edges (on the floor!), and otherwise abuse them, and nobody seems to give a damn; at least nobody does anything about it.

From the viewpoint of preservation, I think it is fair to say that the general collection is doomed. The problem is simply too overwhelming -- and has been neglected too long. Our estimate is that there are some 1-2,000,000 volumes in an advanced state of deterioration, possibly to the point where the books cannot be restored (deacidified, etc.) and perhaps not filmed; another 2-4,000,000 are either borderline or in such a state that, unless remedial action is taken soon, they, too, will drift into the first category; another 1-2,000,000 are in Gaylord binders of paper envelopes, and the binders and envelopes are acidified and are transferring their acidity to the books; and, finally, between .5-1,000,000 are in need of repair or rebinding. A somewhat gloomy picture, no doubt, but you do not start collecting books in 1800 and institute a preservation progam (on a shoestring) in 1967 and expect the past 166 years to remain forgotten. Until 1965 the book stacks in the main building were not even air conditioned, and until 1972, or thereabouts, the air conditioning was turned off at night and on the week ends!

In fiscal year 1973 (July 1972-June 1973), the Preservation Microfilm Office filmed about 7,000 deteriorating books and the Binding Office rebound about 5,500 books. As the man said, "..from here on down it's uphill all the way." We had a binding budget of $817,000, yet the influx of new material is so great that we were only able to spend about $18,000 on rebinding.

We, too, must accept the lowest bid, or rather, the two lowest binds as we have two binders. We have very high specifications, however,

and the binders know we check on them. In addition, we require all prospective bidders to submit a sample (which we provide) of ten books in various styles of binding. The sample is supposed to be representative of the binders work. A Committee evaluates each sample and any that does not achieve a score of 85% or better is rejected and that binder is not allowed to bid. This system works very well, too. The binders moan and groan but our contention is that if the binder cannot receive 85% on ten books, then he is certainly not qualified to bind 100,000 books. Your should hear the remarks made by those that fail (four out of seven last year). "How could we have failed? We have been binding books for 70 years and you are the first to complain." Possibly so. But that may mean only that the average librarian wouldn't know a poorly bound book if his nose got caught in it.

Let me give you an example of this. One item of the sample is a book about 3/4" thick and the binder is required to make a slipcase. We don't like to pay for slipcases any more than the average binder likes to make them, but the fact of life is that we must have about 800 of them madeevery year and somebody has to do it. We box books that are valuable but not valuable enough to be considered rare, and also near brittle books that for one reason or another we do not want to film. Our slipcase is very simple and is not really a slipcase at all -- it is simply a box and a chemise that is wrapped around the book. This one binder cut off the back of the book, oversewed it, lined the spine, made a case (with lettering) but did not case the book and then put it in a box. Result. Loss of all points for that particular item because of irreversible damage to the book. In another case the binder overtrimmed. We call for the standard 1/8" trim at head and tail. No matter how you add 1/8" and 1/8" you almost always come up with 1/4" - but not this binder. He chopped off 11/16" and then complained that we penalized him all points for that book, again for irreversible damage. And so it goes. Out of a maximum score of 950 points, one binder scored 148. Can you believe it? And the sample is supposed to be the very best they can do. You would think that a binder wanting to bid on a $400,000 contract (one half of the total sum) would do better.

We get reasonable good binding here, all things being considered. Our two contractors, Dobbs and Heckman, know what we want and they try to please us. We also pay a reasonably moderate average price for our binding -- last year it was $3.78 per volume for the binding of 61,000 serials, 104,000 monographs, 33,000 pamphlets, 15,000 adhesive bindings, and about 3,000 slipcases, portfolios, Braille books, etc. A little over 75,000 volumes were sewn through the folds.

I don't have much of the information you wanted. The LBI reports that some $30,000,000 was paid to the certified members for binding and rebinding in 1972. Of this amount, 7% was spent by Junior colleges, 50% by college and university libraries, and only 13% by public libraries. The balance was spent by government libraries,

institutional libraries, etc. One of our binders tells me that the breakdown would be about 70% serial binding, 20% monograph binding, and about 10% textbook binding. However, he feels the trend is going to be toward more monograph and less serial binding. He says that 7 or 8 years ago the bulk of the binding was of monographs, but with Title I, II and III funds available, libraries had more serials bound.

That is about all the news I have. I suppose you heard that Roma Gregory died. Apparently, it was suicide. I don't know the details.

Betty wends her regards.

Best regards,

Matt [Roberts]

[Preservation Office - Library of Congress - no less!]

[See Roberts' article, Coll. + Res. Libs. 28: 17-24, 1967]

[Vs - had a copy of it with this letter]

exists perhaps one of the most remarkable opportunities for cooperative effort in all of library work.

Cooperation Among Libraries

Cooperation would almost have to be among libraries in the small to medium large range, and which have not been in existence for more than fifty years or so, since relatively old libraries and/or very large libraries have preservation problems that are virtually unique to themselves. That alone, however, would not prevent smaller libraries from benefiting from, and even participating in, research programs. What we are speaking about here, though, is daily cooperation. A group of libraries within an area, each with modest binding budgets, could join together and hire a competent professional librarian, one who either knew preservation, or would learn. This librarian could train staff members of the individual libraries and advise them on matters of preservation. He could coordinate the efforts of the libraries and perhaps avoid some duplication of effort.

Each library could have its own person or persons preparing books for binding, or all libraries could send their materials to a central location for preparation, thus possibly effecting some economies in clerical work.

Cooperation might effect savings for the individual libraries in other ways. A binder, for example, might be willing to offer a reduced price for what is sometimes called "standard periodical binding." Participating libraries agree to a standard lettering arrangement in conformance with volume, height and size. The individual library may choose the color of the covering material it wants to have and the number of issues to be included in one volume; but all agree that ads and covers are to be left in, for example, and all use the exact same binding title. The binder is able to offer a reduced price because removing ads and setting up the volume for printing are expensive aspects of the binding operation.

The Contract

The last and most important item is the binding contract. Whether or not the library is required to solicit bids for the binding of its books, it should have a contract. This is just good business. The contract should include the specifications mentioned previously, as well as delivery schedules (the binder should be able to return books within four to six weeks), performance bonds, insurance (for your materials), transportation, responsibility for improper binding, authority for changes in specifications, subcontracting, and, finally, prices.

Received for review May 17, 1971. Manuscript accepted for publication Aug 11, 1971.

Mr. Roberts *is binding officer, Preservation Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Presented at a conference on preservation on Nov 12, 1970, during New York Library Association's conference in New York City.*

November 6, 1973

Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

Dear Sir:

I have recently been informed that the US Environmental Protection Agency is planning to reprint the 1972 edition of Donovan and Helen Correll's book, Aquatic and Wetland Plants of Southwestern United States (your stock number 5501-0177). If indeed this work is to be reprinted, as it definitely deserves to be, I would strongly urge you to reissue it on a less opaque paper and perhaps to consider releasing it in a multi-volume format rather than as a single volume.

I realize either or both of these measures may add to the cost of production, but this work is an important addition to the literature of plant taxonomy and every effort should be made to increase its usefullness and its shelf-life.

The paper presently used is too opaque, and the reproductions suffer as a result. These drawings are of importance to the botanist, but their usefulness is severely diminished because the reader can see through the page to the drawing or text on the reverse of the page, or even on the next leaf.

The very thickness of the volume is also a disadvantage. A volume of nearly 1800 pages and ~~which~~ dimensions of only 23.8 cm X 15.6 cm. is unwieldy to use and is difficult to bind in any permanent fashion.

If it is used extensively for reference or for photocopying, the spine will eventually break and it will be necessary to replace or to rebind the volume. The prospect of rebinding becomes even more difficult when it is realized that there is an interior margin of one half-inch or less.

Again, I urge you to consider these factors if a reprint of this volume is planned. Such consideration should also be made when making preparations for printing any other volumes of permanent importance.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

James R. Reed
Head Librarian

JRR/lc

December 12, 1973

Dr, Ralph Parker, Dean
Graduate School of Library Science
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri

Dear Dr. Parker:

Although I am not an alumnus of the University of Missouri Library School, I am most interested in the graduate education of librarians in Missouri, and have been favorably impressed with what I have learned of your program. Since I am a part of the Missouri library community, I would like to offer a curriculum suggestion for your serious consideration - that your faculty consider providing some training, either as part of the regular program, as a continuing education program, or even as a series of non-credit lectures or seminars, on the problems of preservation and restoration of library and archival materials.

Although many public libraries, particularly in smaller communities, may not require a knowledge of preservation techniques, those of your graduates entering academic, special, or larger public libraries may soon encounter the fact that large portions of their collections are sitting on the shelves, quieting crumbling into dust. The problem is not a new one - librarians have been aware of it for centuries -- but there recently has developed a new interest in many of the nation's libraries in the problems of preservation and restoration. Too often this kindling of interest has stemmed from a disaster, such as last summer's fire at the Army Records Center here in St. Louis.

To the best of my knowledge, only two library schools offer any training in book preservation - The University of Illinois, and (I believe) The University of Minnesota. Many libraries are presently creating, or have recently established their own restoration units, including the libraries of the Corning Glass Museum, the New York Botanical Garden, Washington University, the Boston Atheneum, the Smithsonian Institution, the

Newberry Library, the Hunt Botanical Library, the New York Public Library, and, of course, my own institution, the Missouri Botanical Garden. I am firmly convinced that, as the magnitude of the problem becomes more apparent, more and more libraries will create their own restoration and preservation units, or form consortia to establish such units as the New England states have recently done.

This is not to say that library schools should require their students to become master book binders or conservators, but that they should at least become familiar enough with the problems, materials, and methods of such individuals to properly plan, implement, and supervise conservation programs. Familiarity with proper techniques and materials, instruction in disaster planning, knowledge of the pertinent literature - all of these can go a long way in protecting a library's huge investment from being ravaged from unnecessary depravations.

I hope that my suggestions for this addition to your curriculum will receive your serious consideration. If I can provide further information at any time, I would be most happy to do so.

Thank you for your attention to this letter.

Yours sincerely,

James R. Reed
Head Librarian

JRR/pb

Lee Bookbinding Folder I

Outline for Meeting with Dr Alford

1. Credentials. 1954 Chairman Hist Comm MBG
   1957 Librarian
   1967 Bibliog. Morton Arboretum

2. Special topic today: College + Univ. Hist Binding in US.
   Region self-instr. in 1955
   Tribalet remark. But this does not qualify me to speak of commercial binding for libraries, largely represented by LBI work.
   Assoc. with Matt Roberts

3. Observations generally, and specifically in UO as laboratory.

4. Immediate aim to get librarian acceptance of responsibility for knowing enough about binding to carry out a suitable education program based on new standards.
   The old standards have been hedged about by budgets, by binding charts, by ignorance of librarians. The result is an enormous catastrophe, consisting of what I call the rebinding of some 80% or more of all journals during the last 40 years, and the same treatment of practically all so-called rebound books.

Asford meeting.

1. Short history of camera
2. Exhibit of material
3. Obvious lack of standard
4. The binders offer should not be the standard
5. The binding desks judgment should not set the standard
6. The budget should not set the standard.
7. Providing books for the convenience of patrons is the librarians privilege. Any binding less than convenient to the patron erodes this privilege. It is the librarians responsibility to set the standard of binding.
8. Few librarians today can discharge this responsibility, for it is a rare librarian who has had any adequate instruction in the subject.
9. But can persons well informed on binding methods read more, for the standard will vary with the object to bound - this is too long

10. Lack of proper standards or the misinformed use of good standards results in large pecuniary loss, as well as loss of confidence to the patron.

11. The current price schedule

1) Make copy of Mattis letter

2) Get both copies of Kidd

3) LBI advertisement

4) Look up PE 1667, N3 L859 V.1
PE 2808. M4 1936 Suppl 2
PE 679. M54

5) Get out Humboldt
Q 143. H9 M58 1969a Minguet

6) Remarks on Jewish music.
Music books.
Methodist hymnal

7) Many times more than the cost of properly binding or rebinding a book is currently paid for improperly binding it, by the user in time & annoyance.

8) The lowest bid fix

9) No good binding will result unless the standard on which the bid is made is adequate, and then only if that standard is enforced

10) The "we can't afford it" expander

No, but you can afford to waste money.

Luther example

11) Breakdown of problem

1) Periodical binding (inner margin problem)

2) Rebinding (and repair)

3) Monograph binding

a) original — non-sewn (good paper back / bad paper back); sewn

b) rebinding

12) Shelled book

13) Moth's + paper.

Remarks on the (USPO) Sunday prices (effective Feb. 1, 1972)

The parts of this schedule pertinent here are the following only:

	BOOKS		BOARDS*
	Periodicals*	Reprints*	Periodicals
9" and under	4.65	3.15	2.20
10¼"	4.85	3.50	2.30
12"	5.20	3.90	2.70
14"	6.10	4.25	3.05
15½"	7.40	5.25	3.45

Foreign Letter	.65
Over 1 liner	.45 each extra line
Hand sew*	1.40 under 10 inches
	1.75 over 10 inches
Ruler	.20

Extra unit for 2 vols in one book

Over 2½" thickness add .70

" 3½" " " 1.30

*See remarks below for explanation of the (abv.) use of these terms.

According to Mrs Younger

'Periodicals' is the generic term for bind by oversewing, whether the object be a periodical volume, a paperback (whether sewn or not) or a 'rebind' (where the sewing has deteriorated so that mere casing would not produce a sound volume.

Only if the word 'Handsew' is designated on the binding slip, or on the previously set instructions for individual journal titles, will the object not be oversewn.

'Rebinds' is the term for 'Recasing' – it is seldom operative, because very few books which would become sound volumes on recasing are ever sent out – such volumes are continued in circulation until resewing of some kind is required, and that means, in effect, oversewing.

'Boards' refers to a 'sub'-standard treatment of genuine periodicals or the ubiquitous (now) reports of governments, congresses, etc., etc. (the latter are often well printed, and at least occasionally well thought sewn (sometimes only stapled, but still with folded sections complete)

Some of these are guillotined and their backs are not rounded; these are occasionally (?) provided with bare board covers. Others are merely stapled and then provided with bare boards.

How to relate the binding rates to reality is not clear. For example, a 9" periodical oversize, bound in buckram costs $4.55. A government document of identical size (height + thickness) oversize and provided with naked boards costs $2.20. Does it really cost more than twice as much to round the back, provide a spine and cloth covers, and stamp three or four lines? That is, these items in toto cost for a 9" book $2.45-?

The cost for handsewing is fixed by a completely irrelevant dimension; the height of the book. Actually to handsew a 2" book of 12 sections ought not to cost anywhere near as much as a 1½" book of 32 sections — the sewing time required for the latter will certainly be up to three times as long. If the cost for handsewing

P5

a book of 32 or more sections is only 1.40 for most octavos why isn't it always used — it's a real bargain, not to be found everywhere.

The whole price schedule shows very little attempt to relate individual item price to actual cost — in real fact there are at least eight or ten distinguishable categories of bindings suitable for academic library use — the schedule presents only three categories: oversewn with cloth

handsewn " "

oversewn " tape boards.

Classes of books considered here.

C 1. Periodicals

C 2. Unbound (new books (more accurately, uncased))

C 3. Books previously bound

Each of these three classes contains several sorts of diverse material, of which some are listed below.

C 1. Periodicals
A. Weeklies, Monthlies, etc.
a Single fold gutter stapled
Ex: Science, Time,
b Multiple fold, Smyth sewn Ex.
c " " side stapled Ex.
d " leaf (no folds) side stapled Ex.
e " " (no folds) plastic adhesive Ex.
B. Yearbooks (Yearly issue only)
a Multiple fold, Smyth sewn
b " " side stapled
c " leaf (no folds) side stapled
d " " (no folds) plastic adhesive

C 2. Unbound (more commonly uncased) used books

a Multiple fold Smythe sewn

b " " side stabbed

c " leaf (no folds) side stabbed

d " leaf (" ") plastic adhesive

C 3. Books previously bound in need of repair and/or rebinding

a Books in original publishers binding

b others

All classes of books needing binding treatment [C1, C2, C3] are provided for in the price schedule by only 3 types of binding only.

Unless the contrary is specified every book (including periodical volumes) reaching the bindery will be overseen, which, in general, will require removal of all previous sewing and/or plastic adhesive, followed by machine oversewing

In general this binding is a terminal one since the destruction of the inner margin of the leaves has been sufficient to preclude any repetition of this or any other type of binding.

Technical terms.

Castration Cutting off the folds of a book, i.e. the back, rendering the book into a mere sheaf of separate leaves.

Number section single sections of journal volumes such as Science etc. etc.

No book considered of potential permanent value should be contracted.

The irony that just as Barrow discovered the secret of essentially permanent paper which would ensure indefinitely long life to books, the binders multiplied their efforts to main books by contraction + overseaming . . .

There are three major mistakes being made.

1. Oversewing journals
2. Castrating well lengthwise-sewn books delivered either originally in wrappers (or other soft covers), or reduced to such condition from bound books and then oversewing them.
3. Allowing cased books (usually trade books) to deteriorate in condition so that the original lengthwise sewing (or in earlier books the often adequate cord or tape sewing) is so damaged that casing cannot proceed before resewing, the usual result being a resewing by oversewing.

By misbinding I mean the production of a binding failing to conform to standards based on the patrons convenience in the use of the books rather than on conforming to budget allowances, cost schedules, number of circulations, etc.

The chief actor in this tragedy is the overseeing machine which is condemned for two reasons:

1) Without any doubt binding journals and rebinding books by overseeing in the cheapest method to get the pages

'100 circulations' - to what?

(so-called)
Types of binding which should be available.

1. Handsewn on cords
2. " taped
3. Hand oversewing
4. Reinforced casings — boards
5. Pamphlet casings — cloth covers
6. Oversewing
7. (so-called!) Perfect [plastic]
   This includes Vinabind.
8. Repair 'binding'

that this volume will speedily annoy readers, at least, of future patrons. This economy is inhuman. It is also unwise from the standpoint of the damage the book will receive from ordinary use. It will frequently be subjected to extra force to break it open, straining the overlapping, sometimes enough to pull paper loose along the perforations, even to break the form of the back. If and when this eventually occurs there is no retain however little - scarcely margin enough originally existed - ½ inch - in the overlapping up to ¼ inch was cut off and the remaining ¼ inch invaded by the sewing.

A volume of <u>Science</u> 11 × 8½ × 1½ of 13
monster sections costs at U of O

<u>Basic</u> 5.20 oversewn

+ 1.75 handsewn total 6.95

The increase is 1.75/5.20 = 34%. This is a significant amount if one considers that the oversewn volume is just as useful to the patron as would be the handsewn volume.

But any person using such a volume for only a brief time – a half an hour or so – will find the oversewn volume to be so inconvenient as to suffer annoyance sufficient to distract his attention (perhaps only subconscious). In this loss of time, convenience, energy etc he pays a significant equivalent of the paltry $1.75 which was not spent to provide him a good volume. Is this a reasonable economy relooming

Library Binding Costs

Basic figure ∝ height (in each class)

(Sewing + casing

Cost of sewing ∝ no. of sections × height

where " is most important)

Casing ∝ height is reasonable enough

Handbinding is fixed for ≤ 10" and > 10"

Hence no factor for no. of sections,

which is the most important factor

All thicknesses ≤ 2½ is same where

" is an important factor

Foreign title extra is nonsense; for

there should be a ticket for each

book showing exact standing;

this would require semi prof help

under direction of prof help.

Aim of binding is to give or restore to the book maximum potential future. This certainly requires at least that no book should be overseen

Step 1 Cut 3/4" ply 2' x 4' (or more)

Step 2 " 2" x 6" 2 pieces 6' long.

Step 3 " 2" x 6" 4 pieces 13" long

Trim all the above

Step 4 Affix the four standards at ends of the 2' x 4' base

Use lag screws from below 5" long

Head 12

Bore holes by drill process

Block together all 4 standards, mark accurately position of holes & punch punch

won't work

Use a base to slide along back fence and to this nail the block. Then anchor base with nails at each position

Base 2'x4' 3/4 plywood
plus 2 runners 2" x 6" - 4'6" long

Standards
4 2"x6" 12" long

Front face 1 9" x 25/20" 3/4" plywood
Back " 1 12" x 25/20" "

2 rails 2" x 3/4" 36" long

2 comp. plates 12 x 18 3/4 ply
2 " " 4 x 18 3/4 "

1 connector 18" x 6" 3/4 ply

1 press plate 9" x 21 1/2"

Miscellaneous fillers

4 rods 1/2" wide x 1/2" thick up to 15" long

16 Rangles

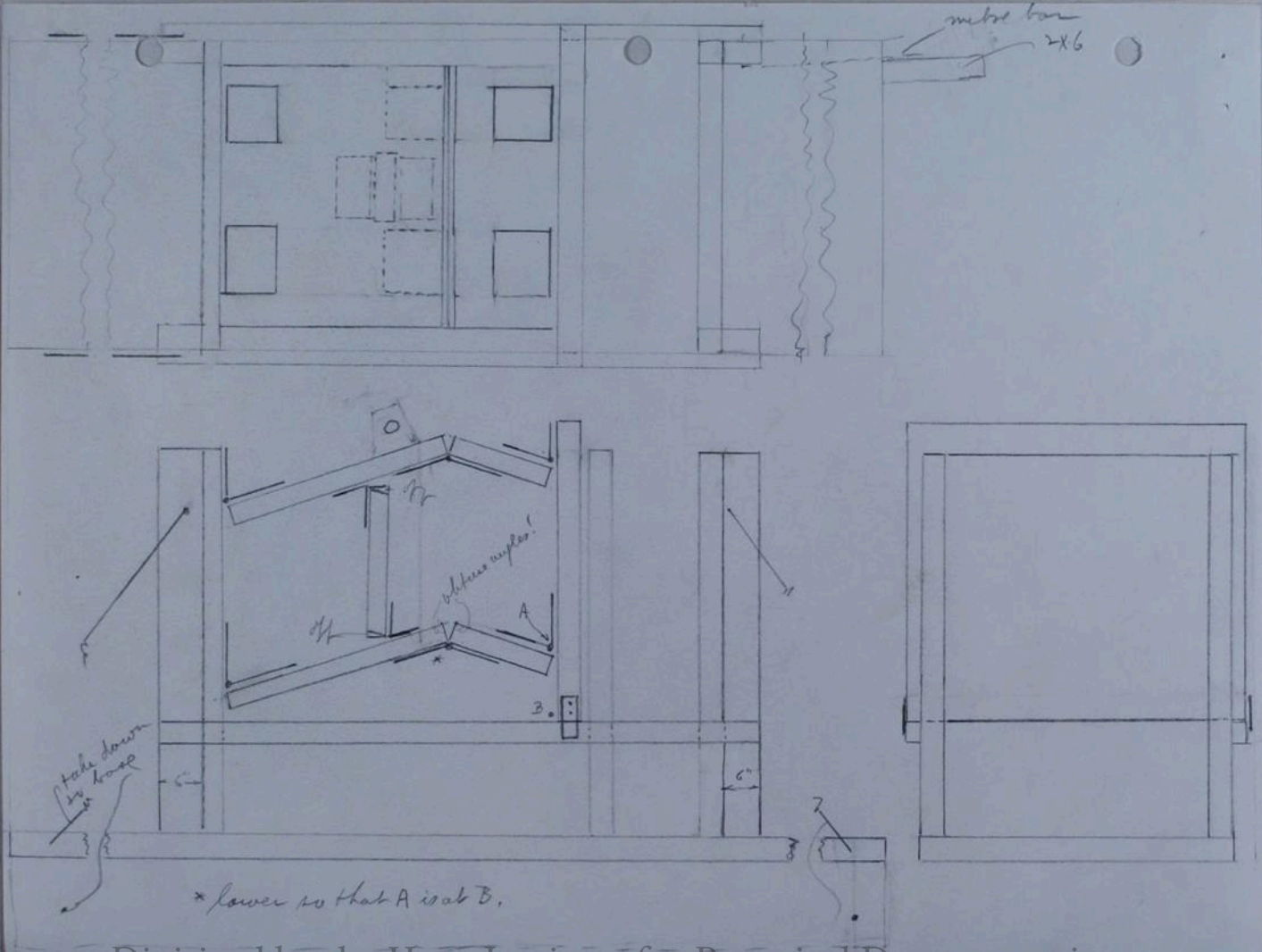
2"x6" 2 | 6' From 2 2"x6" x 10ft. $2
4 | 1'

Screws etc $5

16 Hinges $10

3/4" ply 2'x4' | 8 @ 1'
9"x20" | 180
12"x20" | 240
2 12"x15" | 432
2 4"x15" | 140
1 10"x6" | 60 1056 sqin

1-1/2" 4"



[etc Bookbinding folder]

Material for Oxford

Journ. Sci. Library

Science Jan - Mar 1973

Sci 1+2 + 4b (1 item folder) } ① ②

② Physica Scripta v.1-2 ± current press

SCIENCE Z 7991 .B57 1960

Ref to a) Engelmann W Bibliotheca Historico-
b) SCIENCE Z 7991 .B58 v.2 Naturalis. 1846
——— ——— Suppl. - Band v.2 only
1861.

irrel. irrel.

a) is in fine facs. repr., fortunately recd in cloth.

b) is the original, presumably in the collection for some time, but with covers loose (there is no volume that any leaves were loose even) It is now a tightly bound oversewn vol. diff. to use.

③ Stapled Librarian ---

④ Luther + Humboldt

⑤ Oversewn when earlier repair would have been casing only.

⑥ Vinyl bind, etc. (That dictionary)

⑦ Canadiana

The problem of the trade book.

The need of scholarship in binding.

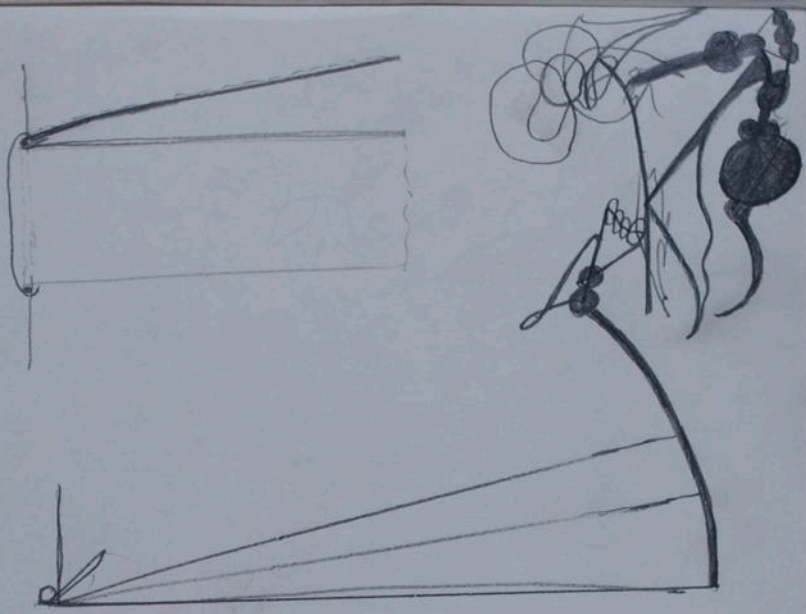
Binding clerks cannot be expected to exercise good judgment in many cases of alternate binding options when the optimum binding would best serve the scholarly use of the book (even when the language of the book is the only one with which the clerk has any knowledge) (Ex. Luther, Werke - all volume titles destroyed)

etc

The role of paper in binding

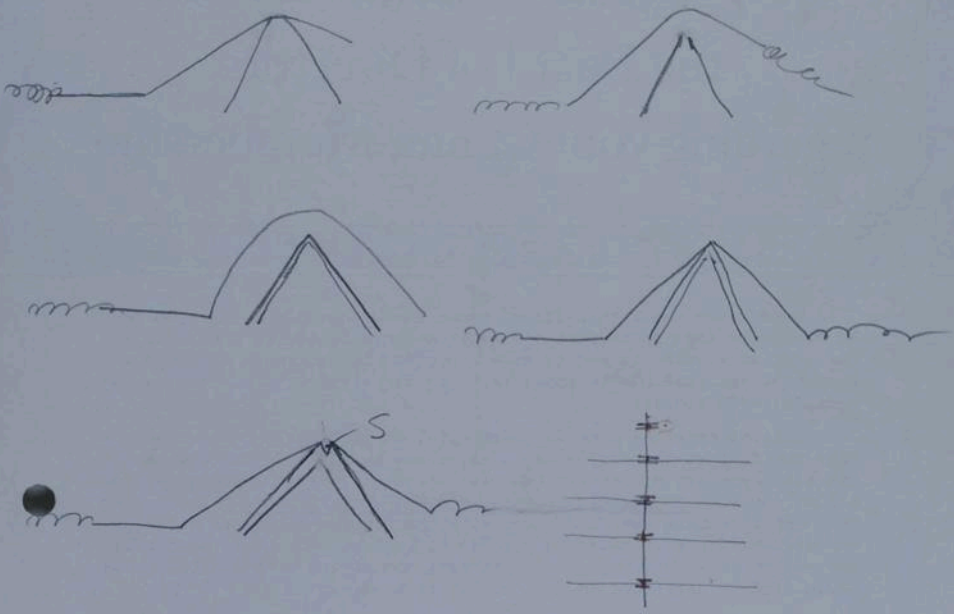
The flexible but strong papers of early times and even now (cf. de Candolle's Introd à la botanique 1835) could be overcast in sections, these then sewn on cords.

With many current stiff papers (some of the more expensive magazines, for example) overcasting and oversewing are both bad methods because of their stiffness — only genuine hinges with sewing in the gutter will do.

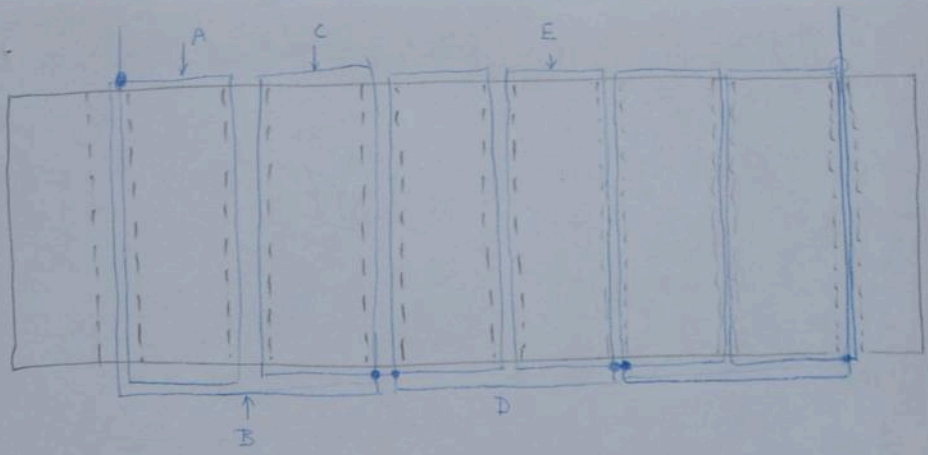


1500

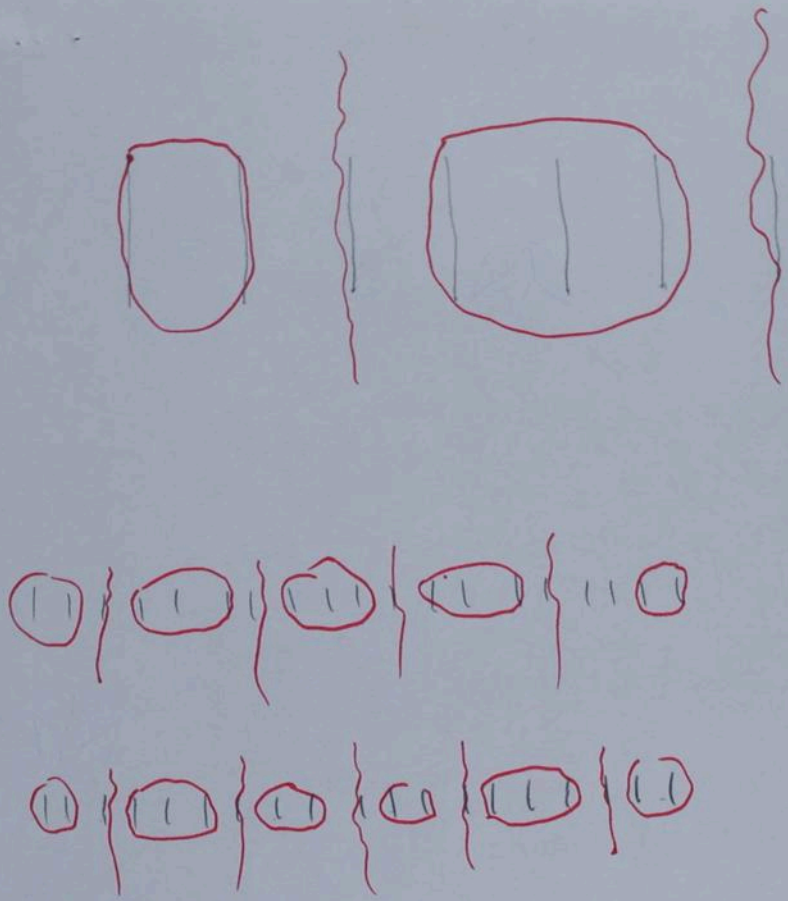
Sewing on Cords 17/1/73

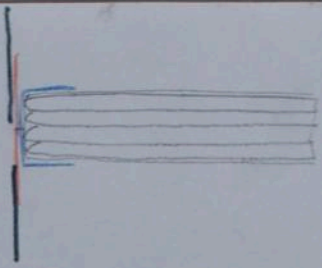


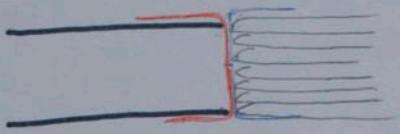
next shuttle passes thru above cords at holes but below fold & other points

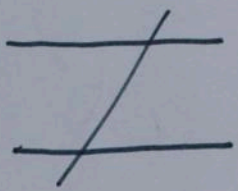


This gives too much strength in the shine, and the knots are difficult to make. Replace by separate threads as shown on next page in red









Books + pamphlets are formed by joining together folded sheets of printed matter or single leaves of the same.

Any process of joining these together which involves the full leaf size is to be deprecated as a hindrance to the full use of the printed page.

Binding Apr 22-24/74 See Bookbinding folder 7

Various terms introduced

A brief history of various types of binding

Traditional	raised cords	L	
	sunken cords	L	P
	tapes (omitted)	L	P
	side stitched sections	L	
Machine	Smyth sewing		P
	Overcasting	L	
	Adhesive (omitted)	L	P

Casing v binding (in original sense) explained.

---

24 I Review remarks + add tapes + adhesive

II. Restoration to library binding
This is always at least partly hand work

III. Shortcomings of the various methods
Expense; multiple formats; inherently narrow margins; weak casings.
(+ profound LB casings.)

IV. Available bindings today.
Sunken cords; tapes; overcasting (including hand) adhesive (double forming)
Smyth cloth.

4/22-24/74

V. Guide Lines.

Some major divisions.

1. Periodicals

a. Single fold

b. Multiple folds

c. No fold

Sewn or stapled

Cover treatment

Save good sewing

2. Books (or sets of books)

a. New, well sewn in paper covers

b. " , adhesive bound (loss of back strip) Lubber

c. In need of repair

i) covers loose or off, but sewing still sound (looseness of sewing will be restored by good mull)

ii) Sewing only slightly damaged

iii) Sewing to be replaced

Keep format in sets

Oversewing often means essential destruction because of margins + paper quality.

3. Pamphlets (at least 25 different formats can be distinguished)

Posting in

Stapling in

Wed. April 18/73

1. Required listening takes precedence over recreational listening.

2. My own introd. 1955 1956-7 Hertzberg
Univ Building

Washington Univ
→ M.A. out of touch until now here

in Eugene. Find things have gotten worse

3. Talk with Mrs X; We don't have the money.
Luther example. Her reply. Miss Younger

4. Some cardinal principles to use in getting a new philosophy or ethic.

a) cost ⟷ purpose ⟨ money enough to do harm is money enough to do good

b) method ⟷ condition
" ⟷ publisher

c) individual identification

d) purpose of binding

e)

Binding   Reason

Very brief sketch of history

All types still in use

Convenience was initial reason — almost completely ignored since about 1925.

Must introduce terms   Practical aspects

Smythe sewing

Casing

Rounding

What, who, ~~where~~ + how

Cost: Rare and/or fine.

What: New books with/without hard covers sewn, adhesivized, side stapled, etc

Old books for repair

Journals

Who: Institutional bindery

and/or commercial (non-trade) bindery

[Trade binding not a library concern — except for being appalled at how bad it is]

How: the chain — staff

— decision

— method

Very difficult to find any satisfactory linear exposition — not even any schematic diagram of it would be adequate; there are too many interrelations + feedbacks.

Cost: Nearly always at the lowest price obtainable — hence the poorest. A univ which hired its faculty on the same basis that it buys its binding would soon have no students

Dispense of cash first. Where there is a large sum of money annually available for doing things wrong, it would seem at least some of it might be diverted for doing things right. You cannot improve binding as now conducted by U O without either:

1) spending more money, or
2) binding fewer books, or
3) saving money on certain operations, and diverting the savings to other operations.

1) I skip, as being out of our province.
2) I seriously question whether there has not been here (or in all academic libraries since Title ?) a spree of buying untamed reprints and sending them off to the bindery. In the example I shall cite I may be off base, but I doubt it. I refer to the 75-volume reprint set of Martin Luther's Werke. I have little doubt that this is an important reprint, but I strongly doubt that U O needs it anywhere

near as much as it needs other things. As it is it cost some $2400, with lengthy reports in paper covers. It could have been saved for about $200 (or less), but it was sent to the bindery (with what instructions I don't know) but with the disastrous result that all the printing was destroyed and the volumes overseen, at a cost of perhaps $300 (or more) for result, some money lost or binding, and the set mutilated for all time. What justifies this bill of $2500-3000 I have to wonder. Use of the money in proper binding would have taken care of complete repair of several hundred (up to a thousand) books of at least equal importance now on the shelves in condition which should be deplored, non-circulable. Or alternatively would have bound in the very best way between 150 and 300 journal volumes.

3) Nearly every book sent for repair gets the standard treatment of the guillotine and overcasting machine. No book with adequate sewing, no matter how dilapidated its covers, should be so treated; all it needs is recasing, which costs about half as much and leaves the original convenient sewing. In a well-organized binding department no book should fail to be sent to the repair binding as soon as its condition imperils its sewing it should be removed from the shelves & sent for mending. If properly treated it might never again need repair. In fact, if I were in charge I matters I should set up an operation in which every new book was treated in its original covers before ever it

was processed & of properly done most such books would, [never] have to be repaired or rebound. (What has become of the library binding once offered as a stronger binding?)

To (6)

5, Gaining knowledge a long study.

680
3634

1565
Agate

344 – 1243

No alternatives to properly bad books yet in sight. Scholarship is not properly a system of taking in each others washing
Explain to dept committees that the
whole [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] holding

Steps: (1) tearing apart

a) anchor first + last page to its section with a strip of gutter paper

b) when thoroughly dry pull off + the free end papers from front + back leaves

c) loosen mull from cover + remove covers with shine.

(2) square up the block + paste on the mull

(3) a) when thoroughly dry sew on the mull the 2 front + 2 back sections.

b) fold sew end papers + tip in place

c) when thoroughly dry sew on mull.

Handsewing on raised cords

Handsewing on sunken cords a)

b)

Handsewing under cords.

Handdrawing on Later

Smyth sermon on fakes
Richard de Bury Philob. 1888

[ex Bookbinding folder]

Library binding operations as carried on by and for most institutional and public libraries in the U.S. resemble the blind leading the blind who deliver their lambs to the butchers who lead them to slaughter. This is a strong statement, but about 99.9% true. Scarcely any librarians with or without degree have had any instruction in recognizing the various techniques used, or available, or desirable in library binding, & these the blind leading (more accurately sending) their (equally blind) assistants and clerks to the shelves to prepare for binding various and sundry periodicals and books, that is, delivering the lambs to the binders, who are the butchers casting them off to pretty certain slaughter at the guillotine, the well-known oversewing machine.

Well-known? Well, if not even ~~at least~~ by name, at least by pseudo-function, as the wonderful invention which makes it possible for all libraries to have their books bound at minimum cost ~~in what is well-known as Library Binding Grade A~~ to the tune of the XYZ* standard, which phrase is well-known as Library Binding Grade A.

This phrase is ~~the~~ a sort of battle-cry of XYZ, which in the spirit of fair play I use as a code

~~The instinct of fair play compels me to be obscure here — XYZ is a code~~ designating ~~of~~ a commercial club of firms calling themselves library binders and their club an institute! They mean

appropriated the phrase 'library binding' and ~~gave it the following definition~~ redefined it as a special kind of binding developed for libraries (sic) including the hand case-binding of periodicals, the rebinding of used books and the pre-binding of new books. They ~~have~~ publicize their trade by an advertisement headed: Q. Why library binding? and tailed by A. $. In between is a claim that their product can be circulated four times as often as a publisher's library edition.

Missouri
Botanical
Garden

December 14, 1973

Dr. George VanSchaack
1964 Harris Street
Eugene, Oregon 97405

Dear George:

Your activities at the University of Oregon libraries sound almost overwhelming. Attempting to undo the damage created by well-meaning but ignorant librarians over a period of a quarter-century or more must be a challenge with a lot of inherent frustrations.

One of my chief complaints about library education (and being a recent product of one of the nation's "better" library schools I feel qualified to speak out) is how little attention within the curriculum is devoted to books and bookmanship. My fellow professionals are so enamoured of expensive machinery that they too often confuse the ends of librarianship with the means. In what little time I can devote to the project, I am undertaking a one-person campaign to call certain problems to the attention of the powers that be. The enclosed copies of letters may be of interest to you, as I seem to recall that you had corresponded with certain publishers on occasion concerning their lack of quality control in book and journal production.

Mrs. Young's comments on our bindery were made during her visit here last April. We are commissioning her to undertake a complete rebinding of Curtis' Botanical Magazine, and brought her here to examine the volumes and give us an estimate (which turns out to be $125-$150/volume.)

Also enclosed is a text of a bill being introduced into the Senate by Senator Brooke to create a National Historic Records Commission to preserve and increase the accessibility of archival and manuscript collections of historic importance. If such a Commission strikes you as being a worthwhile Federal program, I'm certain Senator Brooke would appreciate correspondence on the subject.

Please do take the time to write the binding manual you mentioned. Librarians are presently stuck with Tauber's Library Binding Manual, a sad

2315 Tower Grove Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63110
Tel: 314 865-0440

little volume which too many people regard as the definitive work on the subject.

Glad to hear you're enjoying the Aububon volumes. Best wishes for the holiday season.

Cordially,

Jim Reed

James R. Reed

JRR:MP
Enc.

February 27, 1974

Bill--Since our meeting in December I have spent many hours in the library looking at the binding problem, taking notes, and, at home, writing many pages of my thoughts on this subject. I regret it hastaken me so long to get enough in mind all at once to write what I think may be a useful synopsis.

On the accompanying pages I have classified a large part of the materiel which normally comes to binding. Some of these classes are quite definite, such as G 1, G 3 a, G 3 b, G 4, G 7. Others are more difficult to delimit. On the more definite ones I can probably now write something approaching guidelines.

But even if all of them were definite, many of the guidelines I should propose would be difficult to accept or reject until the bindery could be asked to consider and accept new classes, and some new tasks, as well as setting more explicit cost figures. The third sheet lists some of the items in a complete new schedule of binding services and prices.

I think it is now time for you and me to have a meeting to discuss my synopsis before I work any of it up more completely than I have already in my notes.

I can be at your service at nearly any time.

George (RS)

Categories in which guidelines for UO binding may be provisionally written

G 1 Adhesive-backed periodicals

G 2 Single-fold periodicals
To be classified by various combinations of the characters below:

physical (thickness of each issue
(width of margin
(paper quality

content & cost (scholarly
(compilatory
(popular
(permanent worth
(probable use
(cost of periodical

and

To be bound: sewn (oversewn, or
(handsewn on cords, or
(handsewn on tapes

and cased (in buckram, or
(in boards

This category contains hundreds of 9½ x 11 periodicals--enough to invite thoughts on some revised method or machinery

G 3 Multiple-fold periodicals

a) delivered Smyth sewn in 2 to 6 issues per volume
b) delivered side-stapled in 2 to 6 issues per volume
c) others

Category G 3 a contains hundreds of titles for which some new method should be found

The use of oversewing in G 3 has resulted in massive destruction of utility

G 4 Annuals (not already in hard covers)
a) Smyth sewn
b) Side-stapled, multiple-folded
c) Side-stapled, single leaves
d) Adhesive-backed

G 5 Treatment of periodical covers

G 6 Separation of periodicals by size when sent to bindery, to speed up return from bindery

G 7 Monographs (not already in hard covers)
Same subclasses as in G 4

G 8 Pamphlets
Several subclasses

G 9 Material for Vinabind and/or Velobind
How can this material be defined?

G 10 Books needing repair
a) Recasing, hand sewing repair at most
b) New casing, hand sewing repair at most
c) New binding, new sewing
(on cords
(on tapes
(oversewing
(adhesive-backing
d) Books previously adhesive backed

New schedule of binding services and prices required from bindery

Periodicals (excluding annuals)

B 1 Oversewing
a) in buckram (free spine)
b) in boards (adhered spine)

B 2 Side-stapling in boards (adhered spine)

B 3 Hand sewing on cords (extre charge schedule)

B 4 Hand sewing on tapes (extra charge schedule)

B 5 Adhesive backing

Books

B 6 Casing wrappered books (so-called 'paperbacks') (chiefly monographs and annuals)

B 7 Repairing, as called for in C 10 a, b, c, d.

Bill, - Here is my suggestion for trial guidelines in dealing with periodical covers. I have left out the philosophy, partly because I'd like reaction on the part of your staff unaided by my thinking. If you would like to have the preliminary statement altered before circulation please annotate and return it to me first.

George

Feb. 1/74

I showed this to one department head who approved of it in principle but said it would have to be rephrased either

the person to be delegated in that department could understand it. If she cannot understand it as written she is doubtfully competent enough to carry ~~it~~ out the instructions.

Preliminary guidelines for binding periodical covers.

1. In all cases the front cover of the first number and the back cover of the last number of each volume are to be bound.

2. In addition, one cover, at least, will be bound at each junction of two successive numbers. If

   a) the back cover contains no relevant material significantly different from that on the back cover of the last number, the front covers will be bound; or
   b) the back/cover contains relevant material significantly different on each number, the back covers will be bound.
   c) In case b, in addition, the front covers will be bound if they contain relevant material not common to all the numbers.

The chief instances where this last case holds are perhaps the following:

i) the list of contents is printed partly on the front cover and partly on the back cover, or
ii) the frontcover contains dating and/or volume and part numbers not found printed on the first page of each number. Exception might be made here when the (nominal and) actual dates of publication are listed on the title-page verso. Priority of publication is often of interest, and in some fields critical, and this device has been adopted by some journals.

It will be the duty and responsibility of each library department head (or his delegate in his own department) who sends material to binding to designate for each periodical title exactly which treatment shall be used. Since 1. holds in all cases, this can easily be coded as: 2a, 2b, or 2bc (or, mnemonically easier, as f, b, or fb)

It is to be noted that periodical format changes in perhaps 10 % of the titles each year; hence those who are responsible for sending material to binding must be alert in noticing these changes and checking the code.

The code adopted as outlined above shall not be changed or ignored by anybody without the explicit permission of the department head (or his delegate).

Feb 1/14
Not submitted

January 8/74

Dear Bill

I am making headway more slowly than I wish on the guide-line manual — this is not the only project I am engaged in.

As an immediate practical change I suggest a possible change in pamphlet treatment as a beginning — my ultimate remarks will be much more complete.

I lend you two pamphlets from the need book shelf (these are charged to me and should be discharged & returned to the library before I incur a ~~fine~~ penalty). I do not approve of either of them, as a final method, but I point out the completely non-logical dichotomy of method.

The HX pamphlet is recent, as is the M1002 one, the latter, so far as I can tell, less useful than the former. It is, however the strangest one, HX, which is unnecessarily stabbed, the

score being without staples. I submit that the staples on HX should have been left off. If HQ library can afford to risk loss of the (probably) more expensive score, it can risk loss of the ~~probably less permanent~~ monograph (probably of less permanent value)

You and I agree, I believe, on what should ~~to do~~ have been done. I understand, however, that Miss Kriz, in talking to Mrs. Meyer about pamphlet problems, admitted that she was not satisfied with the pamphlet program as now in operation, ~~but maintained~~ but maintained that ~~only with~~ a much more intelligent & informed person would be necessary if the operation were to be improved.

The implication would seem to be that such a ~~switch~~ replacement of personnel is not possible budgetwise or civil-service-regulation-wise. In short, to improve this operation, as I feel sure you will eventually find necessary in the main bank + terminal operation, better personnel will have to be used. This is a budget matter, which to date is too early for beginning to think about.

~~Even this little~~

I have every intention of writing the best possible lines I can devise, but I am not blind to the fact that ~~for them~~ to become effective, more money will be needed, or the alternative of doing no banding on certain items will have to be adopted.

To: Dr. H. William Axford, Librarian

From: George B. Van Schaack

Interim report.

I am making haste more slowly than I wish on the guide line manual--this isnot the only project I am engaged in.

As an immediate practical change I suggest a possible simple change in pamphlet treatment as a beginning--my ultimate remarks will be much more complete.

I have you herewith two pamphlets from the new book shelf (these are charged to me and should be discharged & returned to the library before I incur a penalty) I do not approve of the way either of them has been treated as a final method, but I point out the completely non-logical dichotomy of method.

HX 387
.T66

The HX pamphlet is sewn, as isthe M 1002 one, the latter, so far as I can tell, less well than the former. It is, however, the stronger one which is unnecessarily stapled, the score being without staples. I submit that the staples on HX should have been left off. If the library can afford to risk lossof the (probably) more expensive score, it can risk loss of the monograph (probably less permanent value)

M 1002
.S91
Op
E 8

You & I agree, I believe, on what should have been done. I understand, however, that Miss Krieg, in talking to Mrs. Meyer about pamphlet problems, admitted that she was not satisfied with the pamphlet program as now in operation, maintaining that a much more intelligent, informed, and self-reliant person would be necessary if the operation were to be improved. The implication would seem to be that such a replacement of personnel is not possible, budget-wise or civil-service-regulation-wise. In short, to improve this operation, as I feel sure you will eventually find necessary in the main book and periodical operation, better personnel will have to be used. This is a budget matter, which no date is too early for beginning to think about.

I have every intention of writing the best guide lines I can devise, but I am not blind to the fact that for them to become effective, more money will be needed, or the alternative of doing no binding of certain items will have to be adopted.

January 8/74 George B. Van Schaack

Preliminary report on Guidelines for Binding

Some general aspects of recent binding* at UO bindery which might be most easily changed for the better are:

2. Misuse of overcasing in periodical binding of both learned journals, and periodicals of more popular and derivative content.

1. Misuse of overcasing on new monographs and the like in place of mere casing.

3. Random treatment of the problem concerning retention or discard of periodical covers.

4. Excessive use of ~~stapling~~ on pamphlets

4. Misuse of overcasing in rebinding, especially volumes belonging to valuable sets, such as encyclopedias, multi-volume works, authors' complete works, etc.

*In this preliminary report nothing is said about the problem of heat treatment of material which at some stage has had all folds removed by the guillotine. This problem is increasing in scope at an accelerating rate — more & more periodicals are being produced in the form of single leaves packed together with varying quality of adhesives, some of these with minimal inner margins. ↑

In addition, the on-the-spot treatment of pamphlets needs an immediate & thorough revision to methods not employing so much side-stitching stapling.

Beside periodicals, many 'paperbacks' are being purchased which have only minimal adhesive binding.

Machine oversewing now dominates the binding and rebinding of library material throughout the U.S, to an extent reminding one of the tale of the Sorcerer's Apprentice. Left alone by his master the apprentice ordered the broomstick to bring in a pail of water. He used the correct phrase to activate the broomstick, but had forgotten the phrase to deactivate it, and soon/nearly by was drowned in the sea of water the broomstick brought in. Only the master's word saved him at the last moment. Only a similar master's word can save American libraries from almost complete devastation by the Library Binding Institute's machine oversewing machine: Books and and journals with a proper margin will be oversewn

The 1971 version of this packet makes no attempt to qualify the word 'proper', and practically all margins are considered 'proper' by some botanists, in particular, by the binders of UO. In fact, this binders has apparently added a second criterion — the presence of paper covers — no matter how well sewn (usually by Smyth machine) a new monograph may be, it will be guillotined and machine oversewn by UO binders. When, recently, the binders were told that in future UO libraries wanted only to have such monographs cased, the reply was that casing would cost just the same as machine oversewing plus casing. Such is the mystique of the phrase 'machine oversewing'.

1. Monographs. Unbound monographs larger than to be classed as pamphlets in which the sewing is adequate will be cased only.

The sewing will be considered as adequate if it compares favorably with the standard sewing to be found in publishers' editions of hard-cover books as produced in U.S., Britain, Germany as the rule, and, as well, in many other countries to a large extent. Exceptions are not infrequent in France, Italy, Russia, etc. These exceptions will be treated in a later report.

The standard objection presented by binders to following the rule above is that machine over-sewing is stronger than the original hand sewing. This is a fallacy. It is true that the

machine-oversewn book which they would produce has a less flexible back than would the book were it to be only sewed. It is quite easy to 'break' any machine oversewn book by forcing the back open - it is true the threads do not break, but they do 'give', and the leather breaks - once so damaged the book cannot be repaired. Machine oversewn books are being so damaged in U O library daily by careless patrons who are weary of trying to keep such books open while they use them, or by anyone trying to copy from them on any existing copy machine equipment.

The weak point of publishers' binding is not the sewing, which is often very excellent; - except for

some forms of sewing on cords (involving wrapping the thread around each cord, not merely passing it under the cord) it is perhaps the best flexible sewing there is. The weak point in the mull and hinge — in most publishers' binding the mull is an open mesh cloth with threads up to 3/32" apart; this cloth is about as strong as most fine netting. Such a mull forms essentially the only hinge between the book and its cover. The endpapers are merely pasted in, the bond between the book and the cover being a weak adhesion of the endpaper-fold pasted to the edge of the pre-title-page leaf.

It is in this regard that machine oversewing is stronger. A much better mull is used and the endpapers are sewn to the book. The resisting strength is considerable, and it is not easy

to break the hinges of such a book.
But the merit is scarcely equal to
the loss of operability which the
overcoming itself has already pro-
duced. (It is notable here that
the whole tragedy of the misbound
overseen books in American libraries
goes straight back to the weakness
of the traditional publishers binding.
This was clearly pointed out over thirty years
ago by Helmut Lehmann-Haupt in
his chapter on library binding — see
p. 254 of Bookbinding in America, which
he edited in 1941. Had librarians been
taught this fact in the library schools
of America during the last thirty years
and had they insisted
on adequate welts & hinges in
or offered to pay ten per cent more
publishers editions, untold millions
for a library bound edition

of dollars would have been saved to
libraries, and literally millions of
books now standing mummied on
U.S. library shelves would be standing
there in their original publishers'
bindings!

The rule above regarding the case-binding
of suitably sewn unbound monographs
must be interpreted to require the
use of strong endpapers sewn front &
back to the book and the use of
high quality mull. Merely slapping
onto the monograph as received
a weak mull and a tipped-in endpaper
will not produce the type of casing
required. Whether any binding is
prepared to follow this demand may
be doubtful, but sufficient demand would
produce such.

2. Periodicals. Periodicals present substantial difficulties in binding largely because, as produced, cheap methods of binding (overcasting, stapling, etc.) mangle them and often invade the text material, while better methods are considerably more expensive.

Periodicals are of so many different kinds that classifying them for binding purposes is difficult. Again overcasting has taken over without regard to the nature of the material or its cost. A single years issue of Environment (ten numbers) costs ten dollars; the inner margin measures exactly one half inch. A single years issue of Mathematische Nachrichten consisted

in 1971 of three complete volumes, each delivered in paper covers, at a total cost of $185. The inner margin measured seven tenths of an inch. If only one of these journals was to be bound by overseeing it should, on the basis of inner margin be Mathematische Nachrichten. But at a cost of $185 no book should be delivered to the purchaser. In fact as bound at U C binding the 1971 M. N. was oversewn in one volume, so tightly that the texts of opposite pages met in the sewing itself. For a few dollars difference one of the most learned mathematical journals was badly mangled and rendered almost unreadable. If Environment were overseen it stood only chance of

somewhat winter damage. Whatever importance Environment may have at present it is essentially a derivative magazine, which will be almost obsolete in ten years. The papers in M. N., now & then properly to be called derivative, may be superseded, but the contents will always be original and accordingly of importance historically. Should this important and expensive journal with a somewhat wide margin be delivered to the publisher while the cheaper and more ephemeral monthly with an unpardonably narrow margin be granted seeing through the press?

The correct answer is that both & then should be seen through the press — M. N. because of its long-time interest value and Environment

because of its insufficiently narrow margins as well as its lesser current utility. In short, the choice is not a matter of parts of an inch, but of utility and value.

The guide-lines for binding periodicals should not be less restrictive than the following:

Graphic Arts.

Revised

1. No learned journals to be oversewn if inner margin is less than 1", and not even there if volumes are delivered complete and simply sewn. These latter will be cased only, each volume separately.

2. Learned journals with inner margin less than 1" will be sewn by hand on tapes (or cords, much less satisfactory) except again those delivered in volumes already simply sewn.

3. Non-learned journals Playboy, New Yorker, Time, etc (not Science, not Scientific American, etc) may be oversewn if margin is not less than $\frac{3}{4}$", no exception being made for photographs bleeding into the gutter.

4. Non-bearned journals with same margin less than 3/4" will be sewn on cords, with only the most important ones being sewed in buckram, the others in bark boards, of thickness commensurate with weight of volume.

5. All bent covers and the last back cover will be bound in. In addition the other back covers might be bound in if they contain the list of contents or its continuation.

6. Journals with no folds will be bound by overseeing if margin is 3/4" or more. If less than 3/4" they will be given perfect binding in general something much better than Vandercook.

3. Periodical covers. The simplest guide-line here is the following:

All front covers and the last back cover of each volume will be bound in. In addition the other back covers will be bound in if they contain the list of contents of the number or its continuation.

4. Rebinding.

7. In general no rebinding shall be done by oversewing. Books need rebinding long before their original sewing goes to pieces. If they are properly cased at that time the only sewing needed will be auxiliary sewing front & back including new endleaves. If they have not been rebound before the sewing must be replaced, but that shall be done — new sewing on cords or tapes.

8. In particular, no volume of a set such as an encyclopedia, complete works of an author, multiple volume works in general shall ever be oversewn. Rather they shall be accorded the best hand sewing and, when possible, the original casing should be saved to be replaced or parts of it used to patch on the new casing.

V of O Problems (Intro + II)

My observations of library binding for the University of Oregon Library reveal five major problems relating to the physical books themselves, wholly aside from any considerations of cost, of binding time-schedules, and of administrative organization relating to binding.

These problems concern:

1. The very extensive use of machine oversewing.
2. The binding of periodicals
3. The use of wire stapling
4. The treatment of pamphlets.
5. Delay of repair, when "a stitch in time would save".

Most of these problems can be found in nearly any academic library, sometimes only to less serious degree. Obviously they ~~problems~~ are far from independent, but initial consideration of them seriatim would seem a simplification.

*

1. Machine oversewing, described elsewhere, dates from about 1920, at which time it seems to have been introduced as a faster production method for publishers binding, where it could be quite efficient in mass production in saving costs. Since the sewing invades approximately one fourth inch of the inner margin of each page, the publisher could and would adjust the width of the inner margin so that the sewn book still had a free margin of comfortable size, 3/4" or more. He could also adjust to the somewhat inflexible back produced, which inhibited the easy opening of the book, by choosing flexible paper and increased inner margins. # What became of all the publishers bindings so produced, I wonder — I have never recognized one. Just when the — it was apparently not accepted

as a substitute for the excellent hand sewing already available for production, a better result.

* Look this up in BKB June 1928, p. 11

'Oversewing Machine' began to be used by library binders I have not discovered, but my examination of various libraries suggests it was not a serious competitor of hand sewing until the upsurge of publishing associated with World War II. Since then it has garnered up to perhaps 95% of all library binding.

The machine is visibly more adaptable to varying page sizes and section thicknesses than is the Singer machine; in addition, today it has much fodder in the increasing number of magazines being produced in single leaves, individual numbers being adhesive bound.

No longer connected with publishers who had to be aware of the problem of retaining a good inner margin,

often (14)
(and its supplement)
the machine have been insensitive to
the exponentially decreasing width
of the publishers inner margins during
the last twenty years. I recall one
top rank botanical journal in which
the inner margin in volume one was
one inch; by volume three it had
decreased to half an inch, and in
volume five the margin was nearly
a quarter inch and there were no
folds. When I alerted the editor
to what was happening to the
quality research papers in binding
he was publishing
~~them~~, he replied, 'Many thanks, but
you know I never realized printing
and binding had any relation to
each other.'

The Overseeing Machine's impact on the book
~~product~~ is tragedy enough ~~for the book~~ even when there is
adequate inner margin (1" - 2", depending on
flexibility of the paper), for it demands
that before binding even all folds
must be removed by trimming, with
what I customarily call 'the guillotine'.
In this operation the book, in the traditional
sense, is destroyed — its folds are gone,
the evidences of its method of printing
are largely done away with, its gratifying
openness — the result of its openability —
is destroyed; it becomes a loose,
dumb thing of separate leaves tightly
fastened together against its nature.
To this tragedy has been added during
these last twenty-five years the
shrinking of the resulting inner margin,
to such an extent that in many

many books the backs of the
pairs leaves are separated distinctly
more than one column in a newspaper
and not infrequently some of the
text is actually sewn over by
the threads and is no longer
visible. All too often double page maps charts tables have been destroyed by the first operation.

The control to obviate the ills
thus resulting appear in the joint
statements of ALA and LBI (Library
Binding Institute; a commercial fraternity)
to be found in the Library Binding
Manual, ALA, Chicago, 1951:

p. 46, sub II. Rebinding books. 2. Preparation for sewing;
b. Books mounted for oversewing
shall be prepared and reinforced
for sewing [by hand] through
their folded entrance. [There is
nowhere any explication of the
word mounted in this connection]

p. 46. sub III. Binding magazines.

6. Sewing. a. Most magazines having proper inner margins and suitable paper shall be sewed with thread by oversewing method, either by machine or by hand. No oversewing shall extend more than 3/16 inch in from the back edge of the volume and no nearer head or tail than 1/2 inch.

b. Because of narrow margins, or for flat opening, exceptional magazines shall be sewed through the folded sections.

[Nowhere are the words 'proper', 'suitable', 'narrow', or 'exceptional' explicated. The single measurement of interest, 3/16 inch, is not made to relate thickness [illegible] at all.]

In the past the use of machine over-sewing of U of O books is to be found in the following classes:

3. Periodicals
1. New volumes with paper wrappers only [wrappers is the proper term, often incorrectly called covers]
2. Books formerly bound, but in need of repair.

Class 1 has contained ~~last~~ both volumes with excellent Smyth sewing, ~~as well as~~ adhesive 'bound' books. and

The adhesive binding (so-called!) are so variable in quality of paper on the one hand and on the other 'bound' with adhesive variable in quality and applied ~~in~~ to the paper by such varied methods, as to make it impossible to classify them for

treatment. Very seldom, however, does treating them by machine overcome improve them — they would have to be gone clothed, thus decreasing the inner margin, already too narrow to sustain such overcoming. If the adhesive binding has been well made the leaves will have been fanned out at the time the adhesive was applied, first in one direction and then in the other, and each leaf will have been cemented to its two neighbors along a narrow strip up to 1/16" wide. Such a volume can scarcely be improved upon, considering the damage already done to it, other than to have some sort of substantial cover put on it. By simplest and,

for thin books (up to ½" thick), is a pamphlet cover (see discussion of pamphlets below); for thicker books a simple casing of two boards and suitable cloth (described elsewhere) will do very well.

If, on the other hand, the adhesive binding is inadequate for such treatment the book, if not too thick + heavy, can well be sent to Vinabind or undergo Velabind (both rather temporary solutions); if thicker, and especially if of permanent value it should have its back removed by the guillotine and then rebound by good adhesive applied by fanning as described above, and finally provided with a simple board case, with [illegible]

To Axford Not sent

Thank you for your letter of March 4
I am glad to have your remarks on the
items in my memorandum, and sorry not
to have had letters in mind exactly when
corrections and the
you had told me. The/additions you
send me are noted & incorporated in
my 'file'.

Reading your remarks on page 3 was
a traumatic experience, not only because
of the content of the statements, but
even more because of what seems to
be your willingness not to fight back
against the technological imperative which
for some twenty five years now has
been engaged in strangling the world
of books — as Robert Frost might put
it, 'Many there are who do not

lose a book. The only thing I can feel when I hear that 96,000 characters can be placed on a microfiche in a second is revulsion, so strong that any other feeling is masked. I shall never be able to look at a microfiche again without horror. That reminds me of another famous man of the 20th century – Bertrand Russell. Someone remarked ~~to him~~ that he considered it rather horrible of the world that it had treated so and so rather badly. 'Horrible of course', Russell replied. 'The world is horrible, horrible, horrible. Only when you have learned that can you have any hope of happiness.' My education is still incomplete.

For me the substitution of microfilm, or even microfiche, is no more acceptable than the managed, overcrowded, ~~[illegible]~~ rutted campgrounds of today are acceptable as substitutes for the quiet roadside enclaves in the national forests where I first went camping when there were. What appalls me is the glib way in which I have been told 'micro film is the wave of the future; miniaturization is inevitable, let us embrace it' These remarks ~~at~~ form ~~a~~ ~~[illegible]~~ another pair of the anti-environmental dehumanization that is now so rampant all around us. I can't agree that we must give in to it. But I recognize that we

probably shall – I feel better to be
one of those who will still scream
as the wave washes me into the
sea.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Department of Biology
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

EUGENE, OREGON 97403
telephone (code 503) 686-4502

February 21, 1974

Dr. William Axford, Librarian
University of Oregon

Dear Bill,

Considering the general world situation I feel embarrassed to ask you to pay any attention to my concerns about library problems. But the things bothering you bother me too, and as I think about them and talk with other concerned campus people about them, I want to be sure I do not misrepresent you, although I may disagree with you.

There were questions I didn't get to ask Wednesday morning last, but I could not expect you to be more generous of your time. I attach an outline of what I believe you said about the proposed journal-microfilm program you have in mind. If I have misunderstood you please set me straight; if there is anything more you want me to know please tell me.

Last summer when Ed Herbert (Chemistry) so rather heavily attacked the Science Library on some journal matters, I went directly to him to defend the library, and to help him understand some aspects of the library's operations which he knew little about. I turned him around enough so that he and the Science Library's staff could talk to each other, and come to a better mutual understanding.

I know he will be very concerned about your plan, as will also several others in Chemistry and Biology. I intend to talk to them about your plan, and I want to avoid giving a false description of it. It would be better if you did the talking, and, eventually of course, you will, but the cat is already partly out of the bag, as I have found out from people in three different departments. This is said not to apply pressure, but to inform you. Both of us believe in frankness, and in reaching policies on the basis of facts and rationality. At the moment I'm sure neither side has a complete view.

Sincerely,

George J. Van Schaack
Research Associate

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Department of Biology
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

EUGENE, OREGON 97403
telephone (code 503) 686-4502

February 25,1975

Dr D. Glenn Starlin, Vice Provost
University of Oregon

Dear Dr Starlin,

Thank you for your indulgence in giving me so much time yesterday.

Since I believe that administrative officers have a right to know the backgrounds of those whom they favor with their time, I enclose two pieces from the Missouri Botanical Garden Bulletin in St Louis, with which institution I was connected for twenty years.

If you will ignore the encomiums in the one specifically relating to me you will get a substantially correct picture of how my passion for libraries has grown. The other, An Epilogue on two Exhibitions, reveals that my opportunity was exceptional.

The recent Oregonian news item should interest you if you have not already seen it.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack

George B. Van Schaack
Research Associate

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

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EUGENE, OREGON 97403
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February 25, 1975

Dr Edward Herbert
Department of Chemistry
University of Oregon

Dear Ed,

Here is a copy of my notes made just after talking with Dr Axford on the morning of February 20. They may be slightly in error, but I believe inconsequentially. I left a copy in Dr Axford's office on February 21 with the request: 'If I have misunderstood you please set me straight; if there is anything more you want me to know, please tell me'. I have had no reply.

If you get to talk to Dr Starlin I suggest you report on student comments you have received. He made a remark to me regarding student reaction which I cannot quote exactly, but the burden of it seemed to be that the new generation is used to getting its information in so many ways now that the erosion of journal sources in the original, which I envision, will not substantially affect them--they would very quickly adjust to the new situation. I reserved comment.

George F. Van Schaack
Research Associate

Journal-microfilm program for U of O Library, under study by Dr Axford.

A. Description.

1. The problem.
   a) Enormous cost of binding current journals and/or keeping a complete set on the shelves has become critical. Binding is expensive even when complete volumes are immediately available as final numbers are received. This latter is often not the case because one or more individual numbers have been damaged or stolen.
   b) Even when complete volumes have been bound they are subject to excision of one to many pages.
   c) Replacement in case b) has become almost prohibitively expensive.

2. The program would try to meet this problem by the folloing steps.
   a) Contractual agreement with a single large distributor of journals, initially for 2000, growing to three or four times as many, and for normal delivery of these journals; at the completion of each of which the distributor would furnish a microfilm of the journal.
   b) Abandon binding any of these titles; rather put the unbound journal parts in boxes on the shelves, where normally in the past the bound volumes would have been shelved.
   c) Provide sufficient number of latest model microfilm readers so that all patrons could be serviced by the microfilm copies and/or the loose journal parts as long as these latter might not have been 'lifted' and/or damaged beyond further value by wear and excision. (The number of such microfilm readers has been mentioned as perhaps fifteen. In addition there would be 'loan' readers (?costing less) provided for use in faculty offices)
   d) ?Journals as printed which might be found not to be used in significant amount would be discarded after a reasonable time.

B. Benefits.

1. By the time the program embraced up to 7000 or more journals the savings in binding (?plus replacement costs) would amount to some $90,000/year, which amount would be available for other library expenses.
2. Immediate print-outs of such parts of microfilmed material available from the mechanical readers themselves, at 5¢ per exposure.

Draft (3)

MEMORANDUM

To: Professor Theodore Palmer
Chairman of Faculty Library Committee

From: George B Van Schaack, Research Associate, Dept. of Biology

Subject: Dr Axford's Journal—Microfilm Program (AJMP)

1. On February 20, 1975 I spent a brief quarter-hour with Dr Axford in which he described subject program, and answered several of my questions. Page 2 below contains my notes made immediately afterward to record my understanding of what he had told me. I sent him a copy of these, remarking: 'If I have misunderstood you please set me straight; if there is anything more you want me to know please tell me'. Having had no reply I assume that my notes adequately describe AJMP to Dr Axford's satisfaction, in so far, at least, as I may be expected to represent it to people I may talk with about it.

2. The implications for fundamental change in the Library were AJMP to be adopted by the University would be very substantial, as I believe Dr Axford would agree. I doubt, however, that he and I would agree on the relative importance and impact of many of these changes.

I should like to make it clear that I do not minimize the fiscal difficulties the Librarian is faced with in maintaining library service—he needs all the help he can get on this score. But a proposal such as AJMP would, in my opinion, have serious impact on the quality of library service that both the Faculty and the student body are entitled to and should demand. I accordingly address you on the matter, and ask you to communicate to your Committee the details of which I write at some time prior to its next meeting, at which, I understand AJMP will be discussed.

3. I should like to be informed of the time and place of the next meeting, for I wish to attend it as a silent spectator. I should, of course, be willing to answer questions did any of your Committee address them to me.

Journal—Microfilm Program for University of Oregon Library, under study by the Librarian, Dr William Axford. (AJMP)*

A. Description.

1. The problem.

a) Enormous cost of binding current journals and/or keeping a complete set on the shelves has become critical.. Binding is expensive even when complete volumes are immediately available as final numbers are received. This latter is often not the case because ~~because~~ one or more individual numbers have been damaged or stolen.

b) Even when complete volumes have been bound they are subject to excision of one to many pages.

c) Replacement in case b) has become almost prohibitively expensive.

2. The program would try to meet this problem by the following steps.

a) Contractual agreement with a single large distributor of journals (initially for 2000, growing to three or four times as many) for normal delivery of these journals, at the completion of which the distributor would furnish a microfilm of the journal.

b) Abandon binding any of these titles; rather put the unbound journal parts in boxes on the shelves where normally in the past the bound volumes would have been shelved.

c) Provide sufficient number of latest model microfilm readers so that all patrons could be serviced by the microfilm copies and/or the loose journal parts (as long as these latter might not have been 'lifted' and/or damaged beyond

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*Notes written on Feb. 20, 1975 immediately after a meeting with Doctor Axford.

further value by wear and excision). The number of such microfilm readers was mentioned as perhaps fifteen.* In addition there would be 'loan' readers (?costing less) provided for use in faculty offices.

d) ?Journals, as printed, which might be found not to be used in significant amount, would be discarded after a reasonable time.

B. Benefits.

1. By the time the program embraced up to 7000 or more journals the savings in binding (?plus replacement costs) would amount to some $90,000/year, which amount would be available for other library expenses.

2. Immediate print-outs of microfilmed material would be available from the mechanical readers themselves at 5¢ per exposure.

* My memory says 'fifteen'; my reason demands many more than 'fifty'.

My critique of AJMP

1. As presented to me by Dr Axford, AJMP would save money to cover costs of library operations, presently either under-funded or under-supplied. I am not privy to the figures involved nor to the nature of the services in question, except as the program specifically refers to journal binding and microfilm replacements. I can recognise only that in some sense a cost-benefit study is under way, and that the results of this will be presented as sufficient evidence for the desirability of the changes in journal acquisition, disposition, and substitution described in AJMP. To a large extent my remarks must be restricted to such criticism of these specific changes themselves as I think may be sufficient to show them to be unacceptable.

At this point I make the only remark I can regarding the 'cost' factor of the cost-benefit ratio, namely, that pressed as the Library and the whole University may be for funds, the true cost of many expedients adopted by institutions are far from always completely inventoried. Any change in service has human impact involving personal costs of various kinds, practically all of them non-quantifiable, and accordingly non-additive to such costs as purchase prices, binding expenses, and their like. Personal inquiry on the campus, made of undergraduates, graduate students, teaching staff and department heads regarding AJMP indicates that the first thought on having it described is often of the extra time and inconvenience to be faced as well the depreciation in quality of the resource, i.e. microfilm in place of bound books--students especially have exhibited genuine dismay at the very thought of the substitution.

2. My case, such as it is, rests largely on the utter inadequacy of microfilm to provide the richness of resource which the bound journal supplies.

a) I dispose first of essentially the only service microfilm can provide (and that imperfectly) which the bound volume supplies, namely to answer the question: What does X say about Y in Z on page W?'(where values of all four of the variables are known) This is a data retrieval question to which one is directed by someone else who has already found the answer. The more quickly it can be answered and disposed of the better. Microfilm can answer it, but only with considerable delay and inconvenience in comparison with the bound volume, which is clearly visible on the shelf and which one can quickly open to the indicated page. If the answer is worth the trouble one can carry the volume to his study table and take notes from it, or to the duplicating machine and pay his nickel per page for a copy.

Microfilms have to be located among scores of boxes all looking exactly alike, have to be carried to an unoccupied reader, more or less remote from ones study table, and then manipulated by an electric control until one finds the page by successive approximation. Taking notes is impractible if not almost impossible--microfilm demands a large degree of darkness, while taking notes demands a large degree of light. I repeat, microfilm can answer the question, but at what a cost, as compared to consulting a bound volume. Do you, reader, have a ready (or any) estimate of this cost to put into a cost-benefit computation?

As a final remark on this use of microfilm I point to the almost utter failure of microfilm to supply adequate information on illustrations, either by direct viewing or through a printout--most scientific and art journals cannot yield anything like full value via microfilm.

b) Aside from the question discussed in a) books function in many other ways, none of them supplied by microfilm in what can be called an acceptable manner, if at all.

In the question 'What does X say about Y in Z on page W?' the values of one to four of the variables may be unknown or incorrect. In such form the question is a search question, sometimes the more interesting the greater the number of variables unknown, but with substitution of bound volumes by microfilm such questions can be enormously frustrating and costly in time. If Z (the journal title) is unknown even shelf searching is a chore, but it can be carried out in something like finite time at the bound-journal shelves by adept use of the tables of contents and indices of all likely journal titles. The use of these aids (contents and indices) in microfilm is about as cumbersome as can be imagined.

c) But not everything comes in the form of XYZW. Browsing--in the stacks and in the volumes themselves--is absolutely denied by the microfilm. You can get the 'feel' for a book or journal only by browsin it, not by staring at the viewing screen as the pages whiz by. And getting the feel--what's been going on, etc.,--is important for ones future use of it. Only those who were on the spot when the journal was still around can browse in it. The rest, for whom the general content of a journal in the past may be as important as that of a current journal, will be forever denied acquiring this information in a library ~~from~~ in which the originals have been replaced by microfilm.

And serendipity (finding something of interest or value that you weren't looking for) is only about as well servierd as browsing. Serendipity can be a thrilling delight, or a most fortuitous discovery which gives answer to a question one has long sought, or which one may need in tomorrow's examination; or it can start one off on a tangent from which he never returns. Carried on with books, ~~it~~ serendipity is a human right.

Which last remark prompts me to express the opinion that substituting microfilm for bound volumes is a degredation of library re-

sources, a true dehumanization of the use of the printed word. It is definitely part of the worsening condition of mankind as it tries to deal with its environment.

3. In the above remarks only reference to a single microfilm at a time has been in question. But one has only to walk through the library study areas to be impressed by the number of students (even more of faculty members in their offices) who are using simultaneously several open volumes. Microfilm can provide here only by delivering printouts (these are envisaged in AJMP at five cents an exposure)—a cost perhaps not yet taken into account, and an expedient of less than maximum value.

4. AJMP is offered as a means of saving here, in order to spend elsewhere. Not binding journals would certainly save money. But, I contend, keeping the loose issues in boxes on the shelf is in itself a costly operation. 1) On the material side, several to many thousand boxes per year would be required; only very substantial boxes—hence expensive—can be expected to survive more than one or two recyclings. 2) On the curatorial side, unless some order were kept in these boxes by library personnel the disorder would be so great as not to make the pieces worth saving, even temporarily while eventual attrition should banish them from the library. There are few more expensive and frustrating mechanical tasks in a library than sorting and storing loose journal issues (I speak from much personal experience) But to discard them at once upon completion (not proposed in AJMP) would seem to be perverse destruction of tens of thousands of dollars worth of unbound journals when merely thousands of dollars would bind them. This is a dilemma, definitely affecting the cost factor in the cost-benefit ratio. I claim that to abandon any of the many costly journals ($20 to $200 per year per title) rather than to bind them would be a wanton act, dehumanizing to the point of outright anti-intellctualism.

Associated cost would be high in simply keeping the microfilms in order—and unless they are in order they would be enormous abominations. A misshelved book presents a trivial problem in comparison to a misfiled microfilm.

After these several extra costs are included, how much money is going to be left over for spending elsewhere? Or does the program envisage a robot subclass of the present so-called classified employees suddenly springing up, whose members live on K-rations and pills, and whose delight it is to locate drab microfilm boxes, and later to 'reshelve' them (if the word is not inappropriate—perhaps 're-encapsulate' them sounds better at this beginning of the last quarter of the twentieth century)?

5). The user-demands on the microfilm form would certainly be heavy during the first few years following publication, unless the loose journal issues were to be kept in (costly) order (perhaps even if they were). Such heavy demands would not be met with a mere dozen or score of readers and monitors. Underestimating here, not only cost of machines and personnel (alias robotelle), but space costs as well could result in significantly affecting the cost-benefit ratio.

6). The remarks above, which I believe to be valid, condemn the adoption of AJMP as unwise. Are there any alternatives less unacceptable than AJMP for which cost-benefit might stand out more clearly? I suggest that a substantial cutback in the number of journals received would be far more preferable to AJMP; the benefit of bound volumes would be preserved; the low grade service of microfilm would be avoided for those titles chosen to be kept on the list, and the clear gain from from fewer journals to buy, to process, and to bind would be immediately available.

Of course, at this suggestion every department raises the cry, 'But we can't spare a single one of those we are now receiving'. This wholly

natural reaction doesn't bear close scrutinity. Not only is it true that no library receives all journals; it is also true that some journals don't merit attention, and plenty of others could be dispensed with because they do not service any current need, or at most a very limited one. Better 12000 journals of merit, bound and on the shelves, than 15000 of which more than half are mere microfilm surrogates of their former selves. At least at one time Harvard University was said to have the best selection of books and journals in the United States, but by no means the largest collection. There were many books that one couldn't consult there--they just hadn't been acquired because the faculty didn't consider them worthy of a place on the library's shelves. I can't believe that the University of Oregon couldn't without genuine loss give up receiving enough marginal material to make a large change in the journal budget.

A cutback across the board would not be the way to go--there are too many current journals of marginal value now received which must have just drifted there--somewhat as Topsy just grew. The Faculty is not so overworked it ought not to be asked to make a study of which journals should be discontinued; in fact, they might get a good dose of serendipity. Of the currently received 15000 journals half of them probably are their own immediate witnesses for continuance (tried and true for many years). And there are at least 1000 faculty members on the campus who could be asked to help sort out the unneeded material from the other half. What better service could they offer the library right now than for each of them to evaluate for continuance a dozen or so journals in their own fields in the latter half? A study of their reports could lead to the savings claimed for AJMP.

7. In my opinion adoption of AJMP would be a catastophe. It would certainly be resented by many students and many of the Faculty. I am

convinced it would later be found to be a false 'solution', with effects extremely costly to reverse. Once in the grip of a tight contract to follow its lines, how could the University pause, then backtrack and fill in all that had been lost. The condition to be remedied (cost of binding and excessive cost of replacements) is certainly serious, but the remedy proposed is inappropriate and dehumanizing, and I believe would be ineffective.

Bill — In order to get a few guide lines we agree upon in action soon I suggest I write up these one-by-one (cover problem on journals, forthcoming) send them to you for approval and your initial. I shall pick them up from your secretary (approved or not, as may be your decision) and, if approved, send copies to department heads and/or others you wish to be informed. Attached is my suggestion for journal cover treatment.

I should appreciate your writing a memorandum to all Library employees, in which you make it

clear ~~[illegible]~~ what my connection with the library is, what kind of problem I'm trying to solve, my rights to records*, and the fact that I am not being paid — I'm sure this is not generally known, and I can imagine some employees could be annoyed at this, on the basis that I am doing for free a job that some friend of his or hers might be doing for ~~[illegible]~~ remuneration. Stating the fact that you don't know where to find such a person for whom you could set aside a salary should be significant.

* for your vision
I am not being paid, I am not
looking for employment, I am not
trying to get anybody — but I
must have such evidence as necessary
to break certain linkages in the
binding process for which [illegible]
no one wants to take any
responsibility.

Ask Oxford for copying permission on samples

Ask bindery cost of tape sewing journals
Is there a pro-rata for no of sections

Ask bindery for complete desc. of present offerings and the schedule of prices

Ask bindery why are backs cut off of stabbed books.

Why use wire instead of nylon thread

Why use cords instead of tapes.
cords wear out

Or could one use a better cord nylon? ?

2/23/74

I asked X how long a consignment of books for binding required for completion — in short, why did it take up to six weeks or more to have books returned. His reply included the statement that mechanically any book could be done in one or two days, but that many books were kept aside for several weeks until enough of the same size accumulated to be worth doing as a batch. I then asked would it not be possible if the library limited sending consignments if only one or two sizes (for the most part) — would it not be possible to finish such consignments in much less time, say two weeks, or even only one week. X agreed it would, but thought the

librarians would not want to be bothered. Jane chimed in and demanded to say that as unpractical. I maintain it is very practical for at least 80% of the periodicals.

I also asked X why when stapling had been used to "bind" paper covered but smooth-sewn books had the backs of the books first been guillotined off. He replied that this was not usually done, because of course it did not need to be. I want then to argue, but I could have said I had not seen a single non-guillotined example and pointed to hundreds which I have seen were guillotined.

Report of visit from Hertzberg Bindery in Tacoma, 3/12/74

Mr. Van Walk, the visitor, has been with Fred Hertzberg for some ten or nore years. Hertzberg was trained by his father here in the Northwest, the latter having been formerly a partner of his brother, Lawrence of Chicago, a very intelligent and capable binder and business/ of innovative /man capability; his bindery was (and still is) one of the big library binding operations in the Midwest.

Mr. Van Walk brought not a ray of sunshine, but a full burst of glory in introducing us to the very new (one year or so) Smyth Cleat sewing machine (Smyth M 80) for library binding. This is just as revolutionary an invention as was the founder's invention in 1833 of the Smyth sewing machine for edition binding. Whether Smyth genes were involved I don't know, but the product reflects the skill and imagination which nearly all of Mr Smyth's many important inventions exhibited. This machine, I should think, has sounded the knell of the incubus which the oversewing machine has been these many years.

The SCSM requires the material to be bound to be reduced to a stack of of separate leaves, as does the oversewer, but beyond that the resemblance largely ceases. For its purposes it mere/sands the back edge of the material /ly to be bound, and uses a bare 1/8" (or less) of the resulting margin. The complete stack of separate leaves is fed to the machine, to come out at the other end a book ready for casing. The leaves have not been stabbed nor sewn, nor adhesively attached, but have been notched at intervals to provide short (1/8" or less) tongues to be wound about tightly with thread in sections of 20-30 pages, these compacted into a book with a satisfyingly flexible back, and showing a clean and neat (though patterned) gutter; all the thread is not only knotted, but anchored by adhesive. The look and the feal of the book is gratifying--it gives no resistance to being used, and lies open completely flat for reading and copying. Still, in a half hour's examination of thesample I found no angle of attack by which to destroy the binding. I still prefer handsewn or Smyth (original) sewn books, but I can't expect to find too many of them, and the substitute is more than just acceptable. Unlike books which have been oversewn, when, if ever, the/ /block binding should wear out, a small shaving of the ~~back~~ will put it in condition for rebinding in the same way.

It was the lack of such a machine as SCSM which had me almost completely stymied in writing the guidelines you and I wanted--there were so many almost impossible dead-ends to face. Not only can the machine take care of most of these, but it can be used for sewing (for example) musical scores (which are thicker than pamphlets) and thereby release extra funds for the handsewing which should be used on volumes of quality and irreplaceability, in particular, the rebinding of individual volumes of valuable sets (of which I shall speak in the guidelines)

SCMC is as far ahead of the double-fan-gluer as the jet plane is ahead of the balloon.

As for other matters Hertzberg can clearly take care of all the problems I foresee as well as or better than ~~Brossenbacher~~, and in addition can provide services of pick-up, delivery, etc. agreeable to Jane and Hubert, which ~~Brossenbacher~~ refused to consider. Calley Place

Calley Place

Hertzberg's prices seem to me at least as reasonable as Grossenbacher's. He does all collating (his dependability here may have to be monitored) His charges vary with the height of the book, unlike ~~Grossenbacher's~~. In general he seemed most receptive to the idea that good sewing of individual volumes should not be destroyed. His immediate answer to my question 'How would you put in hard covers a well-sewn monograph in wrappers?' was, 'Case it only, of course, with the endsheets not just tipped in, but sewn in'. He also remarked, to my satisfaction, that trade books had best be recased before their sewing is damaged, for resewing any book so often destroys something in the original, as well as costing more than mere casing.

College Places

Unless there is some psychological hazard in dealing with this firm I think it is an answer to more prayers than we offered up.

Jeanyee Stevenson

Report on visit of College Place Bindery on March 11/74

Two men came: Michael Bogdanovich, Mgr (?=owner), and Mr. X, whose name I didn't get--I wouldguess he is a kind of superintendant. Both of them are very alert and apparently well informed on at least all of their own operations, and Mr. B on operations elsewhere--hehad worked as a binder in several shops in the eastern U.S., had visited Italy and become intrigued with Italian handbinding. His attitude is much less rigid than that of Mr X, who was rather uncompromising in his remarks. Mr. B, in my opinion, is someone who knows fine binding and respects it, but recongizes the impossibility of binding most current material in even as good a binding as the relatively poor hand-sewing to be obtained today. Where Mr. X insisted that CP's newest machine (double-fan-gluer--see below) made the best binding for all books, Mr. B agreed with me that were trade books, with good Smyth sewing, provided with top-grade super, strong hinges, and sewn-in endleaves, most of them would never deteriorate enough (during their period of greatest use) to have to be repaired--that his firm would be almost entirely restricted to dealing with the periodical problems. Our discussion with them was pleasant and informative--their prices as discussed seemed competitive, and their two samples showed good workmanship, but failed to cover a range of problems. They claim to be the largest library binding binders in the Northwest--they have 50 regular employees, several part-time students, etc.

Several matters discussed require detailing.

1. In general they do no collating--the book or periodical volume is supposed to be 'ready to go' as taken out of the box. The only check made is to see that whatever is to be bound has not got out of order in packing or unpacking. This increases the library's cost, but I believe collating should not be entrusted to bindery personnel. Nor should the decision of binding more than one volume into a single book--this is to be indicated by the convention that each complete book-to-be will be delivered in a strong rubberband or be tied.

2. Binding of all books, 2½" and under, are priced the same for the same type of binding used. For a university library this would seem to promise a saving--tall books are more common in such a library than in a public library collection.

3. Unless the contrary is indicated all sewing, in the following classes a) & b), will be machine oversewing, except:
   a) in all periodicals with too narrow a margin sewing will be replaced by double-fan-glueing (see below), presumably at same price as oversewing;
   b) Smyth-sewn or stapled books with mere wrappers will be treated as in a), with tendency in this class to increase the perdentage of double-fan-sewing (see below)

4. The 'contrary' in 3) which may be indicated includes: a) hand-sewing on cords (at present about $2.20 extra); b) for Smyth-sewn books casing only as described below in n)

5. Double-fan-glueing is produced on a German machine recently purchased and not common in this part of the country. To employ it, the book, or periodical group, is first reduced to single leaves by the guillotine (or other shearing method). The machine itself clamps the front of the book, and first fans the back edges of the leaves over to the right, applying

College DL

a layer of special adhesive; then fans them to the left, for another layer; then rights the book and slaps on a high quality super. In the resulting book each two adjacent leaves are bonded along their back edges in a strip 1/100" wide. This very narrow constraint permits opening the book almost as completely as a book hand-sewn on cords. The claim is that the resulting 'binding' is as strong as oversewing from the standpoint of any leaf being pulled out in the direction 'back edge to front edge'; I do not recall that this was maintained for the action of removing a leaf by grasping it at the bottom of the back edge and tearing off upward. The result looks much like Vinabind, but somewhat more aesthetically ugly, the gutter being an irregular, varicolored line between the two leaves. I believe the bonding is somewhat stronger than in Vinabind, but I doubt the result is as strong or as durable as Smyth sewing. It is offensive to a bibliophile like me, but even he must admit it has much higher utility (as long as it lasts) than oversewing, and it can be repeated for a rebind, which in general oversewing cnanot. These last remarks I restrict, however, to apply only to not-too-heavy books. The only bonding of the book to the ad-leaves and to the covers is adhesive--there is no sewing whatever. The only example shown was a small 12mo novel. I should have liked to see a 6 lb. Science volume, or an 8 or 10 lb. architectural volume. My mind is open, but skeptical. This type of 'binding' is far from unknown to me, for I built a hand-operated machine to produce this very type myself back in 1962, using excellent German adhesive--but my bonding strip was at least four times as wide (1/25"). I regarded the operation as definitely restricted to octavos of at most 3 lbs.

adj. leaves

bonding 1/100" wide

6. Their reaction to casing Smyth-sewn books in wrappers was somewhat dogmatical but not wholly inflexible. At least Mr. X insisted the best treatment was guillotining, followed by double-fan-glueing; next best, oversewing; and least best, simple casing with tipped in (or better sewn-in) endleaves. Both of them maintained that double-fan-glueing would stand up longer under copy-machine abuse than simple casing with sewn-in endleaves. I demur, and should regret seeing you retreat from your position that well-sewn material that can be placed in hard covers without guillotining should be so treated. (My companions on the 'committee' scarcely supported my view) I did not get a schedule of prices on this class.

7. There was considerable discussion of what at UO is termed 'board binding' --a Topsy product often simply stapled. They are anxious to use their double-fan-glueing machine, and, I believe, are sending a couple of samples--what I think of it is irrelevant here--I shall remark on this type of material if & when I get to it in my 'guide-lines'.

8. They do not do a genuine hand-oversewing--a tradition method of great utility for newspapers, much fragile stuff ~~stuff~~, etc. Their substitute is sewing through--a thread version of Velobind. A minor matter of no decisive importance.

9. They insist they do center-sectioning where required, i.e., essentially for all periodicals in single folds of many pages.

31/9/74 ~~Grasswhacker~~

Remarks on Walker's visit from Grasswhacker.
(I have written down as soon as I can what I remember having heard - I believe I'm reporting more or less objectively. E.)

I found Mr Walker's ~~to be rather typical of~~ approach very similar to what I've seen before, that time ~~the binders I've met~~ in a lower key, perhaps.

He is certainly not going to innovate anything - his own ideas aren't particularly fresh, and his attitude seemed to be that what we're doing now is about what you can find anywhere - we're full like now + then like other people. He came to watch carts very closely and cut corners where we can. His (like any binding) operation is almost exclusively overseeing, and not. The sample of his over-sewing which he brought to show was defective - it had partially separated down the middle. When I pointed this out

very large - since people at the moment

3/9/74. 2

He ~~stammered~~ stumbled over an answer to the effect that 'Yes, it is imperfect here, but this is an old sample — been banging around for some time'

It didn't look as if it had been handled very much, and I doubted it had been through the over 100 circulations oversewing is supposed to furnish.

He ~~agreed~~ said 'Yes, we do an occasional volume by hand-sewing — not many'

When I asked the differential in price between oversewing and hand-sewing, noting it was doubtfully large enough to cover the extra work, he replied 'Yes, perhaps, but then we only do a few as I said'

3/9/74

I asked about casing but not re-sewing, through sewn paper-covered books. 'Yes, we do that. Of course it's not a very good binding because the endpapers are just tipped in — they aren't really sewn to the book.' I remarked they very well could be, ~~and would produce~~ producing a much better product. 'Yes, perhaps, but it takes more time. Casing without resewing just isn't a very good deal. That's the way it is.'

I asked if he could explain how in oversewing there is sometimes a lot of ~~too much~~ glue on the text of a page cementing it to the adjoining page — did that come from the

3/9/74 action of the "machine." 'No, that comes from the girls' carelessness — they get sloppy sometimes, and get glue when it shouldn't be, or let the "section of leaves" which has just received glue on the trimmed edge ~~out of position~~ slide along the section below it. Of course if we see it we repair it — we soak the pages until they come apart.' I am not convinced that all papers would take this treatment without damage.

'No, ~~the~~ we don't do perfect binding — not where you fan the leaves — that takes an expensive machine.'

Yes, we do sewn sections

3/5/74

of thick folded magazines – slit the fold by hand with a knife and then jog the ~~sh~~ leaves ~~together~~ to bring the inner edges together – it's fairly satisfactory.'

'Yes, we staple with a wire machine when there's enough margin'

'The only types we use in stamping the spines ~~with~~ are there', showing me a very small undistinguished collection of sans serifs currently in use – rather ugly.

'Yes, the Abbey Bindery does more or less the same type of work as we do, for a dollar less, but they don't have to make a profit. They're a smaller outfit'

It was a dull morning with few bright chats & was [illegible] sparkles,

Grossenbacher Bros.
614 N.W. 6th Ave 97209

Lettering 7 without extra

His rebinding = only tipped in endleaves

Objects overscoring edges (?) his example showed it fail + the diameter it can be broken by force

Sans serif type stamping

~~Try the machine~~

Abbey (cheap)

(add index etc, Jesus!) (no rubbing)

~~? Peter~~

✓? Conservationing (Yes!)

? Glue squeeze

Teil 1 Band 2
→ Part 1 Vol. 2

✓? How long in business

✓? Boards

✓? 9 people work open · Tom Bradshaw (Ruler -)

✓ Perfect binding ?

✓ Stapling

Endsheets are weak (and that's all)

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
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MEMORANDUM

January 4, 1978

To: University Library Committee

From: George B. Van Schaack, Research Associate, Dept. of Biology

Subject: Remarks answering your memorandum of November 30 concerning library space problems

1. You ask for critical opinions on the library needs of our faculty and the problems of space in our present facilities. I find your request much too narrow to consider seriously unless you include the urgent need for a change of head librarian. In my five years here I have spent hundreds of hours studying this library, and studying as well the University Librarian. I have talked with him, I have listened to him talk, I have attacked several of his proposals, both directly and through the Faculty Library Committee. I am convinced that his interests and those of the university faculty and the student body are so diverse that no acceptable solutions to the problems of space and those of the acquisitions and best use of library staff are to be found as long as Mr. Axford holds his present position.

I admit that the problems would largely remain were he to be removed, but you would be rid of the inflexible belief of Mr. Axford that he is always right, of his intention to innovate as broadly as he can get away with it, and of his axiom that both faculty and students can, and will, adjust to anything he proposes and propogates. I am far from being alone in my opinions here; I have discussed my views with students, faculty members, and librarians, finding much agreement with their views. I see no resolution forthcoming except that Mr. Axford be retained, free to create larger sectors of bitter faculty and students, or that he be asked to resign.

I hope you will seize the opportunity to undertake a full study of our library and its needs for the future, supposing the university librarian were someone else, one whose approach to the problems of our library were much more sympathetic to the humane aspects of librarianship than that of Mr. Axford with his computers grabbing information from hither and yon, his microfilms and microfiches replacing card catalogs and real books, and his interred 'little used' volumes.

To listen to Mr. Axford is to be exposed over and over to that single aspect of a book as a place in which a reference can be found. Surely many other aspects are as important: to find immediately on the shelves just what you need; to carry to your study books you may never have seen nor heard of, with the following serendipity of meeting new minds with new ideas; to browse over the whole work of great writers of the past; to compare, right there at the shelves, the opposing views of contenders of the past and present, with opportunity to make the comparison right now, before you lose that tenuous thread of almost understanding. All this would be lost with books in remote and restricted storage. Must everyone bow to the computers and sit in cells punching buttons to which reply is made in the charming typography of these machines?

2. In so far as I understand the University Librarian's report I should like to remark on two substantive matters.

Mr. Axford comes up, on page 2, with a most interesting number, 1,500,000, predicting this as the steady state number of volumes for the future University of Oregon library. This number permits such a neat analysis when comparison is made with UC (Berkeley's) library, and in itself is supported by a remarkable host of indications ('There is every (sic) indication that at the University of Oregon the figure will be around 1,500,000 volumes). At this point he drops us into the never-ending sequence quest: did the chicken come first, or was it the egg? This kind of argument is most frustrating - your rapier needs scarcely any sharpening to penetrate into the vacuum behind.

Where is the consensus that proclaims the right, the likely, and the inevitable divisions of learning into fields? A reshuffle of Ph. D. fields at Berkeley into only 30 would give each field three times as many volumes, while a reshuffle at Oregon to 60 fields would cut its volumes per field to scarcely half as many. This specious type of argument is abhorent. The question is how many and what books are in the library to service a true university--if Berkeley needs four million I doubt Oregon can conduct a genuine university with only 1,500,000. Of course we can return to the middle of page 1 and pick up those magic phrases 'bibliographic access' and its big brother 'computer technology'. Remember, Mr. Axford seems basically to be interested only in one of the book's functions--finding references already noticed and more or less chewed by one or more other scholars already.

As for Mr. Axford's juggling with figures on his page 2, I am suspicious of all such figuring without much greater detail. In my own experience with him I have found his offhand statements are not to be relied upon. I attach two memoranda addressed to your committee dated April 11, 1975 and May 16, 1975 in which I took his own data and his own loose statements involving a proposed switch to microfilm vs binding, and with these showed that they implied the library would be losing money systematically instead of saving 'substantial' amounts as he had predicted.

3. Books in storage on campus or elsewhere are only shadows of themselves. Several years ago when I was living in Chicago I had a distinguished guest from Europe, who said, 'Now one thing I must do here is to see the great Crerar Library. Of course I shall want to get into the shelves'. I called the Crerar's librarian and asked if my guest could be accommodated. His reply was, 'I should be most happy to admit Dr. Stearn to the shelves, of course, but unfortunately there are no shelves. The books are in boxes controlled by machinery'. My friend made no further effort to see the Crerar.

4. A final word. I have always believed and still do that faculties and student bodies seldom are provided with libraries any better than they demand with incessant pressure. You won't get what you want and need without fighting for it.

George B. Van Schaack

3/4 memoranda attached