

ANNUAL REPORT, 1979-1980  
Dale C. Gresseth

ANNUAL REPORT, 1979-1980  
AREA RESEARCH CENTER  
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS  
Edwin L. Hill

MURPHY LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - LA CROSSE

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## PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Dale Gresseth	Chairman
Marilynn Guillaume	Reference, Library Instruction
Edwin Hill	Special Collections, Reference
Nancy Humphreys	Reference
Charles Marx	Cataloger
Eugene Millich	Reference
Karin Sandvik	Collection Development
Herbert Searcy	Cataloger
Sandra Sechrest	Documents
Orin Thompson	Microforms, Reference
Roy Van Note	Interlibrary Loan, Reference

## CLASSIFIED STAFF

Katherine Arenz	Chairperson's Office
Marcella Averkamp	Special Collections (LTE)
Mary Baldwin	Documents
Kathryn Beane	Serials
Cristine Berg	Circulation
Janice DuCharme	Technical Services
Cynthia Dissmore	Technical Services (CETA)
Yvonne Hyde	Technical Services
Gloria Jackson	Circulation (LTE)
Diane Kamrowski	Serials (LTE)
Irene Kleist	Technical Services
Connie Klimek	Technical Services, Interlibrary Loan
Virginia Kreyer	Serials
Helen Leide	Circulation
Barbara Nord	Technical Services

## CLASSIFIED STAFF continued

Viola Oertel	Special Collections
Mary Kay Rowe	Technical Services
Karen Stoffel	Circulation
Ada Stowe	Technical Services
Barbara Waindle	Circulation
Frances Young	Technical Services

## BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT CHANGES

A partition was extended on the second floor eastern end of the building to temporarily house Minority Studies. When vacated, space will be utilized by ARC for storage.

New equipment acquired during the fiscal year includes:

9 microfiche readers (6 Vantage Com IV and 3 Vantage III)

7 micro cabinets (5 microfiche-8 drawer cabinets and 2 "on top" microfilm cabinets - 5 drawer, 6 compartments)

TWX. Recurring problems with Carterfone equipment led to purchase of replacement unit from Com Data.

Information center stand - adjacent to Information Desk, designed by Marilyn Guillaume and built by William Rachubinski of the University woodworking staff.

One IBM Corrective Selectric typewriter to replace 10 year old Model D machine in the office.

Library Instruction: cassette tape recorder, projection cart, projector and screen, storage cabinet, RCA television receiver/monitor, 2 projectors/viewing and headset.

3 swivel chairs for micro-reading area.

Magazine - literature mini-stand for documents.

Dial Hygrometer and refrigerator (for film storage) purchased by Special Collections.

Short range of shelves for oversize area. Oversize shelving was braced to prevent tipping.

Photocopy machine for departmental use was changed from Xerox 914 to AB Dick Copier 990. The latter was installed in Room 105 and the paper cutter was moved from Room 10 to Room 105.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS, CONVENTIONS, CONFERENCES, ETC.  
PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Dale Gresseth attended WLC Peer Council meeting at Madison on July 16, 1979; attended meeting on automated circulation system at UW-Stout on September 19, 1979; attended WAAL Conference in Madison on September 27-28, 1979; attended DUWL meeting in Madison on November 5-6, 1979; attended meeting on automated circulation systems in Eau Claire on March 3, 1980; observed automated circulation system operation in Oshkosh on March 6, 1980; attended WAAL/WSLMA spring conferences in Stevens Point on April 10-11, 1980; attended retrospective conversion meeting in Madison on April 15, 1980; attended DUWL meeting in Eau Claire on June 11, 1980.

Marilynn Guillaume attended ALA Midwinter Meeting in Chicago, Illinois on January 21-25, 1980; attended American Alliance for HPR and Dance annual national convention in Detroit, Michigan on April 11-13, 1980.

Edwin Hill was a panelist at MFLA Convention in Milwaukee on November 1, 1979; attended UW-Archives Council meeting at UW-Whitewater on November 2, 1979; exchanged archival material at SHSW and consultation regarding UW-L acquisitions in Madison on November 13, 1979; considered and discussed Ethnic Studies Grant at Winona State University on December 4, 1979; attended UW Archives System Council meeting in Madison on January 17, 1980; attended ARC-Archives Conference at UW-Platteville on May 8-9, 1980.

Nancy Humphreys attended the Woman's Conference in Michigan on August 31, 1979; attended Midwest Federation of Libraries Conference in Milwaukee on October 31-November 2, 1979; attended workshop on small press literature in Madison on May 2, 1980.

Charles Marx attended meeting on automated circulation systems in Eau Claire on March 3, 1980; observed automated circulation system in operation in Oshkosh on March 6, 1980; attended retrospective conversion workshop in Madison on April 15, 1980; attended catalog maintenance workshop

in Madison on April 18, 1980; attended WLC peer council meeting in Madison on May 1, 1980.

Karin Sandvik attended Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians meeting in Madison on September 27-28, 1979; attended Fourth International Conference on Approval Plans in Milwaukee on October 29-31, 1979; attended Annual Conference of Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers in Minneapolis, Minnesota on May 4, 1980.

Sandra Sechrest attended Wisconsin State Data Center Affiliate Program Organization meeting in Madison on October 25, 1979; attended Midwest Federation of Librarians Conference in Milwaukee on October 31-November 2, 1979; attended ALA Continuing Education Forum in Madison on December 3-5, 1979; attended Census Workshop in Stevens Point on April 24-25, 1980; attended ALA Conference in New York on June 27-July 5, 1980.

#### CLASSIFIED STAFF

Cristine Berg observed the automated circulation system in operation at UW-Oshkosh on March 6, 1980.

Yvonne Hyde attended WLC peer council meeting in Madison on July 16, 1979; attended the workshop on retrospective conversion in Madison on April 15, 1980.

Helen Leide attended the automated circulation system meeting at UW-Stout on September 19, 1979; observed automated circulation operation at UW-Oshkosh on March 6, 1980.

Barbara Nord attended WLC peer council meeting in Madison on July 16, 1979; attended WLC workshop on use of OCLC in searching in Madison on November 26, 1979; attended WLC workshop on the use of OCLC in cataloging monographs in Madison on November 29, 1979; attended workshop on retrospective conversion in Madison on April 15, 1980.

## TITLE II-A GRANT

The grant for 1979/80 was \$3963. Money allocated for book purchases only.

## BILLIE BACHELOR TRUST FUND

The amount spent for English literature books in 1979/80 was \$283.91.

## STAFF INFORMATION AND CHANGES

## PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Charles Marx was hired January 9, 1980 as cataloger. He was previously a cataloger at Olivet College, Olivet, Michigan and received his MLS at Western Michigan University.

Marilynn Guillaume was hired on September 18, 1979 as Information Services Librarian with responsibilities for library orientation and library skills instruction. She also evaluated and developed the collection in Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Marilynn resigned her position on July 1, 1980 for a position at Moorhead State University, Moorhead, Minnesota.

## CLASSIFIED STAFF

Viola Oertel resigned her position in Special Collections in January 1980. No permanent replacement has been authorized. Meanwhile, her duties are being performed by Virginia Kreyer, a part-time Library Assistant in Serials, and Marcella Averkamp, LTE.

Mary Baldwin requested maternity leave, beginning June 13, 1980.

Gloria Jackson worked as an LTE in Circulation during the morning hours beginning August 27, 1979.

Cynthia Dissmore began work December 3, 1979, on the collection weeding project, under the supervision of Karin Sandvik. This is a CETA project.

MAIN HALL REMODELING

During the remodelling the Library housed the Microfilming Services in Room 10, Black Abolitionist Project on 2nd floor east end; and the Honors Program in Room 21A.

1979/80 EXPENDITURES

Library Self-Sustaining Accounts

	ERIC	FINES	VOYAGES	COPY VENDING
Salaries				
LTE		\$5,203		
Student Help		532		\$1,268
Fringe benefits		486		
Travel		669		
Services and Supplies \$319		1,715	\$668	12,918
Equipment		2,805	1,409	10,991
Total	\$319	11,410	2,077	25,177
Revenue Collected	362	9,300	738	22,459
Revenue Carry-Over from 1978/79		6,408	331	9,627

1979/80 Expenditures: University Library  
102/06/025900

Salaries			
	Classified	\$185,933	
	LTE	5,550	
	Unclassified	227,017	
	Student help	20,302*	(4,391)
	Work study (state share)	<u>7,621</u>	
	Total personal services		\$446,423
	Fringe benefits		50,343
	Travel	958	
	Postage	1,851	
	Telephone and Telecommunication	2,846	
	Dues, Memberships, Registrations	6,202	
	Equipment rental and maintenance	4,577	
	Miscellaneous and contract services	14,512	
	Buildings and grounds maintenance	1,951	
	Supplies	15,678	
	Printing and rebinding	2,376	
	New equipment	7,060	
	Library materials	348,610	
	Books	172,838	
	Periodicals	134,765	
	Microforms	41,007	
	Binding	<u>5,248</u>	
	Total operational expenditures		<u>\$411,869</u>
	Total department		\$908,635

\* For accounting purposes, the actual expenditure of \$20,302 was reduced by \$15,911 to show an expenditure of \$4,391.

## COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL SUMMARY

	<u>1978/79</u>	<u>1979/80</u>
Total volumes in library	424,666	445,766
Bound volumes	318,055	325,212
Government documents	105,671	119,513
Serials (college catalogs and telephone directories)	940	952
Total volumes added	28,839	28,385
Bound volumes added	14,004	13,432
Bound volumes withdrawn	3,188	6,275
Total microforms in library	398,853	449,009
Microfilm (reels)	24,634	25,749
Other microforms (pieces)	374,219	423,260
Periodicals (current)	2,924	2,928
Newspapers	55	43
Titles in library - bound		
Book	226,311	230,472
Periodical	2,324	2,382
Titles in library - microform		
Book	5,585	5,828
Periodical	1,491	1,702
Total collection converted to volumes	524,144	556,167
Interlibrary Loan	6,370	4,691
Computer Assisted Searches	15	33
Circulation (Main and Reserve)	135,079	138,939
Turnstile tally	545,741	628,635
Days library open	319	326
Hours per week (academic year)	101.25	103.25

## GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY 1979-1980

American Youth Hostels, Inc.	Dr. Gary Kuhn
Prof. Frank E. Barmore	Mr. Alfred C. Lange
Billy Graham Evangelistic Assoc.	Mr. James McIntyre
Mr. Jack Burke	Mr. Kenneth Maly
Prof. Thomas J. Burns	Ms. Grace V. Montgomery
Dr. Lawrence Daellenbach	Mr. Michael Murray
Dr. Richard Fletcher	Mr. Roger Parsons
Dr. Dell Fystrom	Physical Therapy Dept. U.W.L.
Dr. George Gilkey	South African Consulate General
Ms. Marilyn Guillaume	Mr. Don Staats
Mr. Bob Howland	Dr. R. C. Voight
Ms. Nancy Humphreys	Dr. David Witmer
Mr. Keith Kensinger	Dr. Emerson G. Wulling
Ms. Christine Koukola	

TOURSSUMMER 1979:

July 10	Yeatman	English 110	20	Van Note
July 16	Coulombe	English 110	18	Hill
July 25	Helming/ Sasse	Workshop	15	Humphreys
July 26	Helming/ Sasse	Workshop	15	Van Note
July 27	Walsh	Academic Skills	15	Millich

FALL 1979:

August 30	Schilling	Community Nutrition (Viterbo)	13	Sechrest
Sept. 4	Smith Valley Historical Society	(ARC only)	10	Hill
Sept. 4	Rada	Grad. Seminar - Biology	10	Sechrest
Sept. 5	Starner	Econ. 375	25	Sechrest
Sept. 6	Piercy	Recreation	12	Van Note
Sept. 6	Dallenbach	Business 230	70 (two groups)	Humphreys Sechrest
Sept. 6	Altman	Educ. Research Seminar	25	Thompson
Sept. 9	Judson	English 490 (ARC only)	15	Hill
Sept. 12	Katrichis	Introd. Business 110	125 (four groups)	Millich Hill Humphreys Sechrest
Sept. 13	Altman	Introd. Educ. Res. (ARC only)	22	Hill
Sept. 12	Munson	History 395 (Docs. only)	8	Sechrest
Sept. 18	Parsons	English 110	23	Van Note
Sept. 24	McCormick	Business 230	45 (two groups)	Sechrest Humphreys
Sept. 26	Mauser	History 381 (Docs. only)	9	Sechrest
Sept. 26	Schrag	English 303 (Slides & Docs.)	62 (three groups)	Sechrest

FALL 1979 CONTD.:

Sept. 26	Helming	Introd. Univ. Services	25	Van Note
Sept. 27	Helming	Introd. Univ. Services	25	Humphreys
Oct. 2	Wehrs	Business 230	20	Sechrest Humphreys
Oct. 9	West Salem Historical Soc. (ARC only)		20	hill
Oct. 10	Yeatman	English 110	20	Humphreys
Oct. 10	Yeatman	English 110	20	Sechrest
Oct. 16	Physical Therapy Faculty (Interlibrary Loan)		6	Van Note
Oct. 19	McQueen	English 110	20	Guillaume
Oct. 19	McQueen	English 110	20	Humphreys
Oct. 19	McQueen	English 110	20	Guillaume
Oct. 19	Sanders	Physical Therapy	20	Van Note
Oct. 21	McQueen	English 110 (D. Myers)	1	Millich
Oct. 23	Heim	Pol. Sci. 302 (Docs.)	40	Sechrest
Oct. 26	Maik	English 110	75 (three groups)	Hill Sechrest Guillaume
Oct. 30	Coulombe	English 110 (Res. Paper)	30	Thompson
Nov. 6	Holler	Academic Skills	75 (three groups)	Guillaume Millich
Nov. 8	Green	English 110	45 (two groups)	Guillaume
Nov. 12	Reed	English 110	40 (two groups)	Millich Guillaume
Nov. 16	Schrag	English 110 (Docs. & Slides)	25	Sechrest
Nov. 26	Schrag	English 110 (Docs. & Slides)	23	Sechrest
Dec. 6	Greve	Educ. Media 206 (Docs. Tour)	6	Sechrest

Spring 1980

January 17		Econ 302/502 (Docs. only)	30	Sechrest
January 23		Bus. 100	78	Sechrest/ Humphreys
January 28	Katrichis	Bus. 100	80	Sechrest/ Humphreys
January 30	Gardiner	Psych 488 (HRAF)	11	Sechrest
February 11	K. Nelson	Psych	9	Guillaume
February 13	McCormack	Bus. 230	Two Groups: 70	Sechrest/ Humphreys
February 18		Biology	20	Van Note
February 19	Ramaki	Bus. 230	30	Sechrest/ Humphreys
February 21	Greene	Eng. 110	22	Guillaume
February 26	Leshner	Eng. 303 (Docs. only)	Two Groups: 40	Sechrest
February 27	Schrag	Eng. 303 (Docs. only)	20	Sechrest
February 28	Schrag	Eng. 303 (Docs. only)	Three Groups: 60	Sechrest
February 28	Coulombe	Eng. 110	17	Guillaume
February 29	Maik	Eng. 110	Three Groups: 55	Guillaume
March 17	McQueen	Eng. 110	Two Groups: 40	Hill
March 25	C. Holler	Reading 105	Three Groups: 42	Guillaume
March 28	Yeatman	Eng. 110	15	Humphreys
March 31	Bendikson	Soc. 351 (Docs. only)	10	Sechrest
April 9	Reed	English 110	Three Groups: 20 20 20	Hill Millich Millich
May 15	Smith	Holmen H.S. Students	<u>17</u>	Guillaume
		TOTAL	1865	

MURPHY LIBRARY  
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS  
ANNUAL REPORT 1979-80

Overall use of the facility decreased during the year, as indicated by registration records. The most significant factor in this decrease was the decision to temporarily remove certain art history books to the basement seminar room, where they were used for one week by a large class. Other categories of materials were used slightly less than during the previous year, except for the Wisconsiniana collection, which showed an increase. The following registrations were recorded:

	Last Year	This Year
State Hist. Soc. Registrants	46	44
State Hist. Soc. Daily Regist.	128	71
Wisconsiniana	490	523
Rare Books	635	281
University Archives	232	204
Photographs	150	130
Oral History Interviews	20	10
Tours	43	29
<u>La Crosse Tribune</u> Newspaper	161	188
<hr/>		
TOTAL (excluding tours and newspaper)	1655	1219

There were no classes during the year which had express assignments in the facility, although several classes, especially in art history, utilized our resources in local history.

Additions to the collections, with new totals, are as follows:

	Added	Total
UW-L Theses	28	306
UW-L Seminar Papers	65	1229
UW-L Action Learning Projects (catalogued as WX)	10	10
University Archives	65	--
Rare Books	435	9012
Wisconsiana	159	2762
Vertical Files	94	1431
Oral History Interviews (reels)	64	675
Photographs	6414	27368
Color Slides	640	2210

It is interesting to note that while the number of graduate theses remained almost exactly the same over the last two years, the number of seminar papers decreased by over half. A new category of graduate paper, the Action Learning Project of the College of Education, is included among the listings for the first time.

We continue to add photographs to both the general historical categories and the steamboating collection at a rate of over one hundred per week. One of the major acquisitions of locally significant photographs was the donation of over three thousand photos and several hundred glass plates by the heirs of Josephine Rehfuss, whose house and belongings were sold at auction this spring. Processing of this collection is expected to take several months as time is available.

No more volumes of Voyages to the Inland Sea, the annual edition of midwestern poetry, are planned as this is written. Last year's edition, volume eight, was a particularly trying experience, and increasing problems with costs and state regulations make further publication unlikely. Sales

continue for those editions still in print.

Indexing of obituaries in the La Crosse Tribune continues for both current and retrospective coverage.

Our efforts toward organizing and preserving our maps are proving very useful. In some cases, maps bound with books are being removed, cross-referenced, and treated for conservation. To date, 166 maps have been treated and encapsulated. Our map index format and drawer organization systems were used as models in a special map workshop held in Michigan by the Midwest Archives Conference.

According to the well-known riverboat historian, Captain Frederick Way, Jr., Murphy Library's steamboating collection is now the second-largest in the United States. Several directories and guides now cite Murphy Library as the major source of steamboat photographs and information. The Nebraska State Historical Society advises that our collection surpasses theirs for Missouri River steamboating. A research organization in Holland recently inquired about our holdings, and indicated an interest in having the entire collection duplicated and sent to Holland. We declined to participate in this venture.

The local history photograph collections are being increasingly used for decorative and educational display purposes. The most recent request was from a restaurant in Beatrice, Nebraska, which will use four of our riverboat pictures. In La Crosse, at least eight retail establishments have decorated with enlargements from this collection.

#### STAFF

At the end of December, Viola Oertel retired from her position as library technician. As this is written, the library has not been permitted

to fill this vacancy. Virginia Kreyer, who had previously worked in special collections under a CETA grant, and who now works half-time in the serials department, began working half-time here in early 1980. Sally Averkamp, who also had previous experience in special collections, began a half-time schedule here as LTE. These "temporary" arrangements still prevail, with these two capable women performing a variety of tasks.

Student assistants during the year were Kristine Aasen, Julia Gardner, Patrick Geraty, Evelyn Haefs, Rose Lento, Laura Nygren, Kevin Ronnie, Judy Schmeister, Becky Smith, and Paula Wilson. Evelyn Haefs, who graduated this summer, has enrolled in library school at Minnesota, where she will specialize in archives training. The special collections department depends heavily on the skills and responsible help of these students.

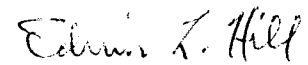
#### SUMMARY

The need for increased storage space may soon be resolved; offices recently vacated by the Black Abolitionist Papers project will probably be available for expansion by this department. These offices were created with temporary walls at the east end of the second floor stack area, and access to this area can be easily arranged from our own adjacent facility. The new space may lend itself to a compact storage arrangement. With records and boxes now stacked on top of shelf ranges, on the floor, and in every corner, such additional space will be welcome. It will also permit us to arrange certain collections in a much more logical manner, for faster access by the staff and our patrons.

The tasks undertaken by the staff reflect the needs of long-term conservation, collection-building, public service and accessibility. We will continue to emphasize those functions which encourage use and usefulness to

both the university community and the wider community of citizens and scholars. The assistance of all these people, and especially the staff of Murphy Library, is acknowledged with our gratitude.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edwin L. Hill".

Edwin L. Hill  
curator

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - LA CROSSE  
AREA RESEARCH CENTER  
ANNUAL REPORT 1979-1980

Registrations for the Area Research Center totalled 71, down from 128 last year. The number of actual registrants was 44, compared with 46 last year.

The supporting collections of Wisconsin books, vertical files, oral history interviews, and photographs received slightly more use this year.

Our holdings in the supplementary collections increased to the following levels: Wisconsin books, 2762; vertical files, 1431; oral history tape reels, 675; photographs, 27368. The latter category increased by thirty percent, thanks in large part to a donation of over three thousand photographs by the heirs of a local woman.

There were no full-class term projects impacting on the facility this year, although one instructor continued his assignments involving local architectural history. Most of the significant research during the year came from such areas as women's studies, railroad history, university and unit histories, genealogy, and steamboating history. Although the observation may be premature, it appears that there has been a slackening of interest in genealogical matters.

The steamboating collection continues to attract national attention, and the staff certainly spent more time responding to telephone and mail reference requests in this area. We are now considered to have the second-largest collection of riverboat pictures in the United States. The Nebraska State Historical Society recently advised that our collection of Missouri River boat pictures exceeds theirs in size. Ralph DuPae, who provides the

field work for this project, has had considerable success in acquiring or borrowing materials. His extensive travels around the country have resulted in useful contacts and valuable collections, and he is clearly our best asset in this project. The good reputation of DuPae and this project has been the most significant factor in our success.

The ARC staff provided 29 tours during the year. These are considered an important part of the task of the facility, in that they contribute to both use and donation. Aside from individual and class tours, the facility was visited by several area historical societies and civic organizations. The curator also addressed several groups off-campus and was interviewed about area history on a local radio station.

The curator was consultant or advisor to the following projects: La Crosse Tourist Bureau's River Center facility, a Winnebago Indian history collection project, the Kickapoo Valley Association film project, the La Crosse Area Society for Historic Preservation awards committee, the La Crosse Historic Sites Commission, and the Winona, Minnesota River Center project.

The ARC staff completed a name index of the first ten years of city tax records, continued obituary indexing of both current and retrospective issues of the La Crosse Tribune, and moved into our second year of map indexing and conservation. The latter project has processed 166 maps to date; these maps are considerably more accessible now, and their longevity much enhanced.

Although the transfer has not taken place yet, the ARC will soon acquire a considerable quantity of records of the La Crosse School District. John Fleckner of the Society staff assisted in an inventory of these records, which will be transferred as the District offices move to different quarters.

Also with Fleckner's assistance, the ARC has received approximately eighty volumes of records from the La Crosse County Treasurer's Office. These are comparatively recent records, and were transferred with the cooperation of County Treasurer Lucille Nohr, who will soon retire.

Completion of the processing of the Martindale papers, totalling approximately fifty boxes, permitted the return of this significant collection to La Crosse. Kathryn Stallard of the Society staff was primarily responsible for the processing and description of the set. The Martindale collection must certainly rank as one of our most valuable (and archivally difficult) acquisitions in recent years.

Our most pressing problem may soon be resolved. We have long needed additional space, primarily for storage. With the conclusion of the Black Abolitionist Papers Project on campus, the offices vacated by that project are now available. These offices, which adjoin our own area, are now being measured for compact storage shelving. This space will relieve our most critical need.

#### STAFF

Library technician Viola Oertel retired at the end of 1979, and the library has not been permitted to fill that vacancy. We have, however, two half-time persons working in the department who are experienced in ARC duties: Virginia Kreyer, who worked here under a SHSW CETA grant two years ago, and Sally Averkamp, who has worked at intervals in the ARC in several capacities for nearly ten years. The temporary nature of this arrangement is not satisfactory, but we have been able to maintain services and programs. The facility was open fifty-two hours per week during regular session.

The statewide fiscal situation, which involves a 4.4 percent cutback for all agencies, will surely impact on services and staff here. The decrease in student help and work study allocations will probably result in fewer hours of service during the next year.

#### SUMMARY

The year has been one of continuing growth in the collections, in services, and attention to established programs. There were no major curricular efforts utilizing the collections. Gradually, the use of the ARC by off-campus patrons has increased, as has the donation of small collections and books. Mail and telephone reference requests have increased; these tend to be more time-consuming than the in-person situation. The staff has become more proficient in the various aspects of research and conservation, as each staff member has a fairly defined area of expertise.

Cooperation with other agencies has increased to the advantage of all. The next decade may see more close attention to matters of shared resources, both within and without the ARC-State Historical Society network. For an ARC so close to Minnesota, there is much to be said for a cooperative arrangement involving research centers on both sides of the Mississippi River. The proximity of La Crosse to Winona, Minnesota, is particularly suggestive, and this association will be encouraged.

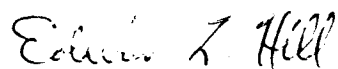
The perennial problem of storage space should be considerably alleviated in this next year. The new area will include both shelving and work areas, so that we can return some of the public tables to public use.

Matters of conservation and preservation received much attention during the year, and this will continue. It is characteristic of such projects that the problems of physical condition and accessibility of

these materials are worse than we anticipated. Our efforts in correcting these problems are correspondingly useful in an immediate way.

Finally, the ARC is increasingly viewed as a community and regional resource. The administration of the facility should respond to this view. Our role as member of a network is our strongest asset, and our goals should include the strengthening of the network as well as our own center. It is gratifying, however, to observe that this center has become a traditional resource to a widening community.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edwin L. Hill".

Edwin L. Hill  
curator