SUMMER MEETING RECALLED

The care and handling of phonorecords provided the general topic for the opening day of this year's summer meeting. The morning session, "So You Have Musical Recordings in Your Library - Now What?", was an open discussion conducted by Ruth Watanabe and Jean Bowen. Members of the audience were about equally divided between public and academic libraries, and they exchanged views and information in a wide variety of areas, including arrangement of facilities, equipment problems, borrowing policies, and mono versus stereo.

Following a break for lunch, Olga Buth chaired a panel discussion, "The Record Library: Organization and Services." Gerald Gibson spoke on the problems of selecting and acquiring records. Stephen Matyi dealt with the care of discs and methods of making them accessible to library users. Olga Buth reported on the replies to the questionnaire concerning record analytics (strongly in favor of the use of analytics) and questioned the strict application of the Anglo-American Code to record cataloging. She also suggested that MLA issue a pamphlet to aid the librarian starting a phonorecord collection.

The third session of the day was sponsored by the Association of Recorded Sound Collections, with Philip Miller presiding. Elizabeth Hartman presented a brief historical survey of early recording, record collecting and the Association of Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC). Ida Rosen, of the ARSC Education and Standards Committee, described standards for discographies, phonorecord manufacture, playback equipment, and the cataloging of archival collections. David Hall, editor of the APSC Journal, spoke briefly of the publications of the Society.

Friday morning's business meeting included an announcement of recent studies, reports and publications of interest to MLA members. These included the Newsletter, the Midwest Chapter's publication series, and several studies of MLA by graduate library school students. The results of a study by Nancy Filter for Kent State University will be reported in a future issue of Notes. Members discussed whether MLA's summer meeting should be held in conjunction with the ALA convention. It was generally felt that the present practice should be continued, and that closer cooperation between MLA and ALA in regard to meeting arrangements was desirable.

Luncheon in the Alhambra Room of the Howard Johnson's Motel provided a respite from formal meetings and an opportunity to socialize. Speaking on the topic "Looking Beyond Your Budget", Edward Waters gave several stimulating and entertaining suggestions to librarians hoping to attract gift material to their collections.

The final session of the meeting, "Music Library Buildings: Expectations and Realities", furnished practical information for librarians who may be moving or expanding their collections. Mary Wallace chaired the panel and provided a select bibliography on music library buildings and equipment. James Clapp, Boston architect, stressed the need for cooperation and communication between librarian, architect, and builder. He illustrated his frequently amusing remarks with slides of the proposed Harvard Music Library. Slides also formed a part of Elizabeth Olmsted's presentation of the problems and advantages in the five-year old library at Oberlin College. Robert Walsh, an administrative assistant at Harvard, spoke of practical considerations in the planning of departmental libraries.

Two days of papers, discussions and library shop-talk in beautiful, downtown Atlantic City were brought to a congenial end with a reception sponsored by the Contemporary Music Project.
SHELF-LIST/CLASSED-CATALOG PROPOSAL

The Cataloging and Classification Committee has submitted the following detailed proposal with the request that you read it carefully and bring your comments to the Toronto meeting or send them to the chairman of the committee, Donald Seibert, Music Library, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210.

This proposal is based on two premises:

1. That L.C. subject headings for scores generally provide excellent coverage of FORM (Sonatas, Variations), SPECIAL TEXTS (Te Deums, Magnificats), and SPECIAL TOPICS (Easter music; Shakespeare, William--Musical settings).

2. That L.C. subject headings for scores generally provide awkward and unsatisfactory coverage of musical MEDIUM. Forms are constantly interposed between the reader and the medium. For example, a reader searching for "Violin and piano music" will have to check a potential total of 20 subjects, scattered all over the card catalog - Chaconnes (Violin and piano) Sonatas (Violin and piano), etc. - before he has covered his subject.

L.C. has no such difficulty in its own Reference Division because it does not use its own score subject headings, which are provided on the printed cards solely for the subscribers' benefit. Instead, L.C. uses a classed catalog based on the "M" schedule. (For a description of L.C.'s classed catalog for music, see the article by Virginia Cunningham in Library Resources and Technical Services 8/3, Summer 1964, 285-288.)

Here a simple reference covers the topic: Violin and piano music

H217-223

The Cataloging and Classification Committee is recommending that libraries follow L.C.'s example by making their shelf-lists available to the public as classed catalogs for the medium analysis of their music collections.

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By logical extension, if the work of any subject heading is done equally well by the shelf-list, why not discard the subject heading and refer readers to the shelf-list? For example, Sonatas (Violin and piano) are covered both by the subject heading of the same name and by M219. Why not discard the former and refer readers to the latter? (On the other hand, the subject Sonatas (Flute and piano) is not duplicated by the shelf-list and ought to be retained in the main catalog.)

Therefore, the Cataloging and Classification Committee is recommending that libraries adopt a shelf-list/classed-catalog approach for both medium analysis of their collections and for any topic covered equally well by the shelf-list and by a subject heading in the main catalog.

For such an approach to be both clear to the reader and thorough, two steps would be necessary:

1. A series of guide cards should be issued, such as Violin and piano music see the shelf-list, sections M217-223. These cards would be filed in subscribers' public catalogs, directing readers to the appropriate sections of the shelf-list. The cards would probably be made available through L.C. When the guide cards were filed, a number of subject cards would automatically become obsolete and could be withdrawn from subscribers' catalogs at that time.

Although L.C. printed cards would continue to carry all music subject headings, those headings which duplicate the work of the shelf-list would be marked with a symbol for easy identification and discard.

2. Sometimes L.C. classes a piece of music so that it falls outside of its normal or typical shelf-list location. This happens for items in Nagels Musik-Archiv, which are classed together in M2 as an historical set regardless of form or medium. In such cases, L.C. should provide an extra reference number referring to the normal location. (L.C. develops these numbers anyway for use in its own classed catalog.) A subscriber would then file an extra reference card in his shelf-list in the normal location.
The following may serve as an example:

Bach, Johann Christian, 1735-1782
Sonatas, violin & piano, op. 16

Bach, Johann Christian, 1735-1782
Sonatas, violin & piano, op. 16, no. 1-2
Zwei Sonaten, Op. XVI, Nr. 1 und 2 für Klavier, Flöte oder Violine...
(Nagels Musik-Archiv, Nr. 1)

1. Sonatas (Violin and piano)--To 1800.
M2.N25 Nr. 1
M219a M242a

In this instance, two reference numbers have been provided under the call number: M219 for Sonatas (Violin and piano), and M242 for Flute and piano music.

The subscriber would make two reference cards for this set. The first would have M219 and the second M242 typed or pencilled in an upper corner (to distinguish these cards from regular shelf-list cards). These extra cards would be interfiled in the subscribers' shelf-list by reference number, author and title.

Note that subscribers pick up an extra benefit here. The compactness of reference numbers permits the indication of an alternative medium, while with the longer subject headings, only the first choice can be given.

There are a few more bits of technical information about the system which would make for smooth conversion by interested libraries. These will be issued in a brochure if the plan gathers enough support to be put into effect by L.C.

NEW PUBLICATION

Music Cataloging Bulletin is the title of MLA's latest publishing venture. The Bulletin will contain additions and changes in the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules and in the Library of Congress subject heading and classification schedules as these changes affect music cataloging. It will also include internal decisions made at the Library of Congress which are not rules and, therefore, would not otherwise be published.

It is anticipated that information will reach music librarians faster and more directly through the Bulletin than via Library of Congress publications. The Bulletin may also bridge the gap which exists when music librarians do not receive such publications as Cataloging Service from their technical services divisions.

Two issues will be published on a trial basis, with a subscription form attached. If there is a sufficient response the Bulletin will become a regular MLA publication.

WINTER MEETING, TORONTO, FEB. 5-7

A new feature will be introduced at our coming Winter meeting. One session will be devoted to open committee meetings. This results from the expressed desire of committee chairmen to learn the opinions of a broader segment of the membership, and from the interest expressed by a number of MLAers to know more about committee activities. For practical purposes, the committee meetings will be held simultaneously, thus making it necessary to choose between attending a single meeting of primary interest and sampling several. We will be most interested in your reactions.

To date the following committees have requested open meetings: Automation, Buildings and Equipment, Cataloging & Classification, Institutes, Publications, Record Analytics.

These first three issues of the Newsletter have been prepared by the Publicity Committee. In the future the Newsletter will have an editor. Bennet Ludden will be the Newsletter's first editor. If you have any comments, suggestions, or materials for the Newsletter, send them to him at: The Juilliard School of Music, Lincoln Center, New York, N.Y. 10023.
COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Many changes have been made in the committee structure this year, and this has been accompanied by a substantial number of changes in committee personnel. The following is a list of committees as presently constituted.

Standing Committees

Membership: D. Roberts, chmn., G. Bowles, W. Weichlein, K. Logan

Program, Winter 1970: R. Watanabe, B. Procter
Program, Summer 1970: O. Buth, W. Hulsker

Special Committees

American Music History Project: R. Jackson, chmn., R. Crawford, H. W. Hitchcock
Automation: C. Bradley, chmn., R. Golden
Bibliographical Description: S. Sommer, chmn., I. Cazeaux, H. Lenneberg, J. Colé
Buildings & Equipment: M. Wallace, chmn., M. Andukovich, W. McClellan
Cataloguing & Classification: D. Seibert, chmn., D. Weinraub, K. Creelman, F. Bindingn
Compilation of Reference Questions: N. Ratliff, chmn.
Constitution & By-Laws Revision: V. Lowens, chmn., B. Atherton, L. Farrar, D. Leavitt
Continuing Education: L. Coral, chmn., M. Silver
Institutes: W. McClellan, chmn., C. Steuermann
Microforms: F. Blum, chmn., W. McClellan, A. Kuhn, F. Freedman, O. Albrecht
Nomination: T. Wagenknecht, chmn., V. Martin, R. Johnson, R. Wienpahl, S. Utudjian
Professional Training: W. Weichlein, chmn.
Publicity: B. Greener, chmn., M. Hogan, G. Hill
Record Analytics: O. Buth, chmn., G. Gibson, V. Cunningham, R. Morris
RILM: F. Campbell, chmn., M. Peterson, E. Kenton, M. Gould
Selection & Acquisition: F. Taplin, chmn., E. Bacon, M. Barclay, R. Bousquet, J. Bundy, S. Utudjian, C. Walden
Statistics: L. Engelbrecht, chmn., G. Romine, T. Wagenknecht
Survey of Musical Instrument Collections: W. Lichtenwanger, chmn., R. Cunningham, D. Higbee, C. Hoover, P. Young

Joint AMS/MLA Committees

Reprints: B. Brook, chmn., H. Lenneberg, S. Beck, G. Reese, J. Pruett
RISM: H. Spivacke, chmn., P. H. Lang, G. Reese
Translations Center: S. Van Solkema, chmn., L. Solow, E. Southern