

Rockefeller University

Digital Commons @ RU

Historical Documents, Letters, Publications

Library History

1948

Brief Report on Library Space, 1948

Library Staff

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.rockefeller.edu/historical-documents-letters-publications>

THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

66TH STREET AND YORK AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N.Y.

March 8, 1948.

Dear Mr. Flinn:

Attached is a brief report on the space, or lack of it, available for taking care of the two libraries of the Department of Animal and Plant Pathology. I hope that it isn't as appalling to you as it is to me!

Sincerely,

Ethel Jenkins

Mr. Waldo R. Flinn
Rockefeller Institute
New York, N. Y.

In the report of the library for 1945/46 attention was called to the need for more shelves for both books and periodicals. With the addition of both of the libraries of the Department of Animal and Plant Pathology in the near future the problem becomes an acute one. It seems wise, therefore, to present a few facts as to the space available and the number of books and periodicals from Princeton which it appears we will have to find room on the shelves for.

With a few exceptions it has been assumed that no duplicate material will be moved from either library. On this basis a check with the volumes in the main library was made and it was found that from the library of the Division of Plant Pathology it will be necessary to move 1588 bound periodical volumes and 173 textbooks. At an average of 7 volumes per foot, this means that, with no space for growth considered, we will need a minimum of 252 feet, of this amount 227 feet would be needed for the periodicals and 25 feet for books. A minimum allowance for growth would add 65 feet to the space needed for periodicals, 1 foot for each separate title, a total of 292 feet.

Although the Division of Animal Pathology is the larger of the two libraries it contains more material which is duplicate of that in the main library. Of their bound periodicals it will be necessary to move 1084 and 473 books. This means 155 feet for the periodicals and 68 feet for the books, a total of 223 feet. With an allowance for growth of the periodicals, at 1 foot per title, an additional 40 feet must be added, making a total, for periodicals, of 195 feet.

Two years ago the library had in the two alcoves, in which are shelved the textbooks, 255 feet of vacant shelves. However, as was pointed out, of this amount 130 feet are too high to reach unless special ladders are provided. On the 125 feet of shelves remaining, the library has, in two years time, used up 43 feet, leaving 82 feet to take care of the 646 books from Princeton, which, at a minimum, will need 93 feet of shelving.

Room for growth in the stacks, in which are kept the bound periodicals, is practically non-existent. Two years ago there was available 120 feet of shelving

Memo to Mr. Flinn

January 17, 1949

The library has a total of 463 pigeon-holes in which to keep the last number of each current journal received.

At the present time the library is receiving 466 current journals and has been saving pigeon-holes for 37 more journals which have not resumed publication since the war, but which will probably do so. This has resulted in the need for space for 503 journals and has necessitated doubling up on pigeon-holes. At present we have found it necessary to put more than one journal in 62 pigeon-holes.

The inclusion of the library of the Division of Plant Pathology will add 66 current journals to those already being received by us, or a total of 569 journals.

When the Division of Animal Pathology is moved another 25 current journals must be accommodated.

Eliminating the 37 pigeon-holes now being saved the following results are obtained:

No. of pigeon-holes available		462
No. of journals received	466	
No. to be added from Plant Path.	<u>66</u>	
Total library & plant	532	
No. of pigeon-holes needed at once		70

No. of journals to be added from Animal Path. 25
Total no. of pigeon-holes needed for future use, in addition to 463 already available, 95.

Storage space for unbound journals numbers 363 tin boxes. At present 97 boxes contain more than one journal.