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U.D. Libraries Top Quarter Million Volumes

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DAYTON, Ohio, November 25, 1968 --- The number of books in the University of Dayton libraries has topped a quarter of a million copies, Brother Raymond Nartker, S.M., Director, revealed in his annual report issued this week.

This is an increase of more than 100,000 volumes since a five-year development program was inaugurated four years ago. Library expenditures increased from $225,000 annually to $600,000 during the same period. Personnel increased from 19 to 45. Of this number, 21 are listed as professional personnel, with degrees ranging from bachelors to doctorates.

New 8-story Library

Groundbreaking for a new eight-story library is scheduled for February. It will have space for 800,000 volumes and will incorporate new concepts in library design. Gone will be the institutionalized atmosphere of libraries of the past, replaced by club-like decor and arrangement. There will be enough space in the new building to accommodate the library needs of 2500 students at one time.

Library Automation

The first step toward complete automation of library operation was taken a year ago, Brother Nartker reported, with the installation of a record-keeping system manufactured by Standard Register of Dayton. The system delivers a printed readout of a borrower's name and address, the date a book is borrowed, and when it is due. Instead of the usual library card, the new system uses punched identification cards carried by UD students and faculty. The perforations correspond to the owner's social security number.

U.D. Pioneered System

U.D. was the first college to use the new library system. Since its inception, about twenty college librarians have visited the local campus to study it in operation. The most recent visitors were from Laval University in Quebec, Canada, and from the University of North Carolina.

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Ohio Pool of College Libraries

The U.D. Library is also participating in a new plan that will pool the resources of all Ohio college libraries. It will make it possible for students in any of the participating schools to query a computer in Columbus about the availability of any book, and where it may be found. Queries and answers will be instantaneous, through the use of electric typewriters tied into the central catalogue in Columbus via telephone lines.

Damico Joins Library as Systems Specialist

James Damico has joined the U.D. Library staff as a systems specialist, serving as a liaison between the library and the University's computer facilities. He will analyze existing library policies and procedures and help design and implement new and improved library systems. He recently attended a three-week institute on "Systems Study as Related to Library Operations" at Renssalaer Polytechnic Institute. Mr. Damico is president-elect of the Dayton Chapter of the Special Libraries Association.

Anniversary of U.D.'s First Library

Brother Nartker noted that his optimistic progress report comes during the 40th anniversary year of the Albert Emmanuel Library, dedicated in 1928. The first separate library structure on campus, the stately building with the tall portico and classic pillars began its career with only 25,000 volumes. It was the gift of Victor Emmanuel, a former student and founder of Avco Corp. (WLW radio and TV, farm machinery etc.) as a memorial to his father.

The new $4.7 million library will be build adjacent to the parent structure and will be connected to it with a tunnel.