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LIBRARY ACTIVITIES
OF
REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAMS

February 1969

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Preface

This report was begun at an information exchange breakfast meeting during the Medical Library Association Convention in Denver in June 1968. Prior to that meeting a letter was sent to all Regional Medical Program Coordinators asking them to identify the person handling library matters in their Region. A subsequent letter was sent to the designated library representatives inviting them to attend the breakfast meeting to exchange information on Regional Medical Program library projects. About 25 people responded to the invitation, and 58 people, representing 35 Regions, attended the breakfast.

The meeting was hosted by Dr. Estelle Brodman, Chairman, Library Sub-Committee of the Bi-State Regional Medical Program and Miss Aleene Schneider. The attendees were asked to briefly summarize library activities planned or operational under their Regional Medical Program. The meeting comments were taped, and subsequently transcribed and then sent to the participants for their editing, approval, updating, and additional comments. A brief report of the session was made to the Executive Council of the Medical Library Association at the end of the Convention.

A follow-up letter was sent in December to Coordinators of all Regions from whom replies had not been received at that time. Some telephone follow-up was also necessary to those who had not returned their edited comments. The first set of reports from the meeting participants, along with the replies to the follow-up, comprise this report. Some editorial prerogative has been exercised by the Division of Regional Medical Programs and the Editor.

Although some of the content of the individual reports is outdated or perhaps historical at the time of this distribution, it is felt that this conspectus of activities with 51 of the 55 Programs reporting will be interesting and useful to those Regions which are planning library projects, and may indicate new directions for those which have operational library projects.

It is hoped that another information exchange session will be held at the Medical Library Association meeting in October 1969, with one or two representatives from each Region, to further encourage the involvement of medical librarians in the purposes of Regional Medical Programs.

(Miss) Aleene Schneider
Editor and
Research Assistant, Medical Planning
Bi-State Regional Medical Program

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ALABAMA

The Alabama Regional Medical Program is submitting an application for a pilot project concerning the library as an information center. The emphasis is on providing the physician with current information quickly and regardless of his geographical location. There is a designated library with five satellite libraries and direct communication between the University of Alabama Medical Center Library and the project library. In order to obviate the need for surveys by various groups and organizations, one group has been designated by the RMP to survey the medical and paramedical areas in each county. As hospitals are surveyed, the library is included.

The Alabama RMP has held meetings with everyone on the various committees and with individual persons and groups interested in the RMP. They have emphasized the role of the physician in the RMP and the need for his support of all the programs.

Contact:

Mary Ann Knotts
University of Alabama Medical Center

ALBANY

The Albany Regional Medical Program has funded equipment for the establishment of self-instruction center in four hospitals: Albany Medical Center, Ellis Hospital (Schenectady), Berkshire Medical Center (Pittsfield) and Vassar Brothers Hospital (Poughkeepsie). This program is being developed by members of the Department of Postgraduate Medicine. The self-instruction centers will be equipped with a medical juke box for recordings, video tapes, carousels of slides, etc. Operation will begin in Fall 1968. RMP funds will service the centers initially, but each hospital will contribute annually to the operation in order to keep the material current and to become self-sufficient in this area. The self-instruction center for Albany Medical Center will be housed in the library when the new facilities are completed and will be part of the library operation. In all hospitals, the self-instruction centers will be administered by the library.

A special committee of consulting librarians is now being established to plan library services for the Region and to develop proposals for RMP considerations. This Consulting Group for Library Services had its first meeting October 7, 1968. An initial survey of hospitals in the Region included data about libraries and their resources.

Contact:

(Mrs.) Ursula H. Anker
Librarian
Albany Medical College

ARIZONA

The Arizona Region is partially funding some activities of the Arizona Medical Library Network. This is conceived as a four-point program entailing (1) a communication network, (2) literature supply service, (3) field consultation service and (4) conference and training support.

Planning includes preparation of a grant request for funding to support the Arizona Medical Library Network, with TWX and collect-call telephones for request input, involving five institutions (three of which are non-medical). In addition to these recommended locations for installation, use of TWX Service existing at governmental institutions such as Veterans Administration hospitals and Public Health Service Division of Indian Health hospitals is planned.

Free photocopies will be supplied to health sciences personnel throughout the State from six medical "resource" libraries. There is partial funding by the Arizona Regional Medical Program.

Field services will include consultation at the local (hospital) level by a trained medical librarian funded by the RMP. The Field-Librarian will work with other RMP personnel in a current awareness program which is in the early developmental stages.

A spokesman for medical libraries has had planning meetings with the Coordinator and Associate Coordinator of the Arizona RMP in Tucson. Support is being requested for workshops of the Medical Library Group of Arizona, and for field-librarian participation in State-wide meetings of health professions (with stress at the latter on "selling" our services).

Surveys were deemed unnecessary due to the obvious and known lack of resources and services presently existing as well as the fact that the medical library community is so small and works so closely together that most survey type data were well known among the group.

Contact:

David Bishop
Librarian
College of Medicine Library
University of Arizona

ARKANSAS

When Program funds become available an incoming Wide Area Telephone Service line will be provided to facilitate and expedite the library services presently offered to the health science personnel of the State by the University of Arkansas Medical Center Library. Information on the program and its service will be disseminated by means of a newsletter and talks before health science association.

Consulting services are offered to assist in the planning, establishment and upgrading of hospital medical library facilities.

A computerized union list of serials and union catalog of monographs will be begun in the second operational year to list medical library holdings throughout the State and thus facilitate service and promote cooperation among the libraries.

A series of workshops to train hospital personnel to manage library collections are planned, to begin as soon as operational funds are available. The coordinator of Medical Library Service is currently working on a manual of basic medical library practice to assist this program.

In April 1968, 80 of 112 hospitals returned a survey questionnaire seeking information on available medical library resources in Arkansas. The results show that the majority of hospitals have a collection. It is usually neither large nor up-to-date. Great interest was shown in a program for training personnel to handle hospital collections and in setting up collections where there are none. Interest was also shown in a medical library resources network in Arkansas. The information received from the survey was used to evaluate and devise methods of improving medical library resources for the health science personnel of Arkansas.

Contact:

(Mrs.) Sally G. Kasalko
Coordinator of Medical Library Service
Arkansas Regional Medical Program

BI-STATE

The Bi-State Regional Medical Program library committee is a subcommittee of the Continuing Education Committee and chairman of the former sits as a member of the Continuing Education Committee. The library committee is composed of representatives of the Washington and St. Louis University Medical Center Libraries and other medical librarians in the area.

On September 12, 1968, the Bi-State RMP hosted a meeting sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee at the St. Louis Medical Society. Chiefs of Staff, Administrators and Librarians from hospitals in the Region were invited. A joint session of all attendees was held in the morning and included presentations by the Bi-State Planning Director and Associate Directors for Heart, Cancer and Stroke. In the afternoon separate sessions were held for (1) Chiefs of Staff, and (2) Administrators with Librarians to discuss suggestions for possible projects. Based on information about other RMP library activities and suggestions at this meeting, each attendee was asked to submit five ideas listed in order of their interest and priority. Attendees were also asked to send in copies of the AHA library survey for use as planning information.

As a result of this meeting several ideas emerged. Those ideas of interest to the greatest number were workshops for librarians, consultation for hospital libraries by librarians with more knowledge and experience, and a union list of serials. Workshops on Journals were held at hospitals in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, for the southern part of the Region and at Springfield, Illinois, in the northern part of the Region, where the faculty were medical librarians from the St. Louis area. The programs also involved participation by physicians and administrators in local area hospitals speaking as library users. A Workbook and Syllabus was developed by the Library Sub-Committee for use at these and future workshops.

At the workshop at Cape Girardeau on November 21, faculty were from libraries of Washington University Schools of Medicine and Dentistry. The workshop held in Springfield, Illinois, on January 23 had faculty from the VA Hospital and St. Louis Medical Society Libraries.

An operational proposal has been submitted by the library sub-committee to establish a region-wide information system for health professionals based upon a cooperative hospital library network. The system will consist of an information and assistance network emanating to satellite libraries from the core medical library resources and services which already exists in the region. All Bi-State hospitals will be invited to participate. Provisions are made for subscriptions to literature indexes, workshops, a field librarian and additional user and resources surveys.

Contacts:

(Miss) Aleene Schneider
Bi-State Regional Medical Program

Dr. Estelle Brodman, Chairman
Library Sub-Committee

CALIFORNIA

The University of California-Los Angeles Biomedical Library is cooperating with the UCLA Regional Medical Programs (California RMP-Area IV) and has proposed a Medical Library and Information Service for nine counties. Based on a sub-regional network, the Service would provide physicians and allied health professionals rapid and easy access to the published literature. It would complement the National Library of Medicine's plan for regional medical libraries by concentrating on service to the health professional in his efforts to better the treatment of patients.

Local hospital information points backstopped by a number of RMP-assisted "center libraries" are proposed as first resorts with resources at the Biomedical Library and key libraries in other California RMP Areas available to fill more sophisticated requests. The Service would be integrated with the proposed Pacific Southwest Regional Medical Library for Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada. Maintenance of useful existing patterns of cooperation is emphasized. Basic to the Service is a network developed through extensive cooperative arrangements and including an information dissemination component and a communications component utilizing TWX and telephone. Continuing education for medical libraries and consultant services would be offered by a qualified professional staff.

A pilot project was initiated in mid-1967 to test the feasibility of a sub-regional network. In the past year four widely-spread hospital libraries in outlying areas were designated "center libraries" and serve health professionals in eight counties. (Center libraries are located in Fresno, Bakersfield, Ventura and Santa Barbara. Locations in Los Angeles County are being proposed.) The information dissemination and communication components of the network have been stressed. Health professionals or their librarian may telephone the center library to request photocopies of recent articles, short bibliographies or ready-reference service. Requests which cannot be filled at the center library are referred by teletypewriter to the Biomedical Library. Quarterly workshops on librarianship are held for the center librarians.

In late 1968 increased effort was devoted to cooperative arrangements, and a state-wide council was formed to coordinate RMP library services. The council consists of the librarians of the eight California medical schools and the librarian of the Los Angeles County Medical Association. The council has on its agenda the consideration of joint objectives and is studying areas of cooperation.

A survey of hospital library resources in the UCLA-RMP area has been conducted and a summary of the results is available upon request.

Contacts:

Louise Darling, Biomedical Librarian
University of California - Los Angeles

Nelson J. Gilman
Assistant Biomedical Librarian

CENTRAL NEW YORK

Central New York Regional Medical Program funded the distribution of SUNY Union List to all hospitals in the Region along with information on how hospitals and their staff members can use library loan service to request books or periodicals, and use photocopy service to receive free Xerox copy of articles. Special ILL printed request forms are provided by the RMP to each library. A new list of new acquisitions and up-to-date information is distributed each month to each hospital. As a result of the above, a twenty times increase in requests for materials has been seen at Upstate Library.

A librarian will be hired to work in the Upstate Library for the Regional Medical Program, currently recruiting for this program.

Plans for a workshop have been made, but are dependent on operational funding.

Contact:

Irwin H. Pizer
Director of the Library
State University of New York
Upstate Medical Center

COLORADO-WYOMING

The Colorado-Wyoming Regional Medical Program is in the planning stage and has no library segment to its program so far. There has been a suggestion that bibliographies could be provided on heart, cancer and stroke, using the MEDLARS tapes.

Contact:

Dr. F. Brad Rogers
University of Colorado Medical Center Library

CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut Regional Medical Program, through a survey and discussions between CRMP officials, the Yale and University of Connecticut medical librarians, and Lee Ash, Library Consultant, has established the need to provide services and allocate resources.

The Connecticut RMP is supporting a library project to determine the relationship of this project to the Region #1 Medical Library. Researchers have the opportunity of also observing the relationship between the Regional library and possible sub-Regional activities.

Contact:

Sam Hitt
Medical Library
University of Connecticut

FLORIDA

No library activities are funded by the Florida Regional Medical Program at this time. A grant application is being written for RMP support for expansion of present services and to include some new ones.

No surveys at this time, but plans are being made for future surveys with the Office of Continuing Education, and the Executive Secretary of the Florida Hospital Association. An initial planning meeting and workshop have been held at the Health Center Library. A study has been done of the increase in interlibrary loan for period July 1966 - July 30, 1968. Present services include xerox copies, bibliography service limited to three to five year periods, TWX service, outgoing Wide Area Telephone Service line, union list of serials distributed to hospital librarians for use in interlibrary loan.

Contact:

Elizabeth S. Eaton
Assistant Librarian
J. Hillis Miller Health Center Library
University of Florida

GEORGIA

The Georgia Regional Medical Program is supporting an interlibrary loan program through which the A. W. Calhoun Medical Library, Emory University, Atlanta, and the Medical College of Georgia Library, Augusta, will provide free photocopy in lieu of loans of original materials to the institutions participating in the Georgia Regional Medical Program. During the first year of operation each institution will receive a maximum of 3000 pages free. The medical school libraries will refer loan requests they are unable to fill to appropriate sources. The program will be reviewed and modified as indicated after the first year. Funds have also been allocated for the preparation of a union list of serial holdings of the two medical school libraries; provision will be made for the addition of the holdings of other libraries.

The Task Force on Continuing Education of the Georgia Regional Medical Program is the body responsible for planning library services. Several Task Forces mentioned in their reports the need for better interlibrary loan services, and this is the first library service to be offered.

A modification of the questionnaire prepared by the Tompkins-McCaw Library, Medical College of Virginia, and the University of Virginia Medical Center Library will be used in an RMP survey of the libraries of the 121 institutions participating in the Georgia Regional Medical Program. The results of the survey are anticipated in the late spring of 1969.

The Institute on Hospital Libraries, sponsored by Georgia RMP was held in Atlanta on December 12-13, 1968. Faculty included librarians from Medical College of Georgia, Emory University Medical Library and Dental Library, National Communicable Disease Center Library. Session topics

were "Interlibrary Loan Transactions", and "Building Collections".

Problem clinics were held on "Starting a Hospital Library", "Administration and Public Relations", and "Special Problems of Hospital Libraries". A general session was presented by the Chief, Facilities and Resource Division, National Library of Medicine, on "Implications of the Medical Library Assistance Act for Small Medical Libraries". The Education and Training Coordinator for the Georgia RMP presided at general sessions and gave a presentation about the Georgia Regional Program.

Contact:

Miriam H. Libbey, Librarian
A. W. Calhoun Medical Library
Emory University

GREATER DELAWARE VALLEY

Library activities have been along the geographical lines specified by the Regional Medical Library Program (RMLP) rather than the Greater Delaware Valley Regional Medical Program.

The College of Physicians has recently been designated as the Regional Medical Library for an area including all of Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey, and Delaware with a total population of about 14,000,000.

The Greater Delaware Valley RMP has no specific library committee, but there is a close liaison with its Continuing Education Committee.

In one sense, the RMLP has been "operational" for some time since the College of Physicians supplied about 40,000 loans within the Region during the year prior to its official designation as the Regional Medical Library. The RMLP actually represents a strengthening of existing service patterns, which in this particular area have been regionalized for some time. The College is currently engaged in some planning and in a survey, which will establish the existing transactional pattern for Interlibrary loans within the Region. In conjunction with planning the RMLP, the College of Physicians has held a number of meetings, two of which involved several hundred representatives of the Region's libraries.

Contact:

Richard H. Orr, M.D., Director
Institute for Advancement of Medical
Communication
(For Elliot Morse, Librarian
College of Physicians)

HAWAII

There is no library project associated with the Hawaii Regional Medical Program at this time.

Contact:

Masato Hosegawa, M.D., Director
Regional Medical Program of Hawaii

ILLINOIS

No library project planned for region at this time. John Crerar Library in Chicago has been designated the NLM Regional Medical Library.

Contact:

Wright Adams, M.D.
Program Coordinator
Illinois RMP

INDIANA

Proposed projects include extension of existing WATS line system. The terminal at Indiana University School of Medicine Library is a part of the State Library teletype network and is on an open line to terminals in public libraries in twenty-two Indiana cities and to the State Universities. In U-M, the computer-produced list of Library's serial holdings has been sent to all Indiana hospitals and TWX terminals with funds received through a Medical Library Resources Grant. It is hoped that these and other traditional services could be funded through the Regional Medical Program grant being proposed.

In addition, assistance would be offered to small hospital libraries in Indiana in order to bring about better services for their medical staffs. This goal would be reached through seminars in library techniques for personnel in such libraries, and a consulting service designed to assist in development of good library collections. A survey of hospital library collections with the intention of eliminating duplication, developing cooperative acquisitions, and improving interlibrary loan cooperation among hospital libraries is planned, as is a union list of the serials available in Indiana hospital libraries.

To aid physicians directly, selective dissemination of information services such as Chemical and Biological Activities and four other alerting services are available on a state-wide basis. Audio visual tapes describing the use of certain important reference tools such as INDEX MEDICUS have been prepared

by the School of Medicine Library staff and they are working on a KWIK index to Public Health Service publications, National Research Council publications and certain military medical publications. The KWIK INDEXES would be distributed to all hospital libraries and teletype terminals in Indiana, and the audio visual tapes would be sent to any interested institution on request.

It is felt that the above can best be realized through the establishment of library extension services with sole responsibility in these areas and Regional Medical Program funds are being sought to that end.

Contact:

Miss Mary Jane Laatz, Librarian
Miss Virginia Gillette, Assistant to
the Librarian
Indiana University Medical Center

INTERMOUNTAIN

A full-time librarian began July 1, 1968 at the University of Utah Medical Sciences Library, and is the extension librarian participating in the Intermountain Regional Medical Program. A grant application for support of a Library Project is being written.

A number of requests for assistance in improving medical information communication and resources have been received from hospitals and physicians in the Region. The IRMP has established an information service in order to make available to practicing physicians current medical literature appropriate to their needs in stroke.

The IRMP tumor registry will bring the most pertinent selected medical references from a bibliography of current references on the registry's hospital and physician reports following the listing of cancers of each specific site. These references will change at least every six months.

Contact:

(Mrs.) Marion A. Chavez
Extension Librarian
Intermountain Regional Medical Program

IOWA

The Iowa Regional Medical Program is presently undertaking development of a comprehensive continuing education program for practicing physicians in Iowa and is contemplating a multi-faceted education program that would include such items as the provision of visual education equipment for use by physicians at their convenience; utilization of the Wisconsin Regional Medical Program's "dial access" taped information system; a coordinated speaker's bureau; and communication system between medical libraries of community hospitals and the College of Medicine Library and the National Library of Medicine MEDLARS.

Contact:

William J. Schaeff
Field Consultant
Iowa Regional Medical Program

KANSAS

Kansas Regional Medical Program has an Office for Library Services with a staff of five who act as consultants and advisors to those who wish to establish medical library services or to upgrade existing services. They render services to other programs of the KRMP such as compiling bibliographies and providing a "ready" reference service supplying needed materials. The program also serves health professionals in other Kansas towns on a limited basis. In the future, with an enlarged staff and collection, the goal of the program is to make its collection and holdings known and to give professional medical library services to all health personnel in the State at very low cost.

A meeting held in April 1968, in Merriam, Kansas, was attended by 35 people interested in medical library services for the State, and included hospital administrators, librarians and physicians. Plans for state-wide medical library services were explained in discussions led by four RMP staff members. Other topics included the goals and progress of the KRMP and Regional Medical Library system of the National Library of Medicine.

Contact:

Desi B. Schaeffer
Executive Director for Library Services
Kansas Regional Medical Program

MAINE

The Maine Medical Center Library works closely with the New England Regional Medical Library Program at Countway. A letter has been published in the Maine Medical Association Journal offering free library service to all physicians in the State and to all hospitals. Many requests for free photocopying service are received from Maine hospitals. Some TWX is provided to various centers, but most rely on Countway library resources. Consultant service is offered free to any library in Maine, on a one-day basis. In addition, a training program is conducted for secretaries in the management of libraries in hospitals that are served by the Maine Medical Center. Audiotapes and books are loaned to physicians outside the area who come to medical conferences one day per week.

A proposed survey of existing libraries is being conducted through the Maine Regional Medical Program. An outline of the survey and a sample survey letter are available.

Contact:

Eleanor Cairns, Librarian
Maine Medical Center

MEMPHIS

The Memphis Regional Medical Program has a Library Science and Services Committee which is currently in the process of developing plans for continuing education programs in library science and biomedical communication.

Contact:

Andrew Lassle, Ph. D.
Professor and Chairman, Department of
Medicinal Chemistry, University of
Tennessee Medical Units.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON D.C.

The Metropolitan Washington D.C. Regional Medical Program at this time does not have a library project associated with its Program. It hopes to establish a library and build library resources to be located in the Regional Medical Program administrative office based in the Hospital Council of the National Capitol Area, Inc., pending awarding of funds from the Division of Regional Medical Programs.

The Region plans to provide library services to the 31 hospitals in

the region, which include four Federal hospitals -- one Veterans Administration and three service hospitals (Army, Navy and Air Force). The four are included in as much as they are cooperating with the Regional Medical Program educational program and have representation on the Committee on Continuing Medical Education. All members of the Committee are physicians.

Contact:

Otis L. Anderson, M.D.
Associate Coordinator
Continuing Medical Education
Metropolitan Washington D.C. Regional
Medical Program

MICHIGAN

The Michigan Regional Medical Program is attempting to develop a project for document delivery services and a hospital health sciences library education program; and is concerned with the problem of providing library service in areas where no such service exists.

Contact:

Vern Pings, Medical Librarian
School of Medicine Wayne State
University

MISSISSIPPI

The librarian at the Rowland Medical Library, University of Mississippi Medical Center, serves on the Committee for Continuing Education for the Mississippi Regional Medical Program, and the library has a small amount of money from the Regional Medical Program for a survey of licensed hospitals (greater than or equal to 60 beds) consisting of a preliminary short questionnaire followed by an interview.

The survey concerns itself with planning information on resources and personnel, and hospital training and related programs requiring library service. The survey follows closely the one done for the Northeastern Ohio RMP by Dr. Alan Rees, and the information is being gathered by the librarian and a second senior staff person at the library of the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Contact:

Irene Graham, Librarian
Rowland Medical Library, University of
Mississippi Medical Center

MISSOURI

The University of Missouri Medical Library is providing library services to the Missouri Regional Medical Program and also offering xeroxing at 5¢ a sheet to practitioners. Dial access tapes on current medical topics are available. The MRMP has had a MEDLARS Strategist as of September 16, 1968, who works in conjunction with the Fact Bank project. This project utilizes microfiche retrieval via computer (Mosler Prototype). The Fact Bank will contain information on a number of subjects and a thesaurus will be used to get to the information. A proposal is being prepared for the RMP to evaluate the clinician's information needs.

Contact:

Charles Sargent, Ph.D., Assistant Director
Medical Center Computer Program Faculty
School of Library and Information Science

MOUNTAIN STATES

The Mountain States Region lies between three National Library of Medicine Regional Medical Library areas and the Program is receiving substantial interest from all three sources. All three are eager to serve some part of the Mountain States Regional Medical Program. However, there is presently no library activity under Mountain States Regional Medical Program sponsorship.

Contact:

John W. Gerdes, Ph. D.
Coordinator for Operational Programs
Mountain States Regional Medical Program

NEBRASKA - SOUTH DAKOTA

The resources and services of the University of Nebraska Medical Library have been extended to all health personnel in the State for many years, supported by University funds and the Nebraska State Medical Society contributions, and more recently by the Medical Library resources grant. There is no RMP funded library activity at this time.

Contact:

(Mrs.) Bernice M. Hetzner, Librarian
Professor of Library Science
University of Nebraska Medical Library

NEW JERSEY

A library project is in the early stages of development. An informal Library Project Committee, which includes representatives from New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry, New Jersey Academy of Medicine, Rutgers University, the combined libraries of the State Department of Health and Agriculture and the Hackensack Hospital, has been meeting. The preliminary purpose of the Library Project is to strengthen hospital libraries throughout the Region to better equip them to provide physicians with up-dated information on Heart Disease, Cancer, Stroke and related diseases.

The Committee is exploring various aspects of library services, such as electronic aids to information transmittal, linkage with Regional Libraries in Philadelphia and New York, and the relationship of library services to continuing education.

Contact:

Alvin A. Florin, M.D.
Coordinator
New Jersey Regional Medical Program

NEW MEXICO

The New Mexico Regional Medical Program plans to establish a Health Science Communication Information Center and an agency to operate the center. The center will have inbound Wide Area Telephone Service (WATS) telephone line by which reference will be provided for some 80 hospitals in the State of New Mexico. They plan to use other media, such as Wisconsin-type dial access tapes, etc.

Most of the hospitals to use the telephone line have less than 50 beds, but vary from eight to 600 beds, and have only two medical libraries with professional staff outside the Albuquerque area to serve them so that the need of providing some type of inbound WATS for on-call reference requests was well established.

Contact:

Robert T. Divett, Ed.D., Librarian
New Mexico Regional Medical Program
School of Medicine University of New Mexico

NEW YORK METROPOLITAN

A resource library was begun by the New York Metropolitan Regional Medical Program about January 1968. It is a reference library of publications pertinent to Regional Medical Programs, established for research use by the Regional Medical Program staff.

Contact:

Mrs. Anne Cugliani, Director
Research and Evaluation
Peter Marano
Research Associate
New York Metropolitan Regional Medical
Program

NORTH CAROLINA

The Extension Library Service of the North Carolina Regional Medical Program began July 1, 1968. The general provision of interlibrary loans by the three medical school libraries to hospitals or individual physicians has been a fairly well established procedure for years. By coordinating and publicizing this traditional kind of service the Extension Librarian can bring about a considerable increase in the amount of information dispensed to local physicians and can stimulate demand for information in a new group of physicians.

Another aspect of the program, of great interest, involves a fairly high level bibliographical reference service to a limited test group. Hope is that future development will lead to a small core of two or three librarians who will provide bibliographical reference service for any physician in the State, and that loan service spontaneously requested will continue to be provided cooperatively by the medical school libraries with reimbursement coming from the Regional Medical Program. A brochure about the extension service, including assignment of hospital library referral inquiries to one of the three medical center libraries, is available.

Two workshops have been held, each one coordinated by a Medical School librarian.

Contact:

G. S. T. Cavanagh, Project Director
Duke University Medical Center Library

Mary Ann Brown
Extension Librarian
Duke University Medical Center Library

NORTH DAKOTA

The Medical School library provides photocopy service for any doctor who wants journal articles. Other Programs such as Dial Access Tapes have developed through the mechanism of the Regional Medical Program.

Contact:

Theodore H. Harwood, M.D.
Program Coordinator
North Dakota Regional Medical Program

NORTHEAST OHIO

The Northeast Ohio Regional Medical Program is primarily directing efforts at gathering data and on expanding services and area through the on-going library system; a similar effort is being carried on at Wayne State University.

A survey of hospital library resources, personnel and training programs has been done by Dr. Alan Rees of Case Western Reserve University.

Contact:

Robert Cheshier
Cleveland Health Science Library.

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

The Northern New England Regional Medical Program is developing an in-house filing system for pertinent reprints. It is not providing or planning library services for people outside the Regional Medical Program staff at this time.

Contact:

Dr. Jeanette Forsythe
Director of Planning and Evaluation
~~Northeast Ohio~~ Regional Medical Program

Northern New England?

NORTHLANDS

There is no operational library project in the Northlands Regional Medical Program at this time. Projects will be planned in order of priorities after orientation to the status of health science libraries and librarians in Minnesota.

Possible future areas for planning include: Survey, workshops, free xeroxing, consulting librarians, meetings of librarians, TWX, Dial Access Tapes, literature supply service, and collect calls into medical center for requests from outlying areas.

Contact:

Mary Jane Ryan, Liaison Librarian
Northlands Regional Medical Program

*275 Johnson St, St. Paul, Minn
55101*

NORTHWESTERN OHIO

The Northwestern Ohio Region is within an area (Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio) which is planning Regional Medical Library. The Regional Medical Program is in the process of preparing an operational grant proposal to survey the regional hospital libraries and assist them in augmenting their facilities in order that they may qualify for participation in the National Library of Medicine Regional Medical Library complex.

Staff plan to visit the Wisconsin Regional Medical Program to survey the Dial Access Tape facility for use as central information resource by physicians and nurses in the Northwestern Ohio Region.

Contact:

C. Robert Tittle, Jr., M.D.
Program Coordinator
Northwestern Ohio Regional Medical Program

OHIO STATE

Traditional Library Services are provided to the Ohio State Regional Medical Program by the Ohio State University College of Medicine Library. The MEDLARS facility serves the University campus at this time.

Contact:

Dr. Charles White, Associate Director
Ohio State Regional Medical Program

OHIO VALLEY

A survey of present resources and needs of hospital libraries throughout the Ohio Valley Regional Medical Program Region has been proposed to be performed by new personnel recruited with Ohio Valley Regional Medical Program funds and added to staffs of the Medical Center resource libraries (University of Kentucky, Louisville, and Cincinnati). The survey would be similar to one done by Case Western Reserve University.

A program of information dissemination concerning library extension services presently available from the three Medical Center resource libraries will be developed in conjunction with the above survey.

The Regional Medical Program also proposes new programmed expansion services available to community hospitals from the Medical Center resource facilities. The new program will include an expansion of direct services, the provision of local consultation, and the training of hospital library personnel.

Consultative guidance would be available on the development of appropriate core collection for hospital libraries and assistance would be given also in determination of appropriate staffing patterns, and in the development of facility and equipment need plans. Extension service librarians will need to be added to each of the three resource libraries and will function as assistants for extramural affairs to university Medical Center libraries. These extension services libraries will also initiate a program of in-service training for existing hospital library personnel as well as those to be recruited, and will also develop seminars for continuing education of hospital librarians and technicians. Essential to this total effort will be recruitment of appropriate and adequate library staff for community hospitals participating. Long term plans call for linkage to resource libraries for telecommunications by TWX network.

The Task Force on Library Services will be continued and will recruit a Library Services Coordinator to give full-time attention to regional coordination. The training programs for community hospital library technicians will be developed through the cooperative efforts of the three extension services librarians under the direction of the Library Service Coordinator.

Each community hospital will be specifically related to an appropriate resource library of its own selection.

Contact:

Joan Titley, Librarian
University of Louisville

OKLAHOMA

An Oklahoma RMP Task Force Advisory Committee on Biomedical Information composed of 2 physicians, a nurse, and six librarians has been formed and serves as consultative group to the Coordinator of Regional Planning for Library and Information Services. A medical library newsletter is being published to foster communication among hospital librarians in Oklahoma. A statistical survey of hospital library resources has been done which indicates that their resources are far from adequate and that many hospital libraries are staffed part-time by people with no professional library training.

Pending approval of operational funding, there will be a clinical reference librarian in the Oklahoma Medical Center Library to perform on-call reference and literature searches for any health professional in the State.

Contact:

(Mrs.) Patricia Smith
Coordinator of Regional Planning for
Library and Information Services
Oklahoma Regional Medical Program

OREGON

The librarian of the University of Oregon Medical School and the Program Coordinator of the Oregon Regional Medical Program have been members of the advisory council of the Pacific Northwest Regional Health Sciences Library at the University of Washington.

Contact:

Margaret E. Hughes
Librarian
University of Oregon Medical School

ROCHESTER

The Rochester Regional Medical Program has no funded library projects. At a meeting of medical librarians from the Region held last winter at the University of Rochester Medical Center and hosted by the University librarian, Willis Bridegam, discussions on what could be done to the existing communications systems took place.

Contact:

Ralph C. Parker, Jr., M.D.
Program Coordinator
Rochester Regional Medical Program

SOUTH CAROLINA

No library project associated with South Carolina Regional Medical Program at this time. However, several potential projects under discussion, include:

- a) Extension of Library services throughout the State from the Medical College of South Carolina.
- b) Establishing a student learning center, and
- c) Developing an extensive audio-visual library at the Medical College.

Contact:

Charles D. Kimsey
Associate Coordinator for Continuing
Education and Communication
South Carolina Regional Medical Program

SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY

The Susquehanna Valley RAG has approved a proposal submitted by Hershey Medical Center for creation of a Susquehanna Valley RMP Information Service. Plans for the Information Service call for expansion of Hershey's present library services. The new service will include preparing bibliographies, performing literature searches, supplying photocopies of medical literature, loaning texts, and conducting workshops for training of library personnel.

In addition to serving physicians and others in the Susquehanna Valley Region, the project would offer library services to the 12,000 members of the Pennsylvania Medical Society. A package library service offering reprints from recent medical journals has been available through the Pennsylvania Medical Society for many years. In July, 1966, this service was assumed by the Hershey Medical Center. The present program is an expansion of the past efforts of the Pennsylvania Medical Society and the Hershey Medical Center.

Contact:

Richard B. McKenzie, Director
Susquehanna Valley Regional Medical
Program

TENNESSEE MID-SOUTH

The Library Project of the Tennessee Mid-South Regional Medical Program proposed by Vanderbilt University Medical Center Library in conjunction with five other libraries (Meharry Medical College Library, Oak Ridge Associated Library, University of Tennessee Memorial Research Center and Hospital Library, the Veterans Administration Center Library at Johnson City, and Baroness Erlanger-Hamilton County Library in Chattanooga) is to establish a regional biomedical library program. This library program will be readily available to serve all health professionals in the Region and will have special relationship to the area education office being developed by the Tennessee Mid-South Regional Medical Program.

The biomedical libraries of the above mentioned institutions are cooperating to form the primary nodes for a network of library resources in the area. The bases of selecting the six libraries have been their willingness to participate, their resources and their geographical locations. By means of telephone, teletypewriter, messenger, and mail, library information will be transmitted to health professionals as needed. In response to several individual proposals for regional library services, the study group for Education and Communication organized a Regional Biomedical Library workshop on November 4, 1968. At this meeting approximately 35 health providers and librarians assessed the library resources in the Region and

agreed that, using the proposals as guides, a regional biomedical library program should be planned, taking into consideration the need for increasing the library resources at or near each area office. This would make it easier for the area coordinators to promote continuing education in their respective areas.

The workshop demonstrated that in general, the libraries of community hospitals are ineffective because of limited books and journals, poor physical facilities, and inadequate personnel. The workshop revealed that health care providers need two categories of library information: (1) a specific item of information related to an immediate problem and needed promptly, (2) more complete information about a problem less urgently needed but requiring considerable literature searching.

Because the latter type is presently available in only two or three biomedical libraries in the Region and requires extensive resources, the following immediate major objectives of the Regional Biomedical Library Program are: (1) to provide rapid access to biomedical data and to printed documents for all physicians, dentists, nurses and other members of the health professions in the geographical area served by the Region, (2) to organize the personnel and resources of the six major library centers into a cooperative organization serving the area education centers, (3) to conduct orientation clinics for the health professionals to demonstrate library services, (4) to serve as the beginning of a regional network for information transfer that will evolve beyond library services, (5) to conduct in-service medical library instruction for non-professional personnel in charge of book and journal collections in hospitals and medical centers of the Region.

The Regional Medical Library Program will be coordinated by an advisory council composed of Executive Committee representatives from each area and the regional medical librarian as an ex-officio member.

Among the services to be provided are (a) ready-reference, an automatic answering and recording system, WATS to and from the library at Vanderbilt which will provide basic telephone communication, (b) loan of books and journals, or photocopies if feasible, without charge and with twice daily delivery schedule by bus or mail, (c) retrospective literature searches and bibliographies prepared either manually or by MEDLARS facility at Alabama or the National Library of Medicine, (d) current awareness either by the above techniques or by distribution of contents pages of new journals in selected subject fields, (e) a computer-based union list of serial title holdings in the cooperative medical libraries, (f) clinics for health-professionals and already skilled librarians, (h) editorial services preparing articles for publication, (i) translation of foreign language material, (j) distribution of current acquisitions to health professionals and to area education centers and development of a computer-based book catalog of current acquisitions.

Contact:

Robert M. Metcalfe, M.D.
Acting Director
Tennessee Mid-South Regional Medical Program

TEXAS

The Texas Council of Health Science Libraries is presently evaluating the biomedical resources of the State of Texas, a direct outgrowth of which will be a Union List of Biomedical Serial Holdings in the State. The Council is applying to the Regional Medical Program for funds to perpetuate this project over the next three years.

Two Hospital Librarian Training Workshops, one in Houston and one in Dallas have been held by the Texas Council of Health Science Libraries as a result of influence of the Texas Regional Medical Program.

Contact:

C. Lee Jones, Director
Medical Branch Library
University of Texas, Galveston

TRI-STATE

Tri-State Regional Medical Program comprises Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. The only Region-wide library service available to the Tri-State area at this time is available through the New England Regional Medical Library Service (NERMLS) funded by the National Library of Medicine. Services rendered by NERMLS to other RMP areas that it serves (such as Connecticut, Maine and the Vermont portion of the Northern New England RMP) are being developed in close coordination with RMP-supported library development programs in these regions of New England. A task force made up of representatives from the major medical library centers in each of the four RMP areas of New England is about to begin meeting on a regular basis to ensure maximum coordination of development and operation.

NERMLS is presently working with the Post-graduate Medical Institute (PMI) in Boston on a library development program for community hospitals in the Tri-State Region. PMI is a non-profit educational institution sponsored by the Massachusetts Medical Society in collaboration with the medical schools and other health agencies in the Tri-State area. PMI is primarily concerned with the continuing education of physicians and has been intimately involved with the Tri-State RMP in the development of educational programs for this region.

Under a subcontract with NERMLS, PMI has developed a Core Library for community hospitals. The Core Library is a sophisticated and flexible collection of medical books and journals which encompasses all the conventional medical specialties but which is modest enough that it can be purchased and displayed by even the smallest of community hospitals. PMI has concluded agreements with nineteen hospitals in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire

and Rhode Island which have agreed to purchase and shelve the collection, to hire a part-time person to service the collection and to participate in an experimental program to evaluate the collection's usefulness. In return for the hospitals' participation, NERMLS will operate a five-day training institute for the newly-hired library attendants and will provide special-priority back-up consultation and library services to the cooperating hospitals. The Core Library is described in detail in an issue of the New England Journal of Medicine (February 23, 1969).

Contact:

T. Mark Hodges, Director
New England Regional Medical Library
Service

VIRGINIA

The Virginia Regional Medical Program is planning a project to support a State-wide program of library service.

The Library, Medical College of Virginia, is offering a comprehensive program of library service to 21 hospitals affiliated with the Medical College of Virginia in its Continuing Education Program. These are community hospitals scattered throughout the State. Services include interlibrary loans, reference service, consultation visits, assistance in establishing a 5-year journal file in a selected list of titles, assistance in selection of core collections, and training of personnel.

One conference of administrators, Directors of Education and library personnel of these hospitals has been held. One two-day workshop presenting a general overview and introduction to library procedures was held. Instructors for this workshop were members of the Medical College of Virginia library staff. A two-day cataloging workshop will be held October 17 and 18 with visiting faculty to assist the local staff. Two-day workshops in other areas of library work are planned to meet the needs and requests of the library personnel of the 21 hospitals. Preparation of an instruction workbook and syllabus for each type of workshop is completed.

This program is supported by the Medical College of Virginia's Resource Grant from Medical Library Assistance Act and will serve as the feasibility study and project of the anticipated State-wide program.

Contact:

(Mrs.) June Leath Huntley, Director
Tompkins-McCaw Library
Medical College of Virginia

WASHINGTON - ALASKA

The Washington-Alaska Regional Medical Program is involved in establishing Alaska's first medical library and is working with the Pacific Northwest Regional Medical Library. The Program Coordinator of the Washington-Alaska Regional Medical Program is a member of the Pacific Northwest Regional Health Services Library Advisory Committee, and the Director of the Library serves on the Regional Medical Program Consulting Committee.

Contact:

Gerald J. Oppenheimer, Director
Pacific Northwest Regional Health
Sciences Library

WESTERN NEW YORK

The library portion of Western New York Regional Medical Program is still in planning phase. A meeting was held on December 6, 1967, in which pro tem officers were elected and there was agreement that a current awareness service was the first priority for a regional information program. The machinery for such a service already exists and is used for Health Sciences Faculty Teaching Staff. It may prove to be useful for physicians in outlying areas.

Contact:

Erich Meyerhoff
Librarian
Health Sciences Library
State University of New York at Buffalo

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

The University of Pittsburgh Health Professions Libraries propose to establish a Library System through which information concerning heart, cancer, and stroke in the published literature will be made more accessible to the physician and other health personnel. The System will be a cooperative arrangement establishing a mechanism for the sharing of library resources among hospitals and for linking hospital and medical libraries more effectively with the Health Professions Libraries of the University, the Mid-Eastern Regional Medical Library in Philadelphia, the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, and other resource collections.

To expedite the sharing of resources, a union list of journals in libraries in the Region will be compiled and distributed. From this list, librarians will know where they may request photocopies or loans of journals for their readers. Hospitals will exchange materials on a local level where possible, and then forward their unfilled requests to the System staff in Pittsburgh. A reference service will be provided and a staff member of the System will be trained to formulate literature searches for MEDLARS so that both brief and comprehensive searches will be more readily available. A consulting service for librarians will offer advice on ordering, cataloging, and reference techniques, together with library visits and training sessions.

The Library System will function as a continuing education effort enabling health professionals to become aware of current information and to obtain retrospective surveys of published information as well. A study of the use of the System should indicate some of the information needs and resources of the Region.

Contact:

(Miss) Catherine M. Brosky
 Librarian
 Graduate School of Public Health
 University of Pittsburgh

WEST VIRGINIA

On May 9, 1968, a workshop was held at the VA Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia for persons in charge of Hospital libraries in the Tri-State Ohio Valley area, and involved personnel from two Regions and three states. The workshop was sponsored by the Veterans Administration Hospital, West Virginia Medical Center Library and the West Virginia Regional Medical Program.

The following objectives of the workshop were agreed upon in a planning session of representatives of the organizations involved: (1) to determine existing services provided by each area medical library, and resources of each as related to one another, for purposes of more effective inter-library loan;

(2) to provide a "short course" on fundamental training for "acting librarians" of community hospitals; (3) to determine what materials hospitals can obtain from West Virginia and Marshall Universities, and how the university libraries might be tied into the proposed inter-library exchange services.

Library technicians of all hospitals within two hours driving time of the Huntington VA Hospital were invited. No fee was charged for those attending this day-long session.

The program included speakers from the sponsoring organizations and a considerable period of time in the afternoon was assigned for a "practical session" on reference materials, tools, bibliographies and instructions for inter-library loans with free exchange between speakers and attendees.

Of the 30 hospitals who were invited to send one representative each, 8 sent 14 representatives. It was discovered that a few hospital administrators thought the emphasis was to be on the existing inter-library loan service and did not send anyone because they already knew about this service. It is thought better promotion might attract better attendance. Feedback from the workshop participants indicated there is a critical need for training of hospital librarian personnel, although no formal evaluation of the program was made. Two additional planning meetings have been held with hospital library leaders including the Director of Library Services of the Veterans Administration. Another such meeting will be held on March 7, 1969, at the VA Hospital in Clarksburg, West Virginia.

The results of a survey of the libraries of West Virginia Hospital, which was made by the American Hospital Association, will probably be analyzed at that meeting. The data concerning books, periodicals, use-ratio, etc., is being tabulated and will be the basis for a program of support which the West Virginia Regional Medical Program will propose.

It is anticipated that a program will be outlined to upgrade libraries of selected community hospitals (probably 9 or 10) which utilize the joint resources of this program and the VA Hospital system. Additionally, short courses in medical library science will probably be initiated for "acting librarians" of all community libraries desiring such training.

Contact:

James R. Young
Information Officer
West Virginia Regional Medical Program

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin Medical School Library has 40 years experience in providing service to the rural physicians, and because of the pattern of service and utilization already developed, is prepared to take off from a more advanced position than most others. New activities such as teleconferences, workshops, and bulletins have been undertaken with University subsidizing in expectation of grant support.

The teleconferences are funded by RMP through the Medical Communications Center and includes support for television time, distribution of materials, publicity, etc.

The library has asked for funds for (1) a series of four 1-day classes for untrained clerical level "librarians" in charge of health science laboratories in the state, one a week for four weeks -- The series to be held in four different areas in conjunction with the Library Science Division of University Extension, (2) production of a state-wide union list of serials, and (3) consultation to administrators and librarians.

One aim is to strengthen the network concept at all levels, encouraging each library to help its smaller neighbor and all to help each other. An example of this took place at a recent teleconference when a library manager expressed lack of knowledge and need for help in organizing a library. A nearby Veterans Administration librarian volunteered to assist. The librarians have started a journal exchange and the Madison group have done preliminary planning for a union list. Seven bulletins, each with a special current awareness or reference feature, a series of teleconferences and three articles in the Wisconsin Medical Journal have been produced; two of the teleconferences arranged for next spring are taped programs with telephone participation of the speaker from National Library of Medicine.

At this point request for funds had been favorably reviewed by the Post-graduate Education of the Wisconsin RMP and an application was formulated with the Planning Committee.

Contact:

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William S. Middleton Medical Library
University of Wisconsin