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- Lesure, François, ed., *La Renaissance dans les provinces du nord*. (Picardie, Artois, Flandres, Brabant, Hainaut). Paris: Editions du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, 1956. 219 pp. 6 pl. 1100 f.
- Lucena, Luis de, *Repeticion de Amores*. Ed. by Jacob Ornstein (University of North Carolina Studies in the Romance Languages and Literatures, No. 23). Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1954. \$2.
- Taylor, Archer, *Book Catalogues: Their Varieties and Uses*. With a list of early private library catalogues still valuable today. Chicago: The Newberry Library, 1957. xii, 284 pp. \$6.50.
- James Westfall Thompson's famous study of *The Medieval Library*, first published in 1939 and long out of print, has been reprinted by offset by the Hafner Publishing Company, 31 East 10th Street, New York 3, N. Y. viii, 702 pp. \$12.50. This valuable and comprehensive survey attempts to cover the field from the early Middle Ages to the end of the manuscript period in the Renaissance. It is invaluable as a survey of the field and as a starting point for specialized studies. Bibliographical footnotes add to its usefulness, and some readers will certainly want to interleaf it with additions and later bibliography. The only contribution toward a new edition which the publishers have been able to make, is the addition of Blanche B. Boyer's valuable review, reprinted from the *Library Quarterly*, x (July, 1940), 20 pp., which points out several errors of fact and of method (inevitable in so large an undertaking) and suggests topics not covered in this volume.

Library News

The Houghton Library [Harvard University] *Report of Accessions for the Year 1955–56* begins with an account of early maps of Siberia and Russia, almost all of the seventeenth century, followed by some examples of early Russian printing, including a copy of the 'Ostrog Bible' of 1581, and two Russian manuscripts. The library has also acquired 560 pieces of

Russian music, presented by Bayard L. Kilgour, including the first edition of the libretto of *Boris Godunov* with one of only six copies of the unexpurgated vocal score.

Among some notable medieval manuscripts is one in Catalan of Ramon Lull's *La taula general de totes sciences*, an autograph letter of Luigi Pulci dated August

23, 1466, and Pope John XXI's *De conservanda sanitate* and other treatises including Jordanus Ruffus's *Liber mariscalcie equorum* with many marginal drawings of the examination and treatment of horses.

Of the incunabula thirty were received, half of them unrecorded or unique in Stillwell, including Paris de Puteo, *De re militari et de duello* [Naples, 1476–77]; Bishop Alfonso de Cartagena, *Doctrinal de los cavalleros* (Burgos, 1487); the Marquis de Santillana's *Cancionero* [Saragossa, ca. 1479–84], 2d ed. with poems by Gomez and Jorge Manrique; Geerard Leeu's illustrated edition of *De historie van deme vramen ridders Paris unde vā der schone Vienna des dolfjns dochter* (Antwerp, 1488), the only other known copy in Upsala; Christianus Wierstraat's *Historij des beleegs van Nuyszo* [Cologne, ca. 1476], the only complete copy of this celebration of Charles the Bold's siege of Neuss; the first Low German edition of Guido delle Colonna's *Bok der historien vā der veestoringe der stat Troye* [Lübeck, ca. 1478]; the only copy recorded in this country of Premierfait's translation of Boccaccio's *Le cas et ruyne des nobles hommes et femmes* (Paris, Jean Dupré, 1484), apparently the first illustrated book printed in Paris (Pynson borrowed nine large woodcuts for his 1494 edition); the first complete edition of Guillaume de Deguilleville's *Le romant des trois pelerinaiges* (Petit and Rembolt, ca. 1500); Jacobus Magni's *Sophologium* (Gering, Crantz, and Friburger, 1475); and *La cōfession frere Olivier Maillard* [Pierre Levet, ca. 1490]. There is also the only known copy printed on vellum of the first Latin-Italian version of *Aesopus moralisatus* [Verona, 1479]; the first edition of Boccaccio's *Nymphale Fiesolano* [Venice, ca. 1477], of which only one other copy is known; Lorenzo Spirito's *Alto marte* [Vicenza, 1489], a long poem in *terza rima* recounting the deeds of Nicolo Piccinino; the first edition of Petrarch's *Testamentum* [Venice, ca. 1498]; and Andreas de Esco-

bar's *Modus confitendi* [Rome, E. Silber, ca. 1495–98]. There is listed also a first edition of Dares Phrygius, *De excidio Troiae historia* [Cologne, ca. 1472]; and of Poggio's translation of Diodorus Siculus, *Bibliothecae historicae* [Bologna, 1472]; and of Johann Nider's *Fornicarius* [Cologne, ca. 1475] which contains the first biographical account of Joan of Arc; and of the *Hortulus animae* [Strasburg, 1498], important in the development of the Protestant liturgy.

Over 250 books printed in the sixteenth century in France, Spain, Germany, and Italy, 130 English books printed before 1640, and 12 manuscripts have been added to Harvard's tremendous collection. Among many interesting items are copies of the Rome editions of Machiavelli's *Discorsi* (1531) and *Historie* (1532) from different manuscripts, and antedating the Florentine editions of the same years; two firsts of Tasso, *Il Goffredo* (Venice, 1580), and *Il segretario* (Ferrara, 1587); Vives, *De subventionem pauperum* (Bruges, 1526), the first book to assert that the care of the poor is a civic responsibility regardless of heavenly rewards. Half a dozen works of Erasmus include several first printings of the enlarged *Adagia*. To a strong collection of the works of Campanella was added a letter and a copy of his first work, *Philosophia, sensibus demonstrata* (Naples, 1591); and Pico's *Examen vanitatis doctrinae gentium* (Mirandola, 1520). Among many works on the Reformation and Counter-Reformation are some notable records of the Council of Trent: a copy of the *Decreta* (Bologna, 1548) containing an account of the first twelve sessions was suppressed almost immediately; the *Translatio* (Bologna, 1548) giving the reasons, chiefly sanitary, for transferring the Council to Bologna, has a medical attestation by Fracastoro; and an unique copy of the *Canones, et decreta* (Rome: Aldus, 1564). Among the English books are additions to the collection of jest-books of Robert Chamber-

lain; William Morgan's Welsh Bible of 1588 with an inscription to David Powell; and Justus Lipsius' *De militia Romana* (Antwerp, 1602) with Ben Jonson's auto-graph signature. Among the manuscripts are a long and interesting letter by Sir Kenelm Digby explaining his conversion to Catholicism, and 'Meditations on the existence of God and the soul' by Lord Herbert of Cherbury. Neither manuscript has been published. Among 225 seventeenth-century books are 85 Mazarinades and many topical tracts on the death of Ravaillac and other events. There are many additions to French and Spanish belles-lettres and some Dutch books. There are several important volumes of

music including a copy of Nicolas Formé's *Musica simplex quatuor vocum* (Paris, 1638), which has been recorded as lost. Formé was the creator of the classical French motet.

Finally, among the English books of 1640 to 1700 are a notable collection of Pepys' books including his copy of Foxe's *Acts and monuments* (1684), and several of Pepys' own works, including two copies of the first printing of the diary (1825), and several manuscript documents and letters. Others represented are John Evelyn, John Bunyan, and William Drummond's *The most elegant and elaborate poems*, 1659.

Conferences

THE RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA held its spring meeting on April 13 in the University of California's Dwinelle Hall. The program consisted of a paper on 'Humanism in the Music of the Renaissance: North and South', by Professor Edward E. Lowinsky, assisted by a group of singers. After a lunch at the Faculty Club, Professor Edward F. Maylan read a paper on the 'Origin and Antecedents of the Term *Humanism*', in which he points out that not until the nineteenth century did it become a historical concept denoting the activities of the classical scholars of the Renaissance. It was not a simple derivation from the late fifteenth-century word *humanist*. Professor Lawrence V. Ryan spoke on 'Humanism and the New Latin Poetry in England', and Professor James S. Ackerman on 'The Iconography of the Capitoline Hill: A Study of Humanism in Architecture'.

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE held its annual meeting April 26 and 27, and presented a remarkably rich and varied program. Friday morning Miss Katherine Armstrong (Washington) read a paper on 'Tensions in Donne's Prose Style'; Miss Rachel Giese (British Columbia), 'Erasmus: 1466 or 1469'; A. C. Ham-