

The principles governing the arrangement of the books in the new rooms are influenced by the changed technical conditions. Instead of four different stack rooms, as in Hamburg, and instead of one consecutive series of shelving, as in Thames House, we now have to deal with what amounts to ten different rooms of varying size; that is to say, five rooms each consisting of ground floor and balcony.^x The difficulty in allocating the books is increased by the fact that only from two rooms is there direct access to the balcony, that is, there are stairs only in rooms 2 and 5. The balcony of room 3 is therefore very difficult to get at, because one has to go up one of the stairs and then walk back half the length of all the rooms.

x and equipped with book-cars, each of which forms a separate unit.

The main points which I have tried to work out are:

- 1) Ease of access for the reader in one section to all the books he is likely to want while working in that section.
- 2) No interference with the underlying principle of the whole organisation of the library; that is to say, I have tried to keep to the four sections: Art History; Language and Literature; Religion and Philosophy; History.
- 3) Since we cannot expect all our visitors to wend their way up and down and through the library, in order to see what books we have, to place our characteristic and show sections as much as possible on the ground floor.

Besides, space for extension has had to be allowed. I have reckoned this at 10% for the accessions of the past 18 months, and an additional 20% approximately. In order to gain this

space, it was decided to place all the periodicals in the corridor outside the library proper, in such a way that to the right and left of the room containing art historical books the art historical periodicals will be found, and so on.

My starting point was room 2, which is the main reading room, and which is ^{to be} devoted entirely to Art History, as being the section most used by our readers. The reader is assumed to enter by room 1, where Dr. Meier or one of the library assistants will be found. The ground floor of the first room is reserved for the bibliographical material which is used by the cataloguers, and those reference books which formed the bulk of our former Reading Room. I propose not to enlarge this section overmuch, placing there only dictionaries, biographies like the National Biography and the Biographie Universelle, encyclopaedias such as the Brockhaus, and the main reference books for certain fields of research, such as the Hastings Encyclopaedia of Religion and the Pauly-Wissowa. The principle which Dr. Wind wanted to embody in the Reading Room of Thames House - to make the Reading Room illustrate the whole system of the library on a small scale - is thus abandoned, and I propose that many of the books which were taken out of their proper sections in order to go into the Reading Room should be replaced in the appropriate sections.

The reader then goes into room 2, in which he is mainly supposed to work, and where he will find the whole of the section Art History. Beginning by the door through which he enters, and going round the room clockwise, he will find Psychology of Art, Literary Sources, Art Interpretation, Prehistory, Oriental Art, Archaeology, History of Archaeology (Nachleben antiker Monumente), Early Christian Art, Miniatures, and the whole complex of Mediaeval and Renaissance Art down to Dutch Art. It has thus been possible to place the main sections on the main walls (for instance, Renaissance, Italian, Spanish and French Art⁹⁰ on the shelves between the two doors). On the balcony reached by the winding stair, the reader finds next to the staircase Topography, and on the main wall Applied Arts, Illustration of Printed Books and Modern Art. There is plenty of space for extension in this room.

Remaining on the balcony, and going back towards room 1, he will find the main sections of what we call Social Life and Thought, that is, on the wall next to which he enters Folklore, Festivals, Theatre and Music; on the wall to his left German, Italian, Spanish, Burgundian and Dutch History of the Renaissance (Stadtkultur); and at the far end the small sections on the position of Women, Economics and Law, Public Opinion. If he does not want to pass on to the History section, the

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reader passes from the ground floor of room 2 to the ground floor of room 3, Dr. Wittkower's room, where most of the space is taken up by the cases containing the Photographic Collection. The shelves left free are those which are passed when going from room 2 to room 4, and here I have placed the whole of Italian, French, Spanish and English Literature. What is free of the wall next to room 4 is taken up by German and Dutch Literature.

Passing to room 4, which is the one to be occupied by Mr. Blunt, he finds that part of our section Language and Literature which we call Bildung; that is, starting from the door through which he enters and going clockwise, there is: Philosophy of Language, Encyclopaediae, Universities, Survival of Classical Authors etc., Imprese etc., Humanism, Travel, Cultural Exchange, and Geography. This last small section had to be taken out of the Natural Sciences for lack of space, but it will be remembered that it formed no integral part of the Natural Sciences, and we had always considered placing it somewhere else. On the last shelf towards the entrance to this room is the section on the Production and Distribution of Printed Books, together with the large and much used collection of Manuscript Catalogues.

Room 5 was the most difficult one to arrange. It was to contain our Magazin 2 at Hamburg, which comprised Religion,

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Natural Science and Philosophy. It was impossible to place all this on the ground floor of room 5, and I had therefore to make a selection which is of course open to criticism, as the conception of these three sections as a whole is in any case spoiled. Starting from the entrance and working clockwise, I placed Psychology, Anthropology, Comparative Religion, Ancient Religion. Then Magic and Witchcraft, Magic Technique, Medicine, Eschatology, Alchemy, Divination, Astrology, ^{After this} Judaism, Christianity, Reformation. This arrangement has the advantage of preserving at least some of the original ideas, and of having on the main shelves the show sections; for instance, Psychology etc., including Comparative Religion, Astrology, and the whole rather impressive sequence of Judaism, Christianity and Reformation. The disadvantages are ~~chiefly~~: 1. that Philosophy has no place in it. 2. that I have had to take several small sections out of their original context, but I do not think this will matter very much. The second winding stair is in this room, so it will not be difficult to get at the Philosophy section which, however, has been slightly enlarged. It has been made to include several sections for which there was no space where they originally belonged. But it will be noticed that this only applies to those parts which were not very well placed in any case. Starting from the

stairs and going clockwise the sections are: Philosophy in general; the Ancient East, which was formerly in the section Religion. The Ancient East with us always contained just as much History and Philosophy as Religion, so this alteration will not matter. Then comes Ancient Philosophy, and I propose to make use of this opportunity to correct a mistake in the former arrangement, of which we have often talked, viz. that Plato and Aristotle, including the translations and commentaries, should be placed here and not in the section Renaissance Philosophy.^x Then come Greek and Roman History, and Greek and Roman Literature. I expect that a good deal of criticism will result from this arrangement. I do not think it bad because in both these sections there are books which overlap with Ancient Philosophy, and it has always been rather difficult to decide which books should go to Philosophy and which to Literature and History. Besides, it will make it easier for people working in the field of Antiquity proper not to have it spread over three different sections. Then follows the small section on the Arabs, which anyhow includes History and Philosophy as well as Religion, and it then goes on with Jewish, Mediaeval, Renaissance, and then (the historical section of) Modern Philosophy. Here again it has been possible to allot the best shelves to the main sections.

x (This will not necessitate any change of press marks)

Khalon

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The remaining books, which are not very important, will be placed in the narrow passage on the balcony in room 4 (Mr. Blunt's) and the balcony of room 3, which is difficult of access. These two will contain what at one time we called "Selbstbesinnung", that is to say, Modern Systematic Philosophy, Modern Cosmology, Philosophy of History, Sociology, Memoirs, and Historical Fiction.

It will be seen that each room, and each part of a room is a self-contained unit, and I hope it will ^{still} be possible, when people take the trouble to walk through all the rooms and their balconies, to gain a survey of the whole system of the library. The difficulty of access to some parts cannot be avoided, and tables and chairs will be ^{in all the rooms} placed ~~not~~ only on the ground floor, but also on the balconies, for the convenience of readers in any particular section. In order to facilitate the finding of books by readers who do not know the library well, I propose to have a list of press marks with shelf places marked out and hung near the catalogue, just as we had in Thames House; and to display maps in all the rooms, each map showing the ground plan of the whole library on a small scale, and a ground plan on a larger scale of that particular room, with all the sections entered.