

Peter Boerner-Schwenke

*Paul Schwenke zwischen Amt und Zuhause*

Abstract

Adopting Paul Schwenke 's methodical approach in library matters, various factors decisive for both his private and his professional life are discussed in alphabetical order (relating to the German keywords):his marriage with Anna Schomburg, who supported him in everything he undertook; his family, and the way in which it adapted to his work rhythm; his friends, most of whom came from the world of books; his relations with the publishing houses Harrassowitz and Insel; his lifelong attachment to his birthplace, Langendembach, a village in Thuringia; his apprentice librarian years in Greifswald; his bent for the logical organisation of everything he dealt with; his travels; the double concepts silence/writing and saving/spending, which characterised his life style; Wilhelmine Schwenke, his great-aunt, who served the author Caroline von Wolzogen for nearly fifty years and inherited her literary papers, which she passed on to him; a keen sense of time, guiding all his activities. .

Peter Kittel

*Das Schicksal der wissenschaftlichen Privatbibliothek Paul Schwenkes*

Abstract

Schwenke 's personal library, comprising about 2, 500 volumes dealing with bibliography and the history of the book, was acquired in 1922 by the Preußische Staatsbibliothek as a special collection to be used for training research librarians. During the Second World War it was evacuated to Göttingen. After many years and by way of several detours it returned to (West) Berlin and is now part of the general holdings of the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin –Preußischer Kulturbesitz.

Wolfgang Schmitz

*Paul Schwenke als Bibliothekswissenschaftler*

Abstract

Three emphases evident in Schwenke 's contributions to the field of library science are discussed: For reasons of efficiency, he strove to make the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin a central cataloging agency charged with delivering records to Prussian libraries, thus saving them from duplicating each other 's work. As a result, a union catalogue for the Prussian university libraries was established in Berlin, facilitating interlibrary loans. Many trips abroad, especially one to the United States, brought him new ideas regarding the details of these initiative . A similar linkage of theory and practise is evident in his studies on the planning and construction of library buildings. Using blueprints of major libraries from the first decade of the 20th century, he thoroughly discussed many issues of their functionality. Fueling his interest was the planning process, in which he was a leading participant, for a new building for the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin. Another focus of his work in library science addressed the question of a German national library. With a sharp pen and good arguments he proposed that the Königliche Bibliothek, not the newly established Deutsche Bücherei in Leipzig, should serve in this capacity.

Alexandra Habermann

*Paul Schwenkes nebenamtliches Wirken. Sein Beitrag zur Professionalisierung des bibliothekarischen Berufs*

Abstract

Schwenke was a leading participant in the organisational work that preceded the establishment of an association for German research librarians, the Verein Deutscher Bibliothekare. After it was founded in 1900, Schwenke was elected its first president, continuing in this capacity for eight year . During that time he not only planned the annual meetings, but was instrumental in appointing committees, publishing professional directories, compiling library statistics, and editing the *Jahrbuch der deutschen Bibliotheken*. He fostered a feeling of solidarity among librarians, helped to professionalize their work, and raised their public image. In addition to his many other responsibilities, in 1903 he succeeded Otto Hartwig as editor of the *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* , a position he held until he retired from the Preußische Staatsbibliothek in 1921.

Friedhilde Krause

*Der Erste Direktor der Königlichen Bibliothek, Paul Schwenke, neben Generaldirektor Adolf von Harnack*

Abstract

From 1905 to 1921, the years in which Adolf von Harnack acted as General Director of the Königliche Bibliothek in addition to maintaining his academic position as Professor of Divinity, Paul Schwenke, a consummate professional who had held administrative appointments in the Berlin library since 1899, advised him on all issues of library management. Attention is given here to the harmonious way in which the two men worked together, and to the high esteem in which they held each other. Also discussed are the immense demands made on his First Director Schwenke during the fifteen years in office of General Director von Harnack. Schwenke's tenure saw a notable increase in the number of the library's staff, including women, who were newly entering into the profession; a doubling of the acquisitions budget and a resultant forty per cent increase in holdings; much-needed solutions to many work-flow problems; and finally the need to cope with the difficult situation caused by the First World War and the inflation that followed it. Schwenke's remarkable sense of reality and his extraordinary organisational talents were especially influential in the planning for the Königliche Bibliothek's new building, undertaken together with architect Anton Adams, and were also evident in the preparation and execution of the move of more than 40,000 running metres of books from the old building to the new one within the short span of March 1–15, 1909. Schwenke's travels together with Adams, in 1906 to Copenhagen and Lund, are also discussed, as are especially his conclusions with regard to administrative issues in the new building on the boulevard Unter den Linden, drawn from a trip to North America in spring 1912.

Helmut Kind

*Aus der Welt der Bibliothekare*

Die Briefe Paul Schwenkes an Karl Dziatzko, 1887–1903

Abstract

The Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek in Göttingen holds a collection of 154 letters from Paul Schwenke to his mentor, colleague and friend Karl Dziatzko, who at the time was director of the Göttingen library (i. d. numbers: Cod. Ms. K. Dziatzko 69:15, 28 A-175 and Cod. Ms. K. Dziatzko 77:26). Dating from Schwenke's tenure in Königsberg (1893–1899) and his first years in Berlin (1899–1903), they deal with private and scholarly affairs, and as well give a vivid picture of the social life of the time.

Konrad von Rabenau

*Paul Schwenkes Beitrag zur Methodik der Einbandforschung und seine Wirkung auf die Erforschung der deutschen Einbände des 15. und 16. Jahrhunderts*

Abstract

Paul Schwenke rightly is regarded as one of the fathers of bookbinding research. His methodological principles programmatically formulated in 1897 are developed and proved by his studies on German bookbindings in the 15th and 16th centuries. Other scholars have accepted and promoted his program which is valid until today, whereas some of his ideas have not been realized such as a center of documentation of all the collected copies of bookbindings. Schwenke's holistic view on »interior «(technique, motifs, style) and »exterior «criteria (archive sources, notices in the books, provenance data, arms) for the identification of the bookbindings was pioneering. He prepared the interaction of bookbinding research and other disciplines engaged in the history of libraries, the history of manuscripts and prints, the history of handicraft and book-trade as well as art history.

Lotte Hellinga

*Paul Schwenke's contributions to the study of early printing*

Abstract

Paul Schwenke brought the discipline of classical scholarship to bear on the two texts most frequently printed by Gutenberg, his followers and the other earliest printers, the Latin Bible and Donatus, *Ars minor*. He was among the first scholars to explore fully the influence of the new medium of print on the transmission of texts. As a consequence his investigation of the printed material, Gutenberg's Bible as well as the Donatus fragments, ranged from the analysis of the early founts of type, the division of work in the printing house, to the financial backing of printing enterprises and the dissemination through the booktrade. Especially his systematic approach to the study of the B42, first shown in his *Festschrift zur Gutenbergfeier* of 1900, and expanded in the commentary to the Insel Verlag facsimile of the Berlin copy of the B42, posthumously published in 1923, was innovative. In »Inkunabelkunde« of the present day his work and his insights are still extremely valuable.