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Earle C. Thompson appointed Dean of Library Service at Montana State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Earle C. Thompson, a specialist in libraries and their direction, has been appointed Dean of Library Service at Montana State University, it was announced by President Robert Johns. The newly created post will be taken over by Thompson on July 1 following his arrival here from Louisiana State University where he is currently Associate Director of the library.

The new appointee will have general responsibility for the administration and development of library services at MSU, with particular responsibility in the immediate future for planning and directing the development of library facilities. Miss Kathleen Campbell, MSU Librarian since 1939, will continue as administrator of internal affairs at the central library.

The present library at the school was built in 1923 and a wing was added in 1956 to care for rapidly expanding book collections and library use. Now the region's biggest library, it will again have to be expanded to meet growing needs and there is a possibility that it may be totally replaced by a greatly enlarged structure, depending on future studies and recommendations.

The new Dean of Library Service was born Jan. 2, 1917, at Louisville, Ky. He attended high school in Mississippi, and earned his BA at Union University, Jackson, Tennessee. He was awarded his MA degree in history at Duke University in 1951, his M.L.S. at Emory University the same year, and presently is nearing completion of Ph.D. requirements at Louisiana State University.

His professional career included work as an Army Counterintelligence agent in North Africa and Italy, cataloging and bibliographical work on Italian collections at Duke University, order and serials librarian at Emory University, acquisitions librarian at L.S.U., then assistant director of library for technical services and his present position, both at L.S.U.
Thompson is a member of the American Library Association, Southwestern Library
Association, Louisiana Library Association, Baton Rouge Library Club, Alpha Tau Omega
and Tau Kappa Alpha. He is married to the former Emma Franceschi, of Cortine a' Ampezzo,
Italy, and is the father of five children.

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Dr. C. E. Soper, assistant professor of forestry, is finishing up the project
titled "Embryology and Cytology of North American Hyphodermbinae.

Dr. Soper has been working with several of these species of fungi for the
past three years. The early phases of his work were supported by the U. S. Forest
Service. These studies clarified the life cycles of several of the local fungi.

The new work will include studies of over 50 species of the needle-scalp fung;
attack them in the United States and Canada.