

Friends of YU Library Close Annual Campaign; Net \$7,000

by Bob Kramer

The first plateau in the current drive for Library funds was reached when it was announced last Tuesday the Friends of the Youngstown University Library had collected \$7,000.

" . . . Youngstown University must have an adequate library. . . . The Friends of Youngstown University library have been helping with this task for many years. They are now making their annual appeal for contributions. . . . In their opinion you could not give to a worthier cause."

These words sum up the text of the letter sent by Mr. William F. Maag, editor of The Vindicator, owner of WFMJ and president of the Friends of Youngstown University Library. The FYUL began in 1939 and has contributed to the

purchase of numerous books for the Library.

Last year, for instance, FYUL contributed \$16,000 out of the Library's total expenditure of \$40,000.

The group's fund-raising has come a long way since its first quarter-century. Last year's total brought in three times the amount of 25 years ago. Contrast the goals other universities plan—drives of many thousands, while the FYUL will strain to meet a \$20,000 net.

This year Prof. George Jones would like to see the drive yield \$25,000. "Our needs are very great," said Prof. Jones, the devoted head librarian at the University. "Both time and money are needed to build a library."

Summer will see a new look in the Library's current redecorating scheme. Shelves on the second floor will be lengthened to occupy the present study hall set-up. This is only the

first improvement, however. When the new Student Union is built the Library facilities may expand to include the downstairs records office and Tod Hall. The Library will then be used primarily for research and the student union will act as the study hall.

Prof. Jones stressed the need for further enhancing the Library's resources. He said that if YU is to offer graduate level work, first in importance is the quality and amount of information offered by the school's library facilities.

Several years ago a group of students contributed the 28-volume masterpiece Diderot Encyclopedia to the Library. The value of having one of the first such works and the first encyclopedia of modern times contributes immeasurably to the Library's prestige.

Nonetheless, Prof. Jones is first to point out that the present facilities are inadequate. He also recommends for general information that the drive for funds is a year 'round campaign.

Contributions to the Library may be sent to the University in care of the Friends of Youngstown University Library.