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## Special Libraries, December 1927

Special Libraries Association

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# SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Vol. 18

December, 1927

No. 10

Newspaper Morgues  
Become  
Libraries of Value

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Read the Story in  
This Number  
Prepared by the  
Newspaper Group

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Entered as second class matter at the Post Office, Providence, R. I. under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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## Special Libraries

Published Monthly September to April, bi-monthly May to August by

## THE SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

Publication Office, 11 Nisbet Street, Providence, R. I.

All payments should be made to Mrs. H. O. Brigham, Executive Officer,  
11 Nisbet Street, Providence, R. I.

# Special Libraries

Vol. 18

DECEMBER, 1927

No. 10

## Your Magazine

We have tried to impress upon the members of S. L. A. the fact that SPECIAL LIBRARIES is *your* magazine and that you to some extent share in its fortunes and vicissitudes. We want you to make suggestions, but bear in mind the requirements of the published material; timeliness; essential appeal to a wide group of readers and, above all, the limitations of space. Some of our readers feel that business plays too strong a part in the journal of the association and that public welfare, economics, technology and international relations should be given more space. We admit the charge, but the magazine is in transition and during 1928 many important changes will be made in the publication. The membership will be analyzed by class groups and new departments inaugurated to meet the demands of our readers. We are also planning special numbers, announcements of which will be made in the January issue. It is *your* magazine; give the editor your criticism.

\* \* \*

We hope that Washington with its charming setting, always at its best in May, will equal the Convention of 1927.

\* \* \*

But the mark set by Toronto will be hard to eclipse. We shall all need to help.

\* \* \*

Washington is a city of special libraries with the great Library of Congress as leader, supplemented by a public library of fine merit.

\* \* \*

Plan for Washington in the month of May.

\* \* \*

In the November issue we offered back numbers of SPECIAL LIBRARIES and already a few requests have come to the General Office. We can furnish a complete file from February, 1919 to date; we can supply all copies back to November, 1917, with one exception, or from June, 1916, to the current issue with two exceptions. From the first issue in January, 1910, to the present time there have been issued 173 numbers and the back number stock is complete with only thirteen omissions. The vacancies on the list are February, April, June, September, October, 1910, April, 1911, May, 1912, January, 1913, January, May, 1916, October, 1917, January, 1919.

Even the office file is not complete and lacks the following copies: February, September, November, 1910, April, 1911, January, 1913, May, 1916. We should be gratified to obtain these earlier numbers. Our prices range from twenty-five cents to a dollar and a half, depending upon the scarcity of the issue. We suggest that our subscribers send to the General Office for a price list.

\* \* \*

The Executive Officer and the Editor extend Christmas Greetings to the members of the Special Libraries Association and sincerely hope that many of the members will visit the General Office during the coming year.

\* \* \*

The Editor apologizes for the spelling of Agencies on the front cover of the November issue. Hasty proof reading at the foreman's bench in the final hours before make-up was the primary cause of the oversight.

## What the Editorial Executive Expects

By Lee A. White, Detroit News

**M**AYHAP there was something of facetiousness in Mr. Alcott's suggestion that I address you on "What the Editorial Executive Expects of the Library." Much as I regret my inability to be with you, I must say and you must admit that it would not require much of a visit to permit covering the topic. He wants what you haven't; and the more certainly you haven't it, the surer he wants it, and the greater his hurry. Ergo: Go get what you haven't.

After all, the request for the material which isn't at hand; or even the demand for material that you couldn't by any stretch of imagination be expected to have, is the highest compliment that may be paid a reference department. It reveals a faith in your capacity that is sublime.

We of The Detroit News were never so discouraged as in the days when executives and underlings sought nothing in the library or scraparium but the obvious. Justifiably, no doubt, the idea had grown up throughout the office that nothing was to be expected of the under-manned and under-nourished department. At least, when that concept prevailed, there were few disappointments in the news room and none in the editorial room (where, of course, wisdom was resident and required no indexing).

Knowing something of the background of individuals given to complaint, and knowing something more regarding newspaper reference departments, I get a large laugh out of denunciations of a library of 21,000 volumes and a scraparium with a million clippings, maintained in orderly and accessible fashion by a score of trained workers. At the same time, I count it a mark of the advance of this important branch of the profession of journalism that such individuals should come to use a library and to complain of humanly imperfect resources. The world do move.

As a member of the committee on classification, I have enjoyed a continuous and well-earned and complete rest, for which I sincerely thank Mr. Kwapil. But I believe with him in the

importance of the work outlined, and the need of tangible results. Among the most serious problems that committee must face is a satisfactory solution of the widely varying demands of executives. I have particularly in mind the difference in point of view and need of, for example, the chief editorial writer and the news editor. While at times their quests are identical in character, every one of you must at one time or another have been baffled by their diverging points of view. So often, the editorial writer wants collected and collated material under a generalized heading, while his confrère wishes not to be confused by a snow-storm of clippings, but to find conveniently filed in a single thin envelope precisely the specific information he seeks on a single individual, thing or place. The editorial writer wishes to speed his work of generalizing; the news writer wishes to speed his work of particularizing. And the reference librarian wishes equally to assist Jove in his utterances and the "chiel" in his making of notes. How shall it be done?

I suppose minute sub-dividing and elaborate cross-indexing, if time and material and skilled labor be not too scarce, offer something of a solution. But solution there must be, or dissatisfaction, which is as dangerous to a reference department as to a department store. Disappointed customers trade elsewhere when they can; otherwise, they curb their desires and lower their standards of living—at least alter them.

The tendency for the past ten years has been, happily, to enrich the resources of reference departments and stimulate the spirit of service in the staffs of these departments. Eager and earnest executives, trained and skilled in all editorial functions, determine to anticipate needs, in the news rooms and elsewhere; to supplement the matter coming over the wire and bolster up the researches of clock-driven reporters. Like the neighborhood cobbler, they "aim to please," and endeavor to link up the work of their department with the pulsating news-current. I have heard such individuals, such depart-

ments criticised for clogging the paper with what spot news sharks considered material for encyclopedias and almanacs; and for taking the guts out of news by forcing qualifications into the writings of light-hearted narrators. It's hard to know where to begin and where to leave off. But all who have labored in this vineyard must have learned that the reference department director must be as cautious in his working of revolutions as the city-trained reporter turned country editor.

Once I thought I sensed what news was. The longer I cling to journalism, the less certain I feel. As a seeker after books of worth and a purchaser of many, I come to know what news nuggets are within covers, and how eagerly the world might seize upon them. The author writes his book; sells it to a publisher, who prints it and sells it to a dealer, who sets it in his window or on his shelf at a price including a profit. The contents of the book rarely are adjudged news. But the newspaper librarian buys the book, has it indexed analytically, and puts it on the shelf for future reference. A year later the author, his royalties running low, hires out to a lecture bureau, which sublets him to another, which sells him to a fashionable or unfashionable club or church or impresario, which sells him to the public at discouraging prices. The city editor receives a complimentary ticket and sends a reporter who does, not too well, a digest of the more striking elements of the lecture. The report, which the librarian recognizes as chapter VII in the now dust-laden book, draws headline and position as news. Is it? I don't know.

I have a feeling that the director of a reference department is in a position to render a type of service not generally recognized as within his province. We all come to feel that the newspaper is something less of an authentic daily history of the world than it might be. We try to amend and correct and check and substantiate and supplement; but we do not see it as a part of our work to balance the contents of the newspaper, or to establish continuity.

I have often said, and heard it said, that the newspaper was a record of the day's events. That was assuming that

the writers and compilers of the day's news took a scholarly and detached interest in things transpiring. I now incline to the belief that a newspaper is a record of the reactions of sophisticated and rather bored individuals, of somewhat emotional trend, to the things of life.

Yesterday, I learned by the press that a great war social, economic, military, was waging in China; and I followed it with deep interest. Daily, it commanded my attention. It was a war of the ages; ancient civilization in slow but unmistakable transition; full of portent for all the world, white or yellow. It would, in its mysterious way, go on for perhaps decades, perhaps generations—unlike the concurrent war in a neighboring Latin-American republic where strange things begin and conclude momentarily. Today I find the war in the Orient is done, if I am to judge by absence of report upon it. Think you it is over? That teeming millions have found a sedative, and settled themselves to contented rest? Or that the taste of the news gatherer and news editor has become jaded, cloyed, by this Oriental food for thought; and requires now a local crime or transoceanic flight for stimulus?

Remarkable figures would develop if ever we were to engage upon research into the continuity of news. Might not the reference departments of a newspaper bring to the attention of news desks abandoned themes, untold tales, serials lopped off short of completion, to the profit of newspaper and public? Executives do not expect this of reference departments; but I believe they would come to, if the task were earnestly undertaken and consistently prosecuted.

For me, the joy in the work in which you are engaged seems to lie in invention of service, discovery of opportunity, acceptance of challenges.

Your work has earned of late years a new respect, evidenced in the fortunes invested by newspaper publishers in equipment, labor and housing. I can see no limit to its development, because I can see no end of needs (on the part of all elements of the newspaper and of the public the newspaper serves) for accurate information, systematically preserved and instantly available.

## Newspaper Copyright

By Thorvald Solberg, Register of Copyrights, Washington, D. C.

COPYRIGHT in America dates back to the year 1783,—nearly a century and a half ago—when the State of Connecticut in the January session of its General Court passed our earliest Copyright Act. The Preamble to this Act declares that:—

"Whereas, It is perfectly agreeable to the principles of natural equity and justice, that every author should be secured in receiving the profits that may arise from the sale of his works, and such security may encourage men of learning and genius to publish their writings, which may do honor to their country, and service to mankind,"

Therefore, It is enacted that the author of any book or pamphlet or of any map or chart is to have the sole liberty of printing, publishing and vending said work within the State of Connecticut.

But this privilege was accorded only to authors who were inhabitants and residents of the United States, and it was further declared that it should not extend to—

"any author or persons residing in, or inhabitant of any other of the United States, until the State or States in which such person or persons reside or dwell, shall have passed similar laws in favour of the authors of new publications, and their heirs and assigns."

All of the other original thirteen states (excepting Delaware) enacted similar laws between 1783 and 1786, and the first Federal Copyright Act was passed by Congress on May 31, 1790. This last statute also confined copyright protection to the two articles named in the Connecticut Act, namely, books and maps. By the Amendatory Federal Act of 1802 the protection of copyright was extended to "historical or other prints," and the Act of 1831 included musical compositions, while dramatic compositions are first named in the Act of 1856, which Act gives to the authors or proprietors of dramatic compositions "along with the sole right to print and publish" them, "the sole right also to act, perform, or represent" them.

Photographs were named as subject matter of copyright in the Act of 1865, and the Act of 1870 (which became the

Revised Statutes on copyright) is more detailed in specifying the works protected, including for the first time works of art ("paintings, drawings, chromos, statuary, and models or designs intended to be perfected as works of the fine arts.") The Act of March 4, 1909, consolidated all existing copyright laws into one revised statute, and is the copyright code now in force. It contains a detailed list or schedule of all classes of works protected by copyright, enumerating eleven classes distinguished by the letters "A" to "K." The Amendatory Act of 1912 added motion pictures as classes "L" and "M."

In the Copyright Act of March 4, 1909, for the first time newspapers and magazines are distinctly specified as subject to copyright protection in the line reading: "Class B. Periodicals, including newspapers." From July 1, 1909, when that Act went into effect, newspapers and periodicals have been regularly registered for copyright protection as a class by themselves. Such entries are also catalogued and indexed in the Catalogue of Copyright Entries, Part 2, *Periodicals*, under an alphabet of the titles with an index of copyright proprietors.

### NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

Prior to that date, however, although not directly named in the copyright acts as entitled to copyright protection, the titles of newspapers and periodicals had been filed, and such titles were received and recorded either under the designation "book" or "book or periodical." Up to December 31, 1899, while the different copyright works were recorded with a designation to indicate their character, all entries were made in one annual series of numbers without class distinction. On January 1, 1900, the division of the record books into classes was begun, and periodicals became class "B," which class designation has been maintained since. Beginning with January 1, 1901, the present century, a single series of entry numbers has been

used for the 20th century entries, and up to June 11, 1927, the total entries made for periodicals have been 745,986.

Nearly 2,000 different periodicals are regularly entered, but only 43 different newspapers are registered currently for the entire contents of their daily issues. But newspaper publishers as a class are amongst the largest clients of the Copyright Office. Thus the *New York Times* which does not register for copyright its daily issues at all pays copyright fees to the extent of about \$1,000 each month. It makes registration regularly for each issue of its "Book Review" and of its "Magazine Section," and for more than 10,000 contributions yearly. The *Chicago Tribune* pays upwards of \$6,000 in copyright fees each year. It may interest you to have some explanation of this. The justification for these numerous entries by the New York Times Company and for other thousands of entries as well is found in the provision inserted in section 12 of the Act of March 4, 1909, providing for the deposit of copies of copyrighted works, reading as follows: "or if such work be a contribution to a periodical, for which contribution special registration is requested" then one copy of the issue or issues of the periodical or newspaper containing such contribution is to be deposited with an application for the registration of the contribution. These contributions may be very different kinds of things. This provision of law was very likely originally proposed having in mind the serial publication of stories or novels; but the contributions actually registered may be in addition news articles or pictorial illustrations, or *Comic Strips*, combining both pictures and words, or illustrated strips of a more serious character—historical or otherwise—or the contribution may even be a drama or a musical composition. In either case the procedure is the same so far as the application for registration is concerned (the filing of the properly specified claim, and the deposit of one copy of the newspaper); but when it comes to registration and the cataloguing of the entry, this will be given a class designation and go into the proper series of registration numbers, according as to whether it is text matter when it is technically called a *book* or is classed as a

*drama, a print, or a musical composition, according to actual circumstances.*

If any one should take the trouble to examine an issue of the Catalogue of Copyright Entries for Part 1, Group 2, (like the example in hand, the last number for 1926) he will find under the entry heading *New York Times*, page after page of entries, actually from page 2085 to page 2105. These pages contain titles for anonymous contributions. If further examination were made you would discover a number of different series of entries for similar contributions indexed under the names of well-known authors and recognized contributors. Similar lists of entries would be found for contributions to a number of other leading newspapers.

There has been developed a new and very extensive practice of preparing in advance and supplying to newspapers for regular and periodic publication a great variety of material. I have already referred to the comic strips and similar amusement features. In addition there are such large clients of the Copyright Office as the King Features Syndicate, which pays about \$4,000 in copyright fees yearly; the International Feature Service; the Premier Syndicate, the Metropolitan Newspaper Service, each making registrations requiring copyright fees from \$1,200 to \$1,400 or more yearly, and the Newspaper Feature Service making about half as many entries. This is to name only a very few concerns making such entries continuously.

At least two other classes of very extensive and regular contributions should be noticed, namely, the so-called "Service" publications of a serious and educational character, and the very noticeable advertisement services. These registrations cover many thousands of contributions every year, and the copyright registrations made vary from brief text paragraphs to elaborate and often distinctly beautiful pictorial and descriptive matter.

It will, I hope, have been made clear from my brief exposition, that the copyright business with respect to newspapers is divided into two very distinct things—first, the registrations made, as the law requires, for each number or issue of a newspaper to protect—in the



words of the law—"all the copyrightable component parts" of that issue, and second, the very great number of registrations made under the provisions of the Copyright Act of 1909, to protect special contributions to the newspaper. This last is by far the larger and more serious matter. Of the 2,186 double column pages of closely printed fine type matter in the Catalogue of Copyright Entries, Part 1, Group 2, for 1926, by far the largest part is, no doubt, for newspaper matter, as the index of about 500 additional pages will show. The indexing and cataloguing of the 70,000 entries comprised in this thick volume, is by far one of the most difficult tasks imposed upon the Copyright Office.

The registering and cataloguing of the periodicals and newspapers themselves are comparatively easy matters. The magazines are, of course, arranged under their titles in one alphabetical list, and little difficulty ordinarily is experienced as regards the names of the claimants of copyright. But when it comes to dealing with the many thousands of entries for all kinds of newspaper contributions, it is quite another matter. What is required with respect to copyright in such things is that a copyright claim should be presented for recordation and indexing which should be intelligible and sufficient to clearly identify the claim, and, of course, one entry must be intelligently differentiated from the other, otherwise the identity is not maintained and the entries cannot be properly indexed and catalogued.

The law required that one complete copy of the newspaper containing the contribution shall be deposited accompanied by a "claim of copyright." This requirement of the complete copy is the first source of trouble. It not unnaturally seems to the applicant that it should be sufficient to clip his paragraph from the newspaper and slip it into the envelope containing the application. But copyright is a grant upon conditions, under our law, and the conditions must be fully and exactly complied with if the entry is to prove adequate to secure the protection desired. So the Office is obliged to insist upon the full copy of the newspaper or periodical. Then the next difficulty experienced is to find the contribution,

the article, possibly simply a brief paragraph, in the great mass of printed matter in the pages of a modern daily. Hours of dreary labor would be saved the clerks in the Copyright Office if we could only induce the applicants to mark the front page with the number of the page where the article is to be found, and in addition, to mark the paragraph itself in some way to catch the eye when the pages (not unfrequently more than 100) are searched for it. If the page containing the paragraph or article was pinned in front that would, of course, prove most convenient.

#### RULES FOR APPLICATION

The next consideration is the *application* for copyright registration. This must embody the "claim of copyright" which the law requires shall be filed with the copy of the article for which copyright is claimed, in order to secure copyright protection. This application is not very complex, but it should always be borne in mind that the application blank is devised to secure all the information which it is essential to have of record to permit an intelligible, fully identifiable record. The application blank to be used is designated "A-5" and is for a "contribution to a newspaper or periodical." The first item required is the name of the claimant, the proprietor or *owner* of the copyright. The application calls for three things with respect to the claimant of copyright: 1) his full legal name; 2) his citizenship; 3) his legal address.

This would seem at first blush a very simple matter. It is quite reasonable to suppose that the owner of the copyright should know his own name and could give it correctly; should also know his own nationality, and could indicate his legal address. But experience demonstrates that nothing is so simple as it looks when it needs to be done completely and exactly. During the two months of January and February of this year more than 500 letters were required to be written from the Copyright Office to secure the definite and authentic statement of the correct names of the owners of the copyrights applied for. Very often the application is so filled out that the *inference* to be made seems fairly clear. But the office is an office of

record and should not be expected to proceed upon *inference* in recording a claim to literary property.

A large percentage of the applications received daily are so defective that they require to be held for correspondence to eliminate variances, erroneous statements, wrong dates, etc., etc., commonly requiring new applications to be filed. Here is the exact record for five recent days. Of 465 applications received, 336 could be acted upon, 129 had to be held; of 490 applications received, 389 were acted upon and 101 held; of 556 applications received, 449 entries were made and 107 applications held. Of 674 applications received, 473 were acted upon and 201 held; of 218 applications received (a half day) 123 could be acted upon and 95 were required to be held for defects. In the days noted above the defective applications ran from more than 19 per cent to nearly 50 per cent of the applications actually received each day, and a fair average of the applications received daily that must be held for correction is commonly from 20 per cent to 30 per cent.

As already intimated, we act as promptly as possible every day upon applications received when the material in hand, (copy, application and remittance) enables us to make a clear, identifiable record. As a matter of fact we receive daily a regrettable number of applications so badly written that they cannot be read, and if we could not verify or supply the names and dates from the printed copies accompanying the applications we could not proceed at all. But it is a reasonable rule of the Office that the applicant himself *must* be held responsible for the name of the *owner of the copyright*, and if this name is not clearly indicated the application is returned. The law requires that the owner's name to go on record shall be stated in the required copyright notice. If there is a variance or disagreement between the owner's name in the application and as it appears in the notice, that variance or disagreement must be explained and cleared away before we can act.

Such variances are of daily occurrence, and are sometimes quite surprising. It has even happened that a newspaper claiming copyright has

printed the name of a brother newspaper in the notice. A recent example is the *Chicago Tribune* which applied for registration as owner of the copyright for a contribution, and yet the notice stated the *New York Times* as copyright proprietor. It was explained as a printer's error.

The variances discovered are vexatiously numerous, and indicate a woeful lack of thought in filling up the blank. The Office necessarily endeavours to secure completeness and uniformity. The name of the claimant may sometimes be written in three or four ways upon a single application blank. This is embarrassing when it is the name of the author, but prohibits registration when it occurs in the name of the claimant of copyright. A common fault in applications for newspapers or periodicals or contributions to them is to state the claimant in the name of the periodical, for example, the "Chicago Daily News," instead of the "Chicago Daily News *Company*," "The Century," instead of "The Century *Company*."

The statement of nationality does not usually give trouble for newspaper entries for the claimants or authors are usually American citizens. But the law does require, if the name is that of an alien resident in the United States, that the place of his domicile be stated, and if a foreigner, his nationality must be given. Not all foreign authors are entitled to obtain copyright in the United States. Unless copyright relations have been established between the United States and the country to which the author belongs his work cannot be registered.

#### ADDRESSES AND NAMES

As to the address of the claimant, it should be borne in mind that what is required is the *legal address*—his legal residence, and not the hotel where he is temporarily staying and where he desires to receive his certificate. Space is elsewhere provided in the application blank for that address.

Trouble frequently arises when newspaper or periodical contributions are published under the pen name or pseudonyms of their authors. The copyright law protects anonymous works or articles published under pseudonyms

and does not require the declaration of the true name of the writer (except in some special cases); but if the *claim* of copyright is to be recorded in the name of the author, then the true, legal name of such author must be stated for record, and not his pen name or pseudonym. It goes without saying, that no copyright can be recorded without a name for the copyright owner—although it has sometimes been demanded.

While copyright is a personal property, and protects the result of the author's personal effort, the ownership of the copyright may be registered in the name of an institution or a firm or corporation, and in the latter case the name of the owner should be exactly stated in the application form, including the "Inc.," and if the *place* is part of the incorporated title that should also be stated as part of the owner's name and not merely as the address. Where the claimant of a copyright is a married woman who has written and become known under her maiden name and wishes to continue to publicly use it, the claim can be registered under the name used before marriage if the application so requests and without statement of the surname of her husband.

The application form requires that the *description* of the contribution be stated, that is, whether it is a "book" (a serial, an article, or a paragraph, is so designated), or a "Drama," a "pictorial illustration" or a "musical composition," etc.

The next requirement in the application is the statement of the *title*, and here we experience considerable difficulty in relation to newspaper contributions. Newspaper editors think of the thing required in relation to any contents as a heading, or an announcement rather than a bibliographical title, so that very frequently the heading used if recorded does not at all identify the actual printed text. I apprehend this is something which it is almost impossible to change; but if the difficulties experienced in making reliable copyright registration were understood and some consideration given to the needs of the indexer when headings are assigned, no doubt gradually a distinct improvement could be secured.

It is, of course, desirable and necessary for complete identification to state the name of the newspaper in which the contribution was printed, and the volume, number and date of the issue of the paper where the contribution appeared. Finally the statement of the date of first publication is absolutely necessary as the term of copyright begins to run from that date. Ordinarily in a newspaper that date is the same as the date of issue; but in the case of weeklies or monthlies, there may have been such prior distribution that the date when distribution was made becomes the actual legal date of publication. The law itself declares that the date of publication shall "be held to be the earliest date when copies of the first authorized edition were placed on sale, sold, or publicly distributed by the proprietor of the copyright or under his authority."

#### TO SUMMARIZE

Copyright is set up by *publication* with notice, and the notice must contain the name of the owner of the copyright in the correct form—the form in which it is recorded when the copyright is registered. The form of notice prescribed by law should be strictly observed and the year date of publication included; i. e., "Copyright, 1927, by The Chicago Daily News Company." Any deviation from this form whether by addition, omission or modification will affect unfavorably the validity of the copyright.

Promptly after publication in order to secure copyright registration for the newspaper, two copies must be deposited, or for registration of the *contribution*, one complete copy of the paper with the contribution plainly marked.

In either case the copies should be accompanied by a suitable application carefully filled out and a money order for the \$1 fee.

In general each separately published article requires separate registration and fee.

Copy, application and fee should reach the Office *at the same time*, otherwise prompt action cannot be taken. No registration can be made unless copies,

and an application and fee have all been received, and if the fee is sent in advance of copies and application it compels the Office to book up the fee, causing unnecessary bookkeeping, and if, as often

happens, there is a confusion of names of applicant and remitter, then much time is lost in searching to make necessary connection and delay results in making the required registration.

(Answers to Questions to be found on page 337)

## Questionnaire on Newspaper Libraries

By Agnes J. Petersen, Librarian, Milwaukee Journal, Chairman of the Committee on Methods of the Newspaper Group

**M**R. Chairman and Members of the Newspaper Group and Visitors: Your committee authorized last year to make a survey of newspaper libraries, begs to submit the following report:

A special questionnaire was prepared and printed, containing 86 questions and covering, as thoroughly as we knew how to do in limited space, the location, size, organization and development of newspaper libraries and the methods they employ. The aim was not to make an exhaustive study, for it was realized that this could not be done, but to make a preliminary investigation that would show the members of the Newspaper Group what the present status of the newspaper libraries is, and perhaps point the way to a more consistent effort to improve them.

This questionnaire was sent out to 380 newspapers in all parts of the country. Seventy replies were received from newspapers in cities ranging in size from Sheboygan, Wis., to New York. Four states of the South, five of the West, seven of the East and ten of the Middle West were represented. The returned questionnaire may be taken as representing in a fair way a cross section of the American newspaper library.

I wish at this time to thank the seventy busy librarians who replied and to remind the 310 who did not, if any of them happens to be here today, that it is only through co-operation in such work as this that the newspaper libraries can be modernized and developed as they should be. I wish especially to thank the editors and librarians of small newspapers who, although they may have felt that they did not have much information to give, because their libraries are as yet so

limited, were willing to offer all they had. Also, to make special mention of the Christian Science Monitor, which in addition to sending a full report, submitted much material showing the system it has developed.

All through this wealth of information that came to the committee ran the clear indication that the newspaper library is in a very healthy state of evolution. Not that there is much of a key here to what the model newspaper library is or should be. The plans of organization and the methods employed are too diverse for that. But it is shown that libraries are being adapted to serve their particular institutions. A few have arrived at a point of great efficiency, most of them are still groping their way toward that goal, some are just coming out from the "morgue" cocoon and are trying their wings as bureaus of information for the first time. But it is plain that they all want to fly and, if properly directed, will fly eventually. We are met here today to aid the flying process.

I shall now, with your forbearance, attempt to give you somewhat in detail the replies to the questions.

### MEN OUTNUMBER WOMEN

First I may say that I was interested in what might be called the "complexion" of the librarians. Twenty-five librarians reporting were women, and twenty-nine men. The other replies came from newspapers which had no regular librarian, the work being done by anyone on the staff, from the office boy to the managing editor. The preponderance of men among the regular librarians replying was a rather surprising fact.

### ORGANIZATION

Now as to the definite questions your committee asked, starting with the first group

under "Organization" on the questionnaires that have been distributed to you.

Of the seventy libraries replying, the oldest was organized in 1870, the youngest in 1925. Nine libraries were reorganized within the past ten years, one as late as 1926, showing that the newspapers are discarding the old methods and seeking the more modern ones.

Forty-one libraries report that one librarian has complete charge of all branches of library work, eight report separate divisions, while twenty make no report. The smallest library reports but one worker, while the New York Times reports 35 assistants. Thirteen libraries have part time workers. The concensus of opinions for educational qualifications seems to call for a high school diploma or better. One librarian requires general intelligence combined with a desire to continue in newspaper work, another requires no educational qualifications, another that the acceptable applicant be a "journalist student," while two require college training.

Salary averages range from \$20 to \$50 weekly, according to localities and size of libraries. One library follows the newswriters' scale of pay.

Eleven libraries require 48 hours of work per week; eight, 42 hours; seven, 44 hours; two, 26 hours; one, 43 hours; two, 39 hours; one, 24 hours; and one, 20 hours. One library gives its women employees every Saturday afternoon off and the men have alternate Saturday afternoons.

Seven libraries never sleep, giving 24 hours service. Others are open from 2 to 15 hours a day.

#### SIZE AND LOCATION OF LIBRARY

Eleven libraries are centrally located in reference to the rest of the editorial organization, four are in separate locations due to force of circumstances. The others failed to say anything about their quarters. Three libraries report that their reference books are in a separate room, another has the cuts in an ante-room of the newsroom. One library has a 15 by 15 foot floor space as compared with another which has a 1200 foot floor.

Four libraries get along without any reference books, ten have less than 50 books, seventeen have about 500 books, twenty average somewhere between 1,000 to 10,000 books, and two are in a class by themselves with 15,000 to 20,000 volumes. A newspaper in a town of 72,000 persons reports that "it is without a library." Twenty-two libraries report that they do not use magazines. Twenty-five use "the leading magazines" and one reports 245.

Thirty-five libraries have 500 pamphlets or less. Seventeen have a thousand or more.

Sixteen libraries have a few clippings or none at all, while six run into the millions, the largest collection containing 11 millions.

One librarian has 647 boxes  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 10\frac{3}{4} \times 12$  inches for clippings, another began revising the old clipping system on Jan. 1, 1927. In another library, the reporter files the clippings. One librarian tells us he has a "loosely constituted filing system for his cuts, photos, and clippings."

A financial library has neither cuts nor photos. Sixteen libraries have 500 photos or less, two have 1,000 photos, two are in the 10,000 class, eight in the 50,000, twelve in the 100,000 to 500,000 class while six have a million or more, one library leading with more than two million photos.

It is interesting to note that 14 librarians do not file mats, only cuts. Ten report less than 500 cuts and mats on file. Three librarians report that their cuts are filed in a separate room. Thirty report 70,000 or less, four report 100,000 or less, one library has 120,000, and the largest collection contains 250,000 cuts. One library files only personal cuts, the subject cuts being kept for 10 days only. Another library holds the unimportant cuts a month to allow the filling of calls for shellcasts.

#### SERVICE

Forty-six librarians serve all the departments of their organization, two serve all departments except the advertising departments, five serve the editorial department only and one serves both the news and editorial departments. Thirty-three serve the public, seventeen do not serve the public, one serves "only when the request is approved by the City Editor," sixteen encourage outside calls upon their department, thirty-two do not. One librarian does serve professional calls but turns a deaf ear to a non-professional one, another does not advertise it but serves many, another says "No, emphatically No, It is for employees only." One small town librarian would encourage outside calls but her lack of sufficient help "doesn't permit advertising the fact." Another strikes the keynote when she writes, "We endeavor to do all we can if it doesn't interfere with the service to the paper."

#### EQUIPMENT

Metal cabinets lead with 31 Yeas, wood trails with 9 while seven libraries have both wood and metal cabinets. Ten report metal shelving, but wood is the favorite with twenty-one librarians. Four librarians are impartial—

they have both wood and metal shelving. One librarian reports 250 shelves of wood for the filing of photos, cuts and clippings. She uses no cabinets. Another has 100 shelves of wood for books and 100 shelves of metal for her cuts. She also uses no filing cabinets. Two use steel shelving for their clippings but have no cabinets.

#### CLIPPINGS

The favorite manner of filing clippings, judging from the reports of 42 librarians is alphabetic by name and subject. Three librarians file clippings with the cuts in the cut file—alphabetically. One librarian files biographic sketches only—she threw out all the old clippings. One librarian "puts the gist of every news story on an Index card, and files the cards alphabetically;" another pastes clippings into a scrap book, also filing many duplicates; still another is waiting to decide upon a method. Only four libraries file by number and the card index system. There are three librarians who file only biographical material, while fifty-two file other material. "Yes indeed," writes one librarian; another clips "all the news items;" a third clips "everything." Two librarians clip and file "Poll Tax Receipts" and "election stories."

Just how the subject headings are chosen is an interesting study. Four use the A. L. A. list of subject headings plus their own suggestions; three follow the New York Times Index rather closely; one uses "Public Affairs and the Readers' Guide for suggested headings;" another uses the "Library of Congress System and "adds others as they are needed." Nine tell us that they choose their headings "according to news and feature value and probable request of public for information;" one uses headings that are most likely to be asked for and if, in doubt, puts duplicate clippings under separate headings; another "files clippings with cuts, using the cut headings;" another "makes them simple with generous cross file;" another just uses "common sense" or "news importance;" seven choose "general subjects" like Accidents, Crimes, Association, etc. One is seeking information, as her plan is not yet definitely worked out. Another uses the "encyclopaedia, elementary as possible with many sub-divisions of certain subjects." "The card index," writes this librarian, "shows subject headings and also many cross references." "We file them under subjects most likely to be looked for," writes another librarian. "We have no highly trained employees for the work, the system therefore is

rather hit or miss." Another chooses headings that have "reference to man."

For the filing of all this information, twenty-five librarians have one alphabet for all biographic, subject, and geographic clippings, the dictionary form. Ten report two files, a separate file each for biographic and general material. Six have three files, one for each of the divisions. Three have a card index with numbers and reference envelopes. Another has Sports and Editorial subjects in separate files, while another files her A. P. stuff separately.

Clippings of temporary value are a real problem and twenty-three librarians struggle with it to evolve some sort of system, while twenty-one do not file these clippings at all. Twelve librarians have the temporary material filed in the general file and discard it when used. One librarian uses special envelopes, the clippings being stamped with a large "T" and filed in a colored folder and eliminated after a year's time; another uses a craft envelope with a red band across the top; another "a folder which bears a mark, making elimination easy at any time;" another "files them in scrap books with index cards;" one marks her separate case "immediate;" two use "temporary cabinets;" one "puts it up to the city editor;" another conducts a "temporary file index."

Clippings of crimes, accidents, and divorce are not filed by twelve librarians; thirty-one do file them. Eleven librarians file under subjects with cross references, and eleven file under the names of the principals with cross references. Six file crimes under the subject, divorce under parties divorced and use the general heading "Disasters" for accidents, with cross references when necessary. Three use the card index. One librarian files important cases only. Three libraries file crimes under the heading "crime," with a sub-division for the type of crime covered. Then important cases are cross referenced to the sub-division. Accidents are filed chronologically under "Accidents," with sub-divisions. Divorces under "Divorces," with persons in sensational cases cross referenced.

Not all material is classified, report twenty-eight librarians. Nine classify practically all, eight do "all the news," one classifies all except special pages which are indexed on 3 x 5 cards, another classifies "only local matter."

Eleven libraries "index their papers and file only material of future value." Thirty librarians report group filing of clippings; eight use this method when practical. Five report both methods, one librarian adding the com-

ment that the matter is filed with view to its use rather than to storage. Four report the use of a single envelope for each single clipping. One librarian reports "her matter is unique because it repeats itself, we file in scrap books." One librarian files clippings, mats, and cuts in 7 x 10 envelopes. Another files all clippings in envelopes, alphabetically—"three clippings on a name or subject get a separate envelope, 4 x 12."

There are only 31 different sizes of envelopes used in the filing of clippings. Seven report a 4 x 6 envelope; two use a 9 x 12; three use a 4½ x 9½; two use the 5 x 8 craft envelopes; one uses 5 x 8, open at top and right side, with a tab at the top; another uses a 3 x 6, 8 x 10, and a 9 x 12; another uses a folder, 5½ x 8, for the biographic clippings, and an envelope 9 x 11 open at the top for subject material only.

Politics is filed in various ways. Five file under the subject straight, two use the New York Times index as a guide, five file it either as "Politics" or under individual's names or as an event, two file it under "Politics" followed by sub-divisions into "states," "local" and "county." Also they file some of it under "Politics-Party with proper sub-divisions." Two file it under geographic divisions, while one librarian files matter concerning conditions under a name and general material under "U. S. Politics." Congressional material is not filed by eight libraries, while others file this material in this way; three librarians, "Under Congress with proper sub-divisions;" four under Subject; one files only speeches of Congressmen. Headings in use are "Congress;" "U. S. Congress;" "Congress—U. S.;" "U. S. Senate," "U. S. Government," and "Politics."

#### CLIPPINGS WEEDED

The librarian's problem of weeding is a serious one. Twenty-nine librarians set no time limit for the weeding of their material; for the nine who do, the limit varies from one to six years.

The following notations give a hint of what is weeded from their files—Seven librarians determine it by "using good judgment regarding the material covered;" three follow experience;" three depend on "antiquity" of the material; two, news sense; two "time and whether it is apt to recur in the news again;" six dead man's material; one "uses judgment, imagination, judging each clipping on its merit;" another bases it on editorial requests; another writes, "Only in case of stories that overlap and stories which were fluffed up or overwritten, we try to preserve the real facts

of the case," another discards practically all clippings at the end of five years by reducing index to typewritten form showing only subject headings, date, page and column; another whose library was organized in 1915 says "So far we have found weeding a poor policy because need of material crops up unexpectedly;" one has the news editor weed out periodically and two rely on the managing editor to do it.

#### MATS AND CUTS

We found that forty-three librarians file both mats and cuts; fourteen, cuts only; three, neither cuts nor mats. Nine librarians report that they use envelopes of various sizes for their cuts—33 sizes and shapes are listed. One librarian writes "Our cuts are all put away in 11¼ x 14½ envelopes. These large envelopes are numbered and catalogued. Within this envelope is placed the smaller envelope containing cuts and photos, example—envelope 9½ x 12½ for 3 and 4 column cuts. Envelope 7½ x 10½ for 2 column cuts and envelope 6½ x 9½ for 1 column cuts."

Sixteen librarians report the use of the numerical system for the filing of cuts and mats. Five use it for cuts only. Thirty-one use the alphabetic system, two use it for the filing of photos and mats and one for movie players only. Forty librarians use the dictionary plan for the filing of cuts, geographic, subject, and personalities.

Two librarians use the three separate divisions, persons, subject, and sports. Seven use three divisions, personalities, geographic, and subject.

For the oversize cuts, eleven use a special drawer, three use large cabinets, seven simply "don't," two use separate files with cross reference from regular file.

One librarian writes, "We don't keep them, metal too valuable to keep it tied up in large cuts, we only keep the photographs or drawings." Another says, "No system so far, about to add an oversize file;" and still another has but a few and these are filed in large cardboard boxes. Another files them on shelves. One said, "I'm ashamed to tell you, we lay them on top of a cabinet," another retains them for six weeks only.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS

Forty-seven librarians file photographs, three report they do not, the others do not say. Thirty-five file photographs alphabetically, nine file photographs numerically. One librarian files photos with clippings and another files photographs numerically after the cut is made and alphabetically before the cut is made.

Three use newspaper-page size envelopes for oversize photos, with cross references in the regular file. Special flat drawers, large folders, extra large drawers, and extra large cabinets are some of the ways of meeting the problem of the oversize photo. Others file them on shelves in large cardboard boxes, one folds hers and five librarians say they just don't file them. One librarian uses a "10 x 15 cabinet, nothing larger filed. If the photo is important, a smaller print is made and filed."

Twelve librarians index illustrated books for personalities, twenty-one do not. Five librarians are thinking about it and five do it to some extent. One librarian writes, "No, these books are gone over, important pictures are cut out and filed in *Portrait Photo File* and file of *World Views*. The Sunday Roto Picture sections of *All Newspapers* are clipped in this manner for the files."

#### NEGATIVES

Nine librarians file negatives. Four of these do so numerically, four alphabetically, and one does not state. One librarian has 300,000 negatives in steel cabinets filed numerically.

#### REFERENCE BOOKS

Thirty-seven librarians have reference books in the same room with cuts, photos, and clippings. Fourteen reply in the negative. Three librarians group their books according to subjects. Fifteen have a card index, three use the Dewey System, one has a book index; another has hers "not catalogued as yet but will be a simple decimal system, but not Dewey." Another says simply, "Rotten;" five report that they are in the process of making a system. Nineteen make their own catalog, three do not, while one catalog was "inherited."

Thirty-eight report no books for the recreational use of employees, ten report "Yes." One has non-fiction only, another is starting a list now, while still another librarian has one but gave it up as it took too much time. One newspaper maintains a branch of the Public Library in its Lobby for its employees and the near-by public.

#### PAMPHLETS

Forty-five librarians file pamphlets; thirteen do not. The manner of filing is many and varied, as alphabetically, alphabetically by subject, Dewey, with photographs, file boxes, as clippings, with pictures, with clippings, with books and card indexed. One librarian writes, "I am waiting to get suggestions from the Toronto Conference."

#### PERIODICALS

Magazines are filed by nineteen libraries; thirty-two do not file them. Seven of the nineteen bind them. Journalistic magazines are kept by several libraries. One keeps a permanent file of N. Y. Times Current History and National Geographic Magazines indexed in subject files by card. One library bound a number of important magazines for a period of three years but found it a waste of space and the cost too great so that now messenger service is established with the Public Library.

#### NEWSPAPERS—BOUND FILES

Thirty-two librarians have their own papers on file, bound. Three do not. One library binds every edition of its paper. Fifteen libraries bind other papers besides their own; thirty-seven do not. Five bind their local competitor; and others bind important locals, the New York Times, the U. S. Daily, The London Times. The librarians keep their own local papers and some average 20 to 25 dailies, with the eastern papers in the lead.

#### INDEX

The New York Times is consulted by twenty-nine libraries. Twenty-one report they do not use it. Twenty-nine librarians index their newspapers,—fifteen on cards and four on long sheets, one indexes the editorials on cards, another clips the articles and pastes them on sheets of paper, a different color every year. One uses cards and later prints in book form, while another uses slips of paper  $2\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{3}{4}$  inches in size.

Six librarians keep an index of questions answered. One has a daily record sheet, another by subject on cards, another an indexed scrap book, another files them under subject headings in a separate cabinet. Another keeps a record of all questions asked for six months and then ditches them. One publishes a column a day. Another said, "We no longer keep a record, too much else to do."

#### WITHDRAWALS

Twenty librarians use the charging slips as a check on material withdrawn from the files. Twelve librarians, in addition to the charging slip, file a blue or red "out" card in the cabinet to indicate what material is in use. One librarian does not find it necessary to use forms. Four record the withdrawals in a book under the name of the person using the material. One leaves a card in her box labelled "withdrawn." Two librarians have no way of indicating withdrawn material. One finds it a great problem and another writes "We leave the empty envelope in place, Great!." Another



takes a receipt and a deposit of \$1.00 depending on the material withdrawn.

Twenty-eight librarians have no time limit, fourteen have. Seven have a twenty-four hour limit; one, overnight; two, two days; two insist that nothing be retained overnight; one writes, "If it is to be retained overnight special permission must be obtained to do so." One librarian has a time limit of two weeks.

#### SHELLCASTS

Twenty-six newspapers do not furnish shellcasts to other papers, nine rarely do, and thirteen do unqualifiedly. Two furnish mats only. Twenty-six newspapers do not furnish shellcasts to individuals, ten rarely do, and twelve do so. Sixteen librarians handle this service, six do not, and in one library the managing editor takes care of the service. A small charge for this service is made by fourteen libraries, six do not. One writes, "Only a small amount is done and this is considered a courtesy." One newspaper furnishes a Press Bulletin, or, clip sheet for the state editors.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS RETURNED

Thirty-four librarians do the return mailing of borrowed photographs, thirteen do not. Twenty-nine librarians keep a record of the returned photographs, six do not. Two librarians have a return card system and a daily record of outgoing packages is kept in a note book: one files a carbon copy of return address with date; one writes, "Yes, a card record of yellow and white 3 x 5 cards is typed on all photographs returned. The name to whom the picture is forwarded is on a yellow card showing date returned and number of photographs, and the subject is typed on a white card, to whom photograph is sent, date returned. These cards are filed alphabetically." Another puts the names of local photos received in a ledger and writes, "The buck passers do not worry us."

#### RECORDS

Ten librarians keep a record of service rendered by the library, nineteen do not. One librarian "does occasionally to see what we are doing," and another does "just two weeks once a year." Three keep both daily and yearly records, two do monthly.

Calls for service on libraries vary with the size and efficiency of the system. A tiny library has an average of twelve calls a day—a library organized in 1914, of medium size, has three calls a day. Others range from 50 to 450 calls a day. Eleven libraries average 100 to 300 calls—eleven average 50 to 100 calls. Twenty-seven librarians require a signed requisition slip

before giving out material, twenty-six do not, one demands a signed requisition from outsiders, two librarians are not doing so at present but are making arrangements to do so as soon as possible.

Of the twenty-seven librarians who require signed requisition slips, seventeen permit the borrower to sign his own, seven require the signature of department heads, one requires the signature of the managing editor or president of the paper.

From all of this I think you will agree with me that the ideal newspaper library has not arrived. Also, possibly, you will agree that the wide divergence of method and the uncertainty of method shown in many of these replies, call for some real work on the part of this group in the standardization of newspaper library organization and practices.

Such standardization should not be approached with the idea of casting all newspaper libraries in the same mold. It must be recognized that each library has to adapt itself to a particular purpose—"service in the highest possible degree to the newspaper of which it is a part." No two libraries ever will be, or should be, exactly alike.

What is needed is standardization of methods and organization that will fit the different types of libraries, so that the librarian of any given type, will know whether he or she is following a sound plan in solving the particular problems in hand. It may even be that not all of that plan can be adopted by the librarian, but, at least, it will afford a basis for modifications.

Bear in mind that we are dealing here with many librarians who have not even a library training. Many of them are graduates of the news room. Some others are not even newspaper people. Still others have active newspaper duties and have little time to study methods and evolve plans. For them a reliable and carefully done standardization ought to prove a blessing.

In this connection it ought to be said that the work in the standardization of filing classifications, which was planned some time ago, should be carried out. Correct filing is really the key to the service that the library will be able to give out of the materials it has created.

A filing classification that takes into account the peculiar problems of newspapers and enables the librarian to give over 90 per cent of service would be a boon to newspaper libraries.

From the limited insight it has been able to gain, your committee feels encouraged and strongly recommends that the ground it has broken be cultivated to further progress.

## Answers to Questions on Copyright Law

Following his formal paper, Mr. Solberg kindly answered a series of questions on copyright law, which had been prepared by John H. Miller, chairman of the group, who was then librarian for King Features Syndicate in New York. The questions numbered sixteen, and these Mr. Solberg compressed into eight, and gave question and answer as follows:

**QUESTION ONE.** Place of Copyright Notice on Photos.

(a) Must not all photographs that have been registered in the Copyright Office be plainly marked on the front of each print "copyright" or with a C in a circle?

(b) Where copyright is placed on back of the print only, is a newspaper liable for having omitted copyright line in reproduction with or without permission?

**ANSWER.** Sec. 18 of the Act of March 4, 1909, provides for notice of copyright on classes F to K, including class J photographs, that it shall consist of the letter "C" inclosed within a circle "accompanied by the initials, monogram, mark, or symbol of the copyright proprietor: Provided, That on some accessible portion of such copies or of the margin, back, permanent base, or pedestal, or of the substance on which such copies shall be mounted, his name shall appear."

That does not definitely state that every notice must be upon the front of the photograph but it would imply that it was incumbent upon any user of the photograph to search both sides. It will be understood that this requirement applies only to published photographs—not unpublished photographs, which the law does not require to be marked, and, of course, the longer form of notice might properly be used, the word "Copyright" instead of the "C" within a circle, etc.

If the reproduction of the photograph took place without permission the newspaper would probably be liable and the omission of the notice might be an added element of damage, and if there was reproduction even with permission, a newspaper might be liable for omission of the notice of copyright if it led to further and unauthorized reprinting of the photograph

by others. The two cases which bear upon this matter are *Press Publishing Company vs. Falk*, 59 Fed. Rep. 324, and *American Press Association vs. Daily Story Publishing Company*, 120 Fed. Rep. 766.

**QUESTION TWO.** Penalty for Reproduction of Copyright Photos.

(a) Where a newspaper has reproduced a copyrighted photograph without permission, but has used proper copyright line with its reproduction, what is the actual penalty?

(b) Presuming that the copyright owner must prove damage in preceding case, how is such damage determined?

**ANSWER.** There is no express provision of the copyright law permitting reproduction of a copyrighted photograph by reason of using the copyright notice. Any reproduction without permission would constitute infringement. It might, however, be understood between the owner of the photograph and the newspapers that reproduction would be permitted if acknowledgement of source was properly made. I have seen photographs so marked. In that case, of course, it could hardly be held to be an infringement.

We have no citations to cases bearing upon this actual situation but damages for unauthorized use are provided in sec. 25 of the Copyright Act, and it will be noticed that it provides for an injunction restraining such infringement, and in sub-paragraph (b) for such damages to be paid to the copyright proprietor, as he may have suffered from the infringement as well as all the profits arising from the infringement. Or in lieu of actual damages and profits, such damages as the court shall appear to be just according to a scale of damages fixed in the Act itself, and one provision is as follows:

"but in case of a newspaper reproduction of a copyrighted photograph such damages shall not exceed the sum of two hundred dollars nor be less than the sum of fifty dollars."

**QUESTION THREE.** Copyright Registration in United States and England.

(a) Is it not true that copyright is only determined by court proceedings and the fact that one receives a certificate of registration

does not imply that copyright has been secured?

(b) If this be true, does not the copyright law differ on this point with the English copyright law which, we understand, fully protects the photographer by a registration fee of about twenty-five cents, even though the print be not marked copyright?

ANSWER. While final determination as to the validity of a copyright claim if it is called in question must depend upon the decision of the court dealing with the facts involved, it is not strictly true that "copyright is only determined by court proceedings." In this connection it may be interesting to observe that while the Copyright Office has registered more than four and one-half million copyright claims we have found it impossible to list more than five hundred decided and reported copyright cases. Surely there would be no presumption that all the other millions were without protection. I should suppose the correct assumption would be that copyright subsists in any work until it is proven that it does not exist, and in the meantime the production of a certificate of registration is, of course, *prima facie* evidence of the claim of copyright.

The present copyright law in force in Great Britain, the Act of 1911, does not require registration of any claim for copyright. Under the previous legislation in force registration was required at the Stationers' Hall and the circulars of instructions for registering issued by Stationers' Hall provide for registration in the case of works of the fine arts, including paintings, drawings and photographs, with a fee for such registration of one shilling.

This legislation has, of course, been arrogated by the Act of 1911 and there is now no requirement for making registration in the case of a photograph any more than any other work subject-matter of copyright in Great Britain.

QUESTION FOUR. Ownership of Photo Copyright. If a studio photographer copyrights a portrait for which the subject has paid, has it not been determined by the Court that the photographer can only copyright his negative but not the face of the subject thereon? If this be correct, could not the subject properly release the photograph to a newspaper for general publication without the consent of the photographer provided the photographer's copyright line was used with each reproduction?

ANSWER. If the person photographed has paid for his photographic portrait the photographer secures no copyright but the copyright belongs to the person photographed who may register a claim of copyright in the photograph in his own name. It would seem

that in such case the negative also belongs to the person who ordered its production, and the opinion in the case of Press Publishing Company vs. Falk already cited, Fed. Rep. Vol. 59, p. 324, so holds, and that in such case "neither the artist nor any one else has any right to make pictures from the negative or to copy the photograph if not otherwise published for any one else." Evidently, therefore, in such cases the person photographed would be entitled to consent to its use without regard to the photographer. If he had himself registered a claim of copyright in such photograph no doubt he would insist upon any person authorized to reproduce it to do so only with the use of the copyright notice as prescribed in the Copyright Act.

QUESTION FIVE. Ignorance of Copyright Existence. Although time does not permit newspaper editors to investigate copyrights on all photographs reproduced, are they not legally expected to know whether or not prints are marked copyright?

ANSWER. The answer I think would be in the affirmative. The courts have held that ignorance of the existence of copyright does not excuse infringement. This point is touched upon in the case already cited of Press Association vs. Daily Story Publishing Company.

QUESTION SIX. Copyright in Art Museums. Is it not true that works of art in public galleries can not be copyrighted, and where there are copyrighted photographs of these works, the copyright covers the negative only.

ANSWER. It could not be correctly stated or implied that all works of art in public galleries are not subject-matter of copyright. While many works in public galleries being either foreign or old are no longer protected by copyright the reasonable assumption would be that all modern paintings owned and hung in a public gallery are protected by copyright, and when so protected copying a photograph would be infringement. The question of copyright in a photograph is a separate one and the photograph may not only be registered for separate copyright protection in the case of the copyrighted painting which has been photographed but the photograph itself of an uncopyrighted painting might be registered to protect the photographer in his right to sell his copies of the photograph. In that case, however, unless there are special agreements to the contrary it would not imply excluding every other photographer from making similar photographs of the same subject. The apparent distinction in the mind of the inquirer as between

copyright in the negative of a photograph and copyright in the prints it must be pointed out does not exist.

QUESTION SEVEN. Catalog of Copyright Entries. Is there not a printed record of copyright registry of photographs which may be purchased from the Public Printer? If so, please tell us the cost.

ANSWER. All copyright registrations are meticulously and completely included in the Catalogue of Copyright Entries, which is compiled and published by express provisions of law. A separate part of this catalogue is set aside to include the entries for several classes—original works of the fine arts, reproductions of such works, drawings or plastic works of a scientific or technical character, prints and pictorial illustrations, and photographs.

This Catalogue usually makes an annual volume of 500 pages or thereabouts, and it is published in quarterly numbers carefully indexed at the end of the year and furnished complete unbound at a price of \$1 per year. The subscription must be made to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office.

QUESTION EIGHT. Penalty for False Copyright Notice.

Is there any penalty for marking a photograph copyright and then failing to register it? If so, has the United States Government ever taken action against any photographer for failure to register a print after it had been marked copyright?

ANSWER. Whether a penalty could be imposed upon marking a photograph copyright and then failing to register it would depend upon the facts involved. There is a provision of law prohibiting a false notice of copyright.

It is found in section 29 of the Act of March 4, 1909, and reads in part as follows:

"That any person who, with fraudulent intent, shall insert or impress any notice of copyright required by this Act, or words of the same purport, in or upon any uncopyrighted article, . . . shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars and not more than one thousand dollars. . . ."

Notice, however, will be taken of the very important words "with fraudulent intent." It should be remembered that under the present law copyright in any published work is set up by publication with the notice of copyright in the form prescribed by the statute inscribed upon the copies. The provision of law as to registering the claim for the work when so published with notice is to enable the claimant of copyright to sue. It is true that there is a provision requiring the deposit of copies but it is well understood that that was included in the law to meet the necessities of the Library of Congress, but as in the case of many works it is of no special interest to the Library whether they are deposited or not—then the purpose of the deposit and registration becomes that of a right to sue in case of infringement. A number of the earlier copyright acts, e. g., 1802, 1831, 1870, 1891 and 1897, all provided against false notice of copyright with a penalty of \$100. The Act of 1891 provided for such penalty "recoverable one-half for the person who shall sue for such penalty and one-half to the use of the United States." We know of no case where the United States Government intervened to collect this penalty; but it is possible such proceedings were instituted—possibly not reported.

## Executive Board Meeting

The Executive Board, with only one absentee, held its fall meeting at the Hotel Roosevelt on Wednesday, November 30, 1927.

The members of the Board received reports from the Secretary-Treasurer, the Editor and the newly appointed Executive Officer. The President announced that during the summer he had canvassed the members of the Board by mail and secured authority to establish the General Office. Every member of the Board was reached with the exception of the first vice-president who was in Europe. The Board voted to confirm the *ad interim* action of the President and accepted a tentative budget prepared by the Executive Officer.

The report of the Editor showed marked increase in advertising and indicated that the magazine was almost paying the cost of publication.

The Board authorized the President to ap-

point a committee on amendments to the constitution and by-laws.

The Editor and the Executive Officer were appointed a committee of two to investigate the advisability of incorporating the Association under the laws of Rhode Island inasmuch as the General Office is located in that state.

Washington was selected as the location for the next conference and the tentative date fixed as May 21, 22 and 23.

Miss Eleanor S. Cavanaugh was again chosen as chairman of the Program Committee.

Classification of members, the relation between the national and the local associations, methods for obtaining new members and the distribution of publications to institutional members were among the subjects presented for discussion.

In addition to the Board members, officers of local associations and committee chairmen were present and took part in the general discussion.

## Newspaper Group Proceedings

Report by the Secretary-Treasurer, Maurice Symonds, Librarian, New York Daily News

The fifth annual conference of the Newspaper Group of Special Libraries Association was opened at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, Canada, on June 20, 1927, at 2 P. M. Miss Agnes J. Petersen, librarian, Milwaukee Journal, presided in the absence of the group chairman, John H. Miller, librarian, King Features Syndicate, New York. There were thirty present, twenty-five being active newspaper librarians.

Letters from Chairman Miller and Joseph F. Kwapil, librarian, Philadelphia Public Ledger, were read, regretting their inability to attend the conference. The secretary was instructed to send them telegrams of regret.

Miss Petersen read the report of Mr. Miller, chairman of the group, which gave a review of the year in newspaper activity and of the progress made, and extended a cordial greeting to Toronto newspaper librarians. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The financial report showed a balance of \$19.08 in the treasury from the Atlantic City conference, which with income during the year made a total treasury of \$31.08. Expenditures amounted to \$38.94, leaving a deficit of \$7.86, which was wiped out by voluntary contributions of members present.

Paul P. Foster, librarian, Philadelphia Inquirer, chairman of the Committee on Ethics, sent a letter of regret at his inability to attend.

Mr. Kwapil's report on classification was read by the secretary, in which he stressed the need of a comprehensive list of subject headings for a newspaper library.

Messages were read from Major C. Fred Cook, librarian, the Washington Star; David G. Rogers, librarian, New York Herald-Tribune, and "Jack" Black, librarian, San Francisco Call, and author of "You Can't Win."

A paper on "What the Editorial Executive Expects of the Newspaper Library," by Lee A. White of the Detroit News, was read by Ford M. Pettit, librarian of that paper.

The value of rag paper in comparison with pulpwood paper was explained by William D. Harper of New York. He discussed the strength and permanency of the former and

pointed out advantages over Japanese tissue as now used by the New York Public Library in preserving current newspaper files.

William Alcott, librarian, the Boston Globe, conducted the open forum and question box. Miss Gladys L. Saville, librarian, the Christian Science Monitor, Boston, outlined time-saving methods in filing clippings. Lamont J. Hagey, librarian, Toronto Globe, told of his work as librarian, and A. F. Barr, librarian, Toronto Star, described the system and methods used in his library.

Mr. Alcott spoke of the hearty coöperation he had received through contact with newspaper librarians and with other special librarians the country over. He called attention to the desirability of preparing a simple code of ethics for the dual purpose of assuring executives of the aim of the Newspaper Group and for guidance in dealing with fellow librarians. He explained the code of ethics prepared by Charles K. Bolton, librarian, the Boston Athenaeum, for the use of all librarians, which had been reported to A L A, but never adopted. The matter was referred to the Committee on Ethics.

Methods of standardization, of cataloging books and maps, and of handling clippings, were discussed, and at the end of the session the group accepted the invitation of Messrs. Hagey and Barr of Toronto to visit their respective libraries.

### SECOND SESSION

The second session of the fifth conference was called to order at the same place on June 21 at 2 P. M., by the vice-chairman, Miss Petersen. A special invitation from the Toronto Woman's Press Association to attend a tea the following afternoon was received with thanks.

Thorvald Solberg, register of copyrights, Washington, D. C., presented the first formal paper of the afternoon on the subject of "Newspaper Copyright, With Some Practical Suggestions." A series of questions on copyright law and the use of photographs, previously submitted, were answered by Mr. Solberg. R. R. Bowker, publisher of the Library Journal, was present and took an active part in the discussion which followed.

Miss Petersen, as chairman of the Committee on Methods, presented the report on a questionnaire sent to 380 newspaper librarians in the United States and Canada, and from which 70 replies were received. A vast amount of information was collected on every phase of newspaper library work, and a great diversity was disclosed in methods, system and equipment. In the one item of folders for filing clippings, 35 different sizes were found in use.

Bernard K. Sandwell of the Montreal Star gave a brilliant address on "Canadian Journalism and the Newspaper Library," in which he compared progress in the United States and Canada.

Ross A. Christie, librarian, Toronto Telegram, spoke of his library work, and invited the members to visit it, which was done that evening.

The Nominating Committee, Joseph F. Kwapil, chairman, sent its report, and the ticket was unanimously elected as follows: Chairman, Miss Agnes J. Petersen, librarian, Milwaukee Journal; vice-chairman, Maurice Symonds, librarian, New York Daily News; secretary-treasurer, Miss Marie A. E. Walker, librarian, New York Times.

### Report of the Group Chairman

*To the Members and Friends of The Newspaper Group:*

You are now present at the fifth conference of the Newspaper Group of Special Libraries Association, a group founded by Joseph F. Kwapil, librarian of The Public Ledger, Philadelphia, for the purpose of coöperation among newspaper librarians. This group is admittedly the most active group of Special Libraries Association and, we expect, it will eventually be the most powerful of all groups of the mother association.

Today our group has the privilege of holding its conference in virgin soil and of extending its hand to Canadian friends whom we heartily invite to join our ranks and further strengthen the foundation of cooperation and fraternity thus far established. When the first conference of this group was held some five years ago at Atlantic City, New Jersey, there were five present: William Alcott of The Boston Globe, Miss Myrta B. Goodman of the Congressional Index, Messrs. Joseph F. Kwapil of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, Walter E. Murphy of The Boston Post, and Maurice Symonds of The New York Daily News. Little did they dream at that time that they would be invading Canada today. We hail the opportunity of coming to Canada, of welcoming and soliciting

the membership of our Canadian fellow-workers. We sincerely hope that all of them will join our ranks. We need their help, and with the added strength behind the wheel we will undoubtedly make greater, firmer, faster steps ahead and the sooner will we reach our goal.

You have many interesting topics on the program with hardly enough time to take care of them. I shall not take up any more of your minutes so that you may go on with the program. Let me again repeat, Join the Newspaper Group. Let not your interest end there, but help us to put over a worthy cause which will eventually result in our better welfare. In conclusion you have my best wishes for a successful conference which I know is assured and which I sincerely regret circumstances prevent me from attending.

JOHN H. MILLER,

*Chairman.*

### Classification of News Clippings

At the Atlantic City conference, last year, the chairman of the classification committee, after an exhaustive study of the problem of uniform classification for news clippings, presented a report on a way and means of accomplishing this constructive work. The thought was to make a comprehensive list of subject headings, with their subdivisions, and cross references, covering the complete range of newspaper reference work.

No definite action was taken in regard to carrying on the work outlined in the report. As there was no authority given the committee to undertake this work as outlined, the matter was left dormant until such a time as the group definitely agrees on the value of such a work.

It was suggested at the meeting by one of the members present, that the New York Times contemplated compiling a list of subject headings from their clipping files, with the object of publishing it in pamphlet form. The presiding officer of the meeting remarked that it might be well to postpone this work, with the thought that the Times classification might fill our needs, and it would save a great deal of intensive work on the part of the committee. It is the opinion of the speaker that such a list would fall far short of the needs for which it is intended. To make it comprehensive it would be necessary to study the needs of many types of newspapers rather than accepting the classification of any one newspaper librarian. It would be necessary to get together the best minds in the profession representing

several different types of newspapers, to agree on a list of subject headings adaptable to all types of newspaper libraries, big and small.

If the Newspaper Group should undertake this work in a business-like and thorough way, and carry it to a successful conclusion, it would create a work that would go down to posterity. It would be a vital factor to the newspaper library profession. It would serve as a guiding hand to those new in the profession. It is worth

the effort and sacrifice on the part of those who should undertake it. This is the time to do it. There are many newspapers contemplating reorganizing or starting a reference department. It would be a boon to them. It would be the answer to those doubters that ask,—“Why or what good is a newspaper librarians' association?”

JOSEPH F. KWAPIL,  
*Chairman.*

## Groups

### Financial

The Financial Group has mapped out a rather ambitious program for the year, but one that which, if successfully carried out, will add valuable information and publicity to the Association.

We are aiming:

1st. for a larger membership, especially directing our efforts to bringing the Bond and Investment houses into the fold, and also trying to urge all those who hold only individual membership to take out our institutional membership.

2nd. We hope to perfect and prepare for publication if possible the bibliography on government releases that Miss Burnett and her committees submitted at the Toronto Convention. We feel that this bibliography is a very valuable and carefully thought out piece of work and one well deserving the support of our group. We feel that if it could be printed it would become very popular and a credit to our organization.

3rd. At Miss Louise Keller and Miss Ruth Nichols' suggestion, we will also undertake to bring up to date the survey made in 1922 of the classifications used by financial libraries. Many libraries have adopted new methods of classifying since the last survey was made, many classifications have no doubt been expanded.

An up to date survey with a comparison of the most used classifications, would help librarians who are thinking of classifying their collections and would also bring out the weak points in the classifications now in use and might lead to one classification being perfected and perhaps adopted by the Financial Group as the one to be recommended for new libraries entering the field.

This I think is all we can hope to accomplish in one short year. We wish to express to the officers of the Association all the loyalty of our support, and we hope that they will always

call on the Financial Group when there is anything we can do for the good of the organization as a whole.

K. DOROTHY FERGUSON,  
*Chairman of the Financial Group.*

For the information of our group we are printing this list of our committees and the names of the chairman.

#### MEMBERSHIP:

Miss Florence Wagner, Librarian,  
Wall Street Journal, New York.

#### PROGRAM:

Miss Alta B. Claffin, Librarian,  
Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHIES:

Marguerite Burnett, Librarian,  
Federal Reserve Bank, New York.

#### PUBLICITY:

Margaret Reynolds, Librarian,  
First Wisconsin National Bank, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

#### CLEARING HOUSE OF PRINTED INFORMATION:

Miss Alta B. Claffin, Librarian,  
Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

#### CLASSIFICATION:

Ruth G. Nichols, Librarian,  
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

### Newspaper

New York newspaper librarians held a get-together dinner at the New York Newspaper Club, 136 West 42d street, on Monday evening, November 7, and discussed library and association problems.

Maurice Symonds, librarian of the Daily News, and vice-chairman of the Newspaper Group of Special Libraries Association, promoted the affair, while David G. Rogers, librarian of the New York Herald-Tribune, was the committee on dinner. John H. Miller, former chairman of the Newspaper Group, who is now with the Ledger Syndicate in Philadelphia, was toastmaster.

Before sitting down to dinner, Mr. Miller asked the company to stand in silence for a moment in memory of two former newspaper librarians, both of Boston, who had passed away since the last dinner two years ago.

They were William Frederic Berry of the Christian Science Monitor, and Walter E. Murphy of the Boston Post.

During dinner a telegram was received from Miss Agnes J. Petersen, librarian of the Milwaukee Journal, chairman of the Newspaper Group, sending greeting and good wishes, and asking for support of and loyalty to the group and Special Libraries Association. Then came a message from Francis E. Cady of Cleveland, President of Special Libraries Association, in which he told of some of the forward steps of the national association in recent months, and pledged the hearty support of the national association and of its executive committee to the Newspaper Group in their efforts to advance the interests of the group. Both messages were received with applause.

William Alcott, librarian of the Boston Globe, a former chairman of the Newspaper Group, and now a member of the Executive Board of Special Libraries Association, brought in person the greetings of the National Association and the Boston librarians. He spoke of the genius of Joseph F. Kwapil of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, who conceived the idea of an association of newspaper librarians and whose membership now extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific, both in the United States and Canada.

"In its affiliation with Special Libraries Association," said Mr. Alcott, "we are an integral part of probably the greatest fact-finding association in the world. In the hands of the special librarians of this country and Canada are more resources of information than exist anywhere else on the continent. Furthermore, this fact-finding association is thoroughly co-operative, and its vast resources are at the call of any fellow member needing it.

"At the recent Toronto conference of newspaper librarians, Mr. Lee A. White of the Detroit News prepared a paper on the subject, "What does the editorial executive expect of the newspaper librarian," and the answer was, "That which he hasn't got." And, of course, that is so. The ordinary requests that are filled in a routine way never seem to matter, but when the request is made for something that the library is not able to supply immediately, it looms up as a matter of tremendous importance. The librarian is stumped. Sometimes he is told so.

"But it is at that point that the contacts he has made and established through the Newspaper Group and the Special Libraries Association come to his rescue. Is it a fact of finance? The financial librarian will help. Is it a fact about a fire loss? The insurance library will

tell you instantly. Is it a matter of street railway transportation? The street railway library is at your service.

"It seems to me that no one in these days of enormous demands upon one's resources may function at all satisfactorily without the friendly help of Special Libraries Association.

"There is a difference between information and library material. It is the information that is desired, and it is information that is given.

"It is a service that the newspaper librarian is giving to the dear public twenty-four hours a day, with little direct return. But information given to another librarian is returned one hundred fold.

"And I am authorized by the president of the association to say that he himself and the executive committee stand ready to do everything in their power to develop the work of the Newspaper Group and to make it of more value to them. In return he asks your support and co-operation."

Prof. James Melvin Lee, head of the department of Journalism of New York University, who was dining at the club, was invited to speak to the company, and he drew attention to the fact that such a meeting as that would have been impossible twenty or even ten years ago, and said it was probably true that a very true gauge of a newspaper's character could be obtained by a survey of its library.

Joseph F. Kwapil was presented as the founder and organizer of the Newspaper Group, and he was received with hearty applause. He said the aim of the organization was for mutual help in library problems, and especially in the matter of obtaining a workable and satisfactory classification scheme for the newspaper library.

David G. Rogers, of the Tribune-Herald, Charles Stolberg of the Sun, J. B. Sinclair of Kinograms, Miss Anna T. Kottman, business manager of the New York Times Index, and Maurice Symonds spoke briefly and pointed out ways in which the group could help newspaper librarians.

Others present were Philip L. Fitzpatrick of the Evening Graphic, John Goetz of the Evening Post, H. G. Lahm, office manager of Pacific & Atlantic Photo service, Reinhold T. Pusch and Irving Lorber of the American Weekly, Richard Meyer of P. & A. Photo Service, Matthew Redding of the Telegram, Arthur Rosenstock and Frank Purdy of the Home News, Miss Irene Swencicka of the Camden Courier-Post, Miss Marie A. E. Walker of the Times, Miss Florence Walker of the Wall Street Journal, Albert Engelhart and Thomas Logan of the American and Journal.



## Associations

### Boston

The Boston Special Libraries Association had as a guest at its meeting November 28, Mr. Francis E. Cady, president of the Special Libraries Association of America. In the course of an address to the local association he spoke of three main problems of the national body, one to provide for keeping up a union list of periodicals; a second, the duty of local associations to learn of and come in contact with the numerous special libraries in their communities and enlist their interest in the association so that the material they have collected may be made generally available; a third, to create a clearing house of general information for local use.

As Miss Dorothy Manks, librarian of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, in which the meeting was held, pointed out, the library of this society, which is probably the richest in the country in publications and books on the subject of horticulture and floriculture, is comparatively unknown, though all the material in it is accessible to any one interested.

Mr. Cady called attention to the fact that many corporations are ready to start libraries but don't know just how to go about it. A knowledge of the work of the local Special Libraries Association would be of great assistance in such cases for it could put them in touch with other libraries in the same field.

Besides Mr. Cady the Association had as guests Mr. and Mrs. Herbert O. Brigham of Providence to whom the national association is indebted for the editorial and executive management of Special Libraries magazine.

### Cincinnati

The Special Libraries Association of Cincinnati held a meeting on Saturday, November 19, 1927. In the afternoon a visit was made to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Taft. Miss Elizabeth Kellogg, Librarian at the Art Museum, accompanied the group and gave a talk on art and artists. This added greatly to the pleasure of looking at the art treasures and pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Taft's collection.

Dinner and a business meeting followed at the Cincinnati Catholic Women's Club. It was decided to hold the next meeting in January at the Library of the General Hospital.

### Chicago

The Illinois Chapter of the Special Libraries Association held a meeting on Tuesday, November 8th, in the Tribune Building, Miss Mildred Burke, Librarian, being the hostess of the occasion.

Mr. Harper Leech, a special writer in the financial field on the Chicago Tribune, gave a talk entitled "The Business Library as an Aid to the Newspaper Man." Mr. Leech's ability as a writer on finance and economics is well known and contributed to making the meeting an unusually large one. We will print this talk in full in the next issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

### New York

The October meeting of the New York Special Library Association was held on October 25th at the British Luncheon Club, 53 Broadway, New York City. One hundred forty were present and the spirit that prevailed was one that indicated that the interests in Special Libraries is growing rapidly.

After a very enjoyable dinner a small amount of business was taken care of. The Committee Chairmen for the coming year were announced. These will be printed next month in SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

Also a communication was read from Miss Margaret Reynolds, Editor of "We do this" Department of Special Libraries, asking that the New York members contribute something for this Department.

It had been expected that Mr. Magnus Alexander, Managing Director of the National Industrial Conference Board would speak on "Organization Conducting Research in the field of Economics," but as he was unexpectedly called out of town we were unable to hear him at this time. However, Mr. J. F. Morford, Chief of Research Field Staff of the National Industrial Conference Board spoke to us on this subject. Mr. Morford was introduced by the President, Mr. Angus Fletcher, in a very capable way. In Mr. Morford's speech he took up the National Industrial Conference Board and told of its various functions which embodied economic schemes of all kinds, and presented both the for and against in problems of the Industries to determine the need of each. Series of reports were gotten out on the various industries and in this way the data was obtained to answer the various problems that came up. In getting out this material or data was where the Librarian stepped in and proved his usefulness by gathering this material together. The Library furnishes the data for and against these various problems.

The Conference Board is an aid in securing industry and all kinds of material is taken care of; business of all kinds, even to the navy, air

service and many government branches being included. To carry on this work Advisory Committees on education, agriculture, income tax and so forth meet with the Board once a month. These Advisory Committees are entirely advisory and as they are representative of their industry their word is taken as knowing the situation.

There are many problems of a very broad nature in economics taken up, for instance, the social problem and the State of New York Commission of Industry. This is to look after the New York State worker and make a comparison with the workers of seven other eastern states. Then there is a Contact Committee wherein one of the executives a vice-president or above gives his knowledge of the conditions of the industry. In this case the Librarian cooperates to a very large extent with the executive in his knowing the conditions of the plant staff and so forth. Material elsewhere is furnished for the executive and keeps him posted on what is going on.

The work of the Board is of a very wide range covering economics, industrial relation, review of work council and a great deal of this is carried on by means of charts. These charts present a visualization of the material that is hidden away out of sight of the average person, but these charts show a great many things and are easily understood by most anyone. They show the amount of fuel used, the amount of light used, hours of labor, manufacturing interests in the United States, men and women in industries, number of hours industries work and going down until they have charts showing the value of a dollar in every country in the World, also accumulative savings, life insurance and so forth.

Industrial pensions are covered by the Conference Board and their success or failure is regarded. These show the rise in cooperation between the employee and the employer and bring out the power of absorption in work, the employees understanding the conditions a great deal better than heretofore. Here the Library and the Librarian have a big field to cover and act as an educator to the worker by bulletins, charts or house organs.

The Conference Board Bulletin is published with a very broad viewpoint. It is a general expression of problems in industry and helps to show a better way to get the material for the solution of the problem. In closing, Mr. Morford extended to the Association his thanks for being able to speak to them and the hope that a greater coordination would come about by everyone working together.

Following Mr. Morford, Miss Sarah Greer of the Bureau of Municipal Research gave a short talk explaining her line of work. This Bureau is not under the City of New York, but is an organization formed twenty years ago as an Independent Citizen organization to employ the same scientific methods of research and analysis in government, a great many problems having been looked into regarding various cities. This helped to bring about a revision of New York City's accounting methods by the adoption of a budget. In 1921 the National Institute of Public Administration was organized, and this and the Board Bureau of Municipal Research worked hand in hand, the two organizations functioning as one with the same Board of Trustees and so forth. All told the Bureau and the Institute have prepared no less than 4,600 reports and 126 of these have been major field studies and reports. Some of these reports have been very comprehensive on the Government of the City or State with recommendations for reorganization of various departments which have been brought about through these reports.

At the close of Miss Greer's talk the meeting was adjourned.

#### Philadelphia

Another interesting meeting of the Special Libraries Council of Philadelphia and Vicinity was that of November 4, 1927, when the Council was invited to meet at the Franklin Institute.

Mr. Alfred Rigling, Librarian, delivered an entertaining and instructive address on the founding of the Institute and its activities from 1823 to the present time.

Franklin Institute, Mr. Rigling stated, was not founded by Benjamin Franklin, although it receives the increment of one thousand pounds which Franklin bequeathed to the city for the encouragement of young artisans. Its establishment was due to the interest in applied science of two young men, Samuel Vaughn Merrick, who afterwards established the Southwark Iron Foundry, and William Hypolitus Keating, who later became one of the leading scientists of the University of Pennsylvania. Samuel Merrick was an ambitious youth who found himself possessor of a machine-shop, but with no mechanical knowledge, and no opportunity to learn, while William Keating, a professor of chemistry, was anxious to combine science with practice. Their united efforts together with the backing of a group of men of the best quality, brought about the formation of the Institute in 1824, whose purpose it was to maintain courses of lectures on the

mechanical arts and on applications of science; to maintain a library and a reading room. It was also to provide that inventions be examined and reported on by a committee of learned men; to publish a journal; to hold exhibitions of American manufactures; and to award medals to worthy inventors; to collect machines and materials used in the mechanical drawing, chemistry, and to organize a high school for giving young men an education both liberal and practical.

The developing of the features planned in those early days, and the enlarging of the Institute's work up to the present time was covered thoroughly by Mr. Rigling.

A visit to the library followed Mr. Rigling's address, and an opportunity to see many scientific relics, such as Franklin's electrical machine, used in his early experiments, and his stone and table for dressing type.

#### Southern California

On November 15th the Special Libraries Association of Southern California held a meeting in the Library of the Bureau of Power and

Light Department of Water and Power of Los Angeles, Miss Gertrude E. Page, Librarian, being the hostess.

The program was an interesting one with a violin solo by Mrs. H. G. Mathews and a talk by C. K. Chapin on "Lines of Experience Converge into Today and Expand into Tomorrow. Where will they lead?" This was followed by a talk on "Statistics," by C. A. Copeland.

Including a number of guests there were fifty-five present. The dinner was a delicious meal in the preparation of which various kinds of electrical apparatus were used; electrical stoves, refrigerators, etc., and these were all demonstrated, as well as the vacuum cleaners, waffle irons, etc.

After dinner there was shown a very large relief map of the territory from and over which the future water supply of Los Angeles must come, and showing the routes for various suggested aqueducts. The program as it appears on the notice was carried out, and every number was interesting. Mr. Chapin used some charts in illustrating his speech and gave each of us a copy of them in miniature.

## Personal Notes

Mary C. Parker, Department Editor

Mr. Winthrop H. Chenery, chief of the Special Libraries Division of the Boston Public Library, has accepted the position of librarian, with full professorial standing, at Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., and has entered upon his work.

Mr. Walter E. Murphy, formerly librarian of the Boston Post, and one of those who met at the first conference of newspaper librarians at Atlantic City, in 1923, was killed by a falling tree on Boston Common, on October 7. It was his 54th birthday.

When the Bancitaly Club Players gave CAPTAIN APPLEJACK recently Miss K. Dorothy Ferguson took the part of Anna Valeska. Miss Ferguson is the secretary of the club, too.

Miss Dora Sager has been appointed assistant librarian at the Union Oil Company, Wilmington, California.

Miss Lilienthal, formerly assistant in the Insurance Library, Boston, has succeeded Miss Kinney at Library Bureau.

Miss Margaret Reynolds, librarian of the First Wisconsin National Bank of Milwaukee, spoke before the Watertown branch of the A. A. U. W. on Tuesday evening, November 15.

Her subject was "Mere Moderns," a discussion of modern American poetry. In connection with the section on sonnets, Miss Reynolds used the Newark explanation of a sonnet and showed the sample set of Newark reprints on cards of famous English sonnets.

Miss Elizabeth Dobson, who had been with the La Salle Extension University two and a half years and also with the A. W. Shaw Publishing Company, has been chosen librarian for the Chicago Journal of Commerce.

Mr. Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., former President of the Special Libraries Association, is Foreman of the Jury in connection with the famous Sinclair-Falls oil case.

Mr. William P. Cutter, formerly librarian of Arthur D. Little, Inc., is now in charge of classification at the Baker Library, Harvard School of Business Administration.

Mr. Joseph L. Wiley has been made librarian of Arthur D. Little, Inc., at Cambridge. Mr. Wiley was formerly technical librarian of the Public Library at Youngstown, Ohio.

Miss Margaret Kehl, formerly at the Trenton Public Library, is now an assistant at the Municipal reference library of New York.