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# SPECIAL LIBRARIES

"Putting Knowledge to Work"

VOLUME 26

MAY-JUNE 1935

NUMBER 5

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# SPECIAL LIBRARIES

MARIAN C. MANLEY, *Editor*

MAY-JUNE, 1935

Volume 26

+ + +

Number 5

## Using Boston's Special Libraries

By MARGARET A. WHITING

Formerly Editor, *Stone and Webster Journal*

SOMETIMES a librarian is so near his own job that he cannot appreciate the value of his library to the student or the general reader. The latter's point of view, therefore, may be of some interest if only to give him a better conceit of himself.

Let us begin with Beacon Hill, where the Boston Athenaeum, one of our oldest libraries, is almost indispensable to the true Bostonian. If one has occasion to write an article about some aspect of ancient New England the Athenaeum can furnish not only information but a large collection of old prints, among which is sure to be at least one that fits the need. In the treasure room is the first encyclopedia published in the United States. A photostat or two from its many illustrations are great helps when all else fails.

An art teacher recently needed a background for a play which her pupils had arranged to take place in the city of Canterbury. She asked help of the Athenaeum, and they sent her a colored print of a fragment of original glass still left in Canterbury Cathedral. It was exactly the suggestion she needed. Old magazine files in this library are a real treasure trove. It is possible to write a complete history of Pullman travel out of back numbers of the *Scientific American*, or an engaging story of nineteenth century illustrators like Winslow Homer with the help of the files of *Harper's Weekly* and *Ballou's Pictorial*.

Suppose one is pursuing a mere hobby like designing hooked rugs. In the art room of the Athenaeum may be found the most extraordinary designs for unicorns or other creatures in

the old bestiaries, and the search for them leads to the most unexpected discoveries. If one's hobby is eighteenth century music, the Athenaeum, in spite of the fact that it has no music section, does possess the scores of Purcell's operas, "Dido" and "King Arthur," published before the advent of the London Purcell Society. From the Athenaeum one may carry home these scores and really enjoy them.

Across the street, the Teachers' Library is a help to a busy editor who must know what Boston teachers read professionally, but who has no close contacts with them.

Perhaps one is collecting material for a memoir of an old citizen of Charlestown who was a celebrated horticulturist in the early nineteenth century. The Horticultural Library will be able to produce a picture of the peach he originated, and a complete set of the articles he wrote for early farm journals concerning his prize sheep and cattle. Just here the State Library will cooperate to supplement the Horticultural Library, for there one may find the complete manuscript on which the "Hunnewell's History of Charlestown" is based, and so start many lines of investigation. Here also are the reports of the State Commissioner of Agriculture, dating back over a hundred years, and giving precise information about crops and livestock, with pictures of the prize cattle exhibited at the Brighton cattle markets.

If we are extremely up-to-date this spring and arranging an herb garden, the Horticultural Library will help us with the latest herb books and catalogues, as well as recipes for using the herbs after they have sprouted in the

garden. In this connection the Boston Medical Society Library can show us an herb list made by a pharmacist in the 15th century. The herbs and medicinal plants are much the same as those we are trying to grow today, but the beautiful script used by the old scribe makes one covet the manuscript. This library, by the way, is one of the richest in Boston in ancient manuscripts and incunabula.

Once an engineer was writing an article on the poor designs used in modern electric lamps. He wished to make some comparisons with ancient Greek lamps. By telephoning to the Boston Art Museum he soon had just the photographs he needed to make his comparisons graphic to the reader.

One subject is engrossing us all at the moment — money. What is its nature? What is it going to be worth? Can the history of banking give us any enlightenment? The Library of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston can help the worried investor as well as the banker in these perplexing times. It is not only in the realms of finance, however, that the Federal Reserve Bank Library is useful. When the writer was investigating the modern version of humanism it was possible, through the bank library, to borrow a valuable book on "Thomism" from the Library of Boston College, a book not obtainable elsewhere in the city. On another occasion the Federal Reserve Bank Library borrowed Hoover's translation of "Agricola's Mining," a treatise, published in the sixteenth century, from the Widener Li-

brary in order that its pages might be compared with the original treatise, a copy of which is in the possession of the Boston Athenaeum.

The Baker Business Library is always ready to help in business investigations, and so is the library of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In the latter one may sometimes encounter unexpected romance, as witness their collection of illustrated material on the early beginnings of aviation.

The special libraries of the Boston Public Library should not be overlooked by the researcher. Once the hunt for a certain Scotch coat of arms in color was almost abandoned as a hopeless quest in this city, when it was finally discovered one evening in the Barton-Ticknor Collection in the Boston Public Library.

The Kirstein Business Branch of the Public Library is the source of information for every one who needs to consult a directory, domestic or foreign, and it is possible to get this information quickly over the telephone. We have found this library very valuable when hunting for certain facts only to be obtained in specialized trade journals.

The great repository of information concerning people, past and present, is the scrapbooks of obituaries, carefully dated, on file in the library of the *Boston Globe*. In fact, when in doubt where to turn for help on any subject, the writer always calls up this library and seldom fails to be put on the right track.

## Convention News

THE complete program for the 27th annual conference of Special Libraries Association promises a rich treat to all who can attend, both in professional and social aspects. Headquarters will be in Boston's largest hotel, the Hotel Statler, centrally located in the Park Square District. And, by the way, everybody who is planning to attend should make reservations immediately direct with the hotel. Special convention rates are offered.

In some features, the program for the Boston conference follows the New York program of last year. For instance, the opening day will be a visiting day, with libraries and museums of

Harvard University, oldest college in America, as the attraction. Harvard will share the honors part of the time with Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where the Science-Technology Group will visit the libraries of that famous institution. Radcliffe College Library in Cambridge will also be open for visitors. The final event of the convention will be a dinner in the famous Wayside Inn, twenty miles distant, in South Sudbury, made memorable by Longfellow's "Tales of a Wayside Inn," brimming with history and romance, and now owned by Henry Ford.

If you are planning to go to Cambridge on

Harvard Day, June 11, and would like a seat in the bus which will leave the Statler at 9:30 A.M. and a reservation for lunch at the Harvard Faculty Club, please notify the Chairman of the Committee on Local Arrangements as far in advance as possible. As Harvard Day comes at the beginning of the Convention, it is difficult to make an estimate of the number who will attend. It will greatly facilitate matters at the Statler and in Cambridge if you will send word in advance if you wish either or both of these reservations made for you. (Bus fare, 15 cents; luncheon, 85 cents.) Please address Miss Loraine A. Sullivan, Boston Public Library, Copley Square, Boston, Massachusetts.

At the opening session, Special Libraries Association will be welcomed to Boston by James F. Ballard, President of the Boston Chapter; by Mayor Mansfield of Boston, Milton E. Lord, Director of the Boston Public Library, and by Alfred C. Potter, Librarian of Harvard College Library. The response will be made by Miss Dorothy Bemis, First Vice-President of S. L. A. The Convention will then be addressed by Dr. Karl T. Compton, President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on "Federal Participation in Scientific Work".

Two other general sessions will be held on Thursday and Friday mornings at 9:30. These two sessions include the reports of the President, Secretary and Treasurer of S. L. A.; the report of the Editor of *SPECIAL LIBRARIES*; reports of the activities of Chapters, Groups, and standing and special Committees, and the election of officers.

The annual dinner will be held in the Georgian banquet room on Wednesday evening. The guest of honor will be His Excellency, Honorable James M. Curley, Governor of the Commonwealth. The speaker of the evening will be Dr. J. Anton deHaas, Professor of International Relationships at the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

Two notable receptions will be held on Thursday. The afternoon reception will be held at the new building of The Christian Science Publishing Society. This building is remarkable not only for its beauty but also for its efficient arrangement and equipment. It is unique as the only building in which religious writings, periodicals, and a daily news-

paper are published under the same roof.

An Old World charm will pervade the reception on Thursday evening, at the Boston Public Library, because the courtyard of the Library, with its arcaded cloister, is modeled after the court of the Palazzo della Cancelleria at Rome. The lights, colors, music, and dancing will make this a festive occasion. The Boston Public Library is the oldest city library supported by taxation in the world, and it contains within its walls many special libraries and rare collections, as well as the mural paintings by Puvis de Chavannes on the walls of the main stairway; the murals by Edwin A. Abbey in the delivery room, which depict the "Quest and Achievement of the Holy Grail"; and the paintings by Sargent on the third floor, where the famous "Frieze of the Prophets" forms a part of his Triumph of Religion.

On Friday evening, members will travel by special buses over a modern highway to South Sudbury, where, in an atmosphere of stage coaches and sandy roads, dinner will be served at the Wayside Inn, of which Longfellow wrote. Here it is reported Washington stopped on his tour through Massachusetts in 1789. Here will be seen the ancient tap room, the timbered ceilings, the stately ballroom, and the chamber in which tradition holds that Lafayette spent a night in 1824. On the grounds, too, one may visit the old stone mill and the little red school house of "Mary and her little lamb" fame.

One important feature of the Boston conference will be the registration fee of \$1.00. Registration will be required of all who desire to attend the Convention (all or any part of it), except that a number of student tickets will be issued free of charge to library school students, student workers in libraries, and college students interested in library work as a possible career. The badge obtained at the time of registration will qualify delegates to attend meetings.

The conference closes on Friday, but there will still be many special libraries, historic towns and buildings, and cool beaches, to be visited by those who can prolong their stay over the week-end.

Boston is calling! All waterways, railways, highways, airways, and byways converge here on June 11. Prepare to answer, "Present!"

**1909—Special Libraries Association—1935**  
**Twenty-seventh Annual Conference**  
**Hotel Statler, Boston**  
**June 11-14, 1935**

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

**Harvard University Visiting Day**

- 9:30 A.M. Leave Hotel Statler by special bus for Cambridge. Visits to the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration and the Harvard College Library and its special collections.
- 1:00 P.M. Luncheon, Harvard Faculty Club, 20 Quincy Street.
- 2:00 P.M. Visits to the libraries of the Harvard Law School, the University Museums (ethnology, zoölogy, geology, etc.), the Fogg Art Museum, the Germanic Museum, Radcliffe College.
- 4:00 P.M. Executive Board and Advisory Council Meeting, Hotel Statler, Parlor B.

**Museum Group**

- 4:00 P.M. Tea, Fogg Art Museum, Quincy Street.

**Science-Technology Group**

Afternoon. Members of the Science-Technology Group, and any others desiring to visit the libraries of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, will be welcomed there by members of the Library staff.

**First General Session**

8:00 P.M.—Georgian Room

Welcome to the Association from Mr. James F. Ballard, President, Boston Chapter, Special Libraries Association. His Honor, Frederick W. Mansfield, Mayor of the City of Boston. Mr. Milton E. Lord, Director, Boston Public Library. Mr. Alfred C. Potter, Librarian, Harvard College Library.

Response by Miss Dorothy Bemis First Vice-President, Special Libraries Association. Address, "Federal Participation in Scientific Work," Dr. Karl T. Compton, President, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

**Biological Science Group**

- 8:00 A.M. Informal breakfast, Main dining room (terrace).
- 9:30 A.M. Boston Medical Library, 8 The Fenway. Round table discussion. Leader, Mr. James F. Ballard, Librarian, Boston Medical Library. Topics: Book selection and purchase; cooperative buying and allocation of material; weeding out and discarding; binding and its substitutes.
- 1:00 P.M. Informal luncheon, Old France, 258 Huntington Avenue.
- 2:15 P.M. Massachusetts Horticultural Society, 300 Massachusetts Avenue. Round table discussion. Leader, Miss Dorothy St. J. Manks, Librarian, Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Topics: Research materials in the biological sciences; indexes and their deficiencies.

**Commerce and Financial Groups**

- 10:00 A.M. Joint meeting, Parlor A. Address, Dr. Joseph B. Hubbard, Assistant Professor of Business Economics, Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration. "The Executive Uses the Library," Dean Everett W. Lord, Boston University College of Business Administration.

**Financial Group**

- 12:30 P.M. Luncheon, Main dining room (terrace).
- 2:00 P.M. Parlor A. Check List of Current Foreign Financial Material, report by Miss Eleanor S. Cavanaugh, Librarian, Standard Statistics Company, Inc., New York. Subject Headings List, report by Miss Marguerite Burnett, Librarian, Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Business, election of officers, etc.

**Insurance Group**

- 10:00 A.M. Parlor F. Librarians of different types of insurance libraries will discuss the work of their libraries.

2:00 P.M. Parlor F. "The Library and the Company's Educational Activities," Mr. Warren F. Howe, Manager of Sales Training Division, Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company, Hartford. "What an Insurance Executive Expects from the Company Library," Major Howard A. Giddings, Vice-President, The Travelers Insurance Company, Hartford.

#### Museum Group

10:00 A.M. Harvard University Museum, Oxford Street, Cambridge. "Recent Visits to Museums in South America and Africa," Dr. Thomas Barbour, Director, University Museum. "The Textile Art of Ancient Peru," illustrated by exhibits in the Peabody Museum, Mrs. Jean Reed, Assistant, Peabody Museum.

#### Newspaper Group

8:30 A.M. Breakfast conference. "Some New Reference Books," discussion led by Miss Marie-Anne E. Walker, Librarian, *The New York Times*.

9:30 A.M. Parlor D. "Advertising and the Library," Mr. M. Alvah Blanchard, Manager, National Advertising Department, *The Christian Science Monitor*.

Panel Meeting on "Preventing Loss of Library Material." William Alcott, Librarian, *The Boston Globe*, Chairman. Members of panel: Paul P. Foster, Librarian, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*; Stephen A. Greene, Librarian, *The Providence Journal*; Susan M. Meara, Librarian, *The Boston American*; Agnes J. Petersen, Librarian, *The Milwaukee Journal*.

12:30 P.M. Luncheon, Main dining room (terrace). Visit to the Boston Herald Library, 80 Mason Street.

2:00 P.M. Parlor B. "The Romance of a Picture: Its Travels from Photographer to Files." Exhibit and discussion by Maurice Symonds, Librarian, *The New York Daily News*.

#### Science-Technology Group

8:30 A.M. Breakfast, Main dining room (terrace). Public Utility Section.

10:00 A.M. Parlor B. "A Philosophy for the Special Librarian," Mrs. Ruth McG. Lane, Librarian, Vail Library, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Second speaker to be announced.

2:00 P.M. Parlor D. Informal meeting, Chemistry Section.

#### University and College Departmental Librarians

8:00 A.M. Parlor F. Breakfast conference, "Experience" meeting for the purpose of becoming better acquainted.

2:00 P.M. Parlor E. Speaker, Mr. John C. Baker, Assistant Dean and Instructor in Finance, Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

Second speaker to be announced.

#### Annual Banquet

##### 6:30 P.M.—Georgian Room

Toastmaster, Edward H. Redstone, Librarian, Massachusetts State Library.

Guest of Honor, His Excellency, James M. Curley, Governor of the Commonwealth. Speaker of the evening, Dr. J. Anton deHaas, Professor of International Relationships, Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, "Financial and Economic Problems of Europe."

THURSDAY, JUNE 13

#### Second General Session

##### 9:30 A.M.—Georgian Room

President's Address, Ruth Savord.  
Report of Secretary, Elizabeth Lois Clarke.  
Report of Treasurer, Laura A. Woodward.  
Report of Editor, Marian C. Manley.

Report of Committees:

Classification, Mildred E. Robie.  
Convention, Elizabeth Burrage.  
Duplicate Exchange, Mrs. Mildred C. Chamberlin.  
Employment, Rebecca B. Rankin.  
Membership, Adeline M. Macrum.  
Methods, Ruth G. Nichols.  
Publications, Adelaide C. Kight.  
Technical Book Review Index, Granville Meixell.

Reports of Groups: Biological Science, Civic-Social, Commerce, Financial, Insurance, Museum, Newspaper, Public Business Librarians, Science-Technology, University and College Departmental Librarians. Summarized by Mrs. Charlotte Noyes

- Taylor, Chairman, Science-Technology Group.
- Reports of Chapters: Albany, Baltimore, Boston, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Connecticut, Illinois, Michigan, Milwaukee, Montreal, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Southern California.
- Summarized by Eleanor S. Cavanaugh, President, New York Special Libraries Association.
- Biological Science Group**  
2:00 P.M. Harvard Medical School Library, 25 Shattuck Street. Round table discussion. Leader, Miss Frances N. A. Whitman, Librarian, Harvard Medical School. Topics: How to "sell" your library to its clientele; What I do that is different from standard practice; Economies, good and bad. Business meeting.
- Civic-Social Group**  
1:00 P.M. Luncheon, Women's Republican Club, 46 Beacon Street.  
2:30 P.M. Parlor B. "New Sources of Information about Government," Mr. Charles S. Ascher, Secretary, Public Administration Clearing House, Chicago.
- Commerce Group**  
1:00 P.M. Informal luncheon, College Club, 40 Commonwealth Avenue.
- Financial Group**  
1:00 P.M. Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, 30 Pearl Street. Luncheon for librarians of Federal Reserve Banks.
- Insurance Group**  
12:30 P.M. Parlor F. Luncheon, followed by business and discussion. Visit to the Insurance Library Association of Boston, 40 Broad Street.
- Museum Group**  
2:00 P.M. Boston Society of Natural History, 234 Berkeley Street. "The New Frick Library," Miss Ethelwyn Manning, Librarian, Frick Art Reference Library, New York. "Some Old Natural History Source Books," illustrated with lantern slides, Dr. Glover M. Allen, Curator of Mammals, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy.
- Newspaper Group**  
8:30 A.M. Breakfast conference, Main dining room (terrace).
- 1:00 P.M. Luncheon, Old France, 258 Huntington Avenue.
- 2:30 P.M. Library, The Christian Science Publishing Society, 1 Norway Street. "Clearing House of Difficult Questions," discussion led by Miss Agnes J. Petersen, Librarian, *The Milwaukee Journal*.  
Reports of committees; election of officers.  
"A Geographical Classification for a Small Library," Ralph J. Shoemaker, *The Philadelphia Public Ledger*, Chairman of Classification Committee.
- Public Business Librarians**  
2:00 P.M. Parlor D. Informal discussion of administrative problems.
- Science-Technology Group**  
12:30 P.M. Luncheon, Parlor A.  
2:00 P.M. Parlor A. Group symposium.
- Afternoon Tea**  
4:30-6:30 P.M. The Association will be the guests of The Christian Science Publishing Society at the Society's new building, 1 Norway Street.
- Evening Reception**  
9:00-11:00 P.M. The Association will be the guests of the Boston Public Library, Copley Square. Music and dancing.

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

**Third General Session****Business Meeting, 9:30 A.M.**

Unfinished business.

Amendments to Constitution and By-laws.

Election of officers.

**Civic-Social Group**

2:30 P.M. Town Room, Massachusetts Civic League, 3 Joy Street. Greetings from Miss Katharine Van Etten Lyford, Executive Secretary, Massachusetts Civic League.

Business meeting.

Visit to the library of the School of Social Work, 18 Somerset Street.

**Commerce Group**

2:15 P.M. Parlor D. Business meeting. Talks by members of the Group, including Miss Linda H. Morley, Librarian, Industrial Relations Counselors, Inc., New York, on "Statistical Reference Work."



**Newspaper Group**

8:30 A.M. Breakfast conference, Main dining room (terrace).  
 1:00 P.M. Luncheon, Main dining room (terrace). Visit to the libraries of *The Boston Globe*, 244 Washington Street, and *The Boston American-Advertiser-Record*, 5 Winthrop Square.

**Public Business Librarians**

1:00 P.M. Luncheon, Women's City Club, 40 Beacon Street.  
 2:30 P.M. Visit to the Business Branch of the Boston Public Library located in the Kirstein Memorial Building, 20 City Hall Avenue.

**Science-Technology Group**

1:00 P.M. Luncheon, Main dining room (terrace). Rubber Committee.  
 2:15 P.M. Parlor B. Business meeting; committee reports; election of officers.

**University and College Departmental Librarians**

1:00 P.M. Luncheon, Main dining room (terrace).  
 2:15 P.M. Parlor E. Symposium on the departmental library. Business meeting.

**Visit to Longfellow's Wayside Inn, South Sudbury**

5:00 P.M. Leave Hotel Statler by special bus. Arrive at the Wayside Inn about six o'clock: inspection of the house and grounds; dinner.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

**Newspaper Group**

Providence Day. Trip to Providence, followed by visit to *Providence Journal*, Providence Lithograph Company, and John Hay Memorial Library at Brown University. Cars will leave Hotel Statler at 10:00 A.M.

**Conference Expenses**

**Hotel**

Reservations at the Hotel Statler should be made direct. The hotel offers a rate of \$3.50 for

a single room, and \$3 for two persons in a room. All rooms have bath.

**Travel**

*Round Trip Summer Excursion*

New York. . . . .	\$13.80	by rail
Philadelphia. . . . .	19.00	" "
Baltimore. . . . .	24 55	" "
Washington. . . . .	26.85	" "

*Round Trip*

By Colonial Navigation Company  
 via Providence

New York . . . \$ 6.50	30 days limit
Steamer to Providence, and motor bus direct from Providence dock to Statler Hotel.	
Leave New York 6 P.M. Daylight Saving Time.	
Leave Providence 6:15 A.M. Due Boston 8:15 A.M.	

NOTE. — On rail tickets on through trains via Hellgate Bridge Route Washington, Philadelphia and Baltimore add \$1.80.

*Round Trip Pullman Lower Season Ticket One Way*

Pittsburgh . . . . .	\$39.15	\$6 38
Cleveland. . . . .	39.20	6.38
Detroit. . . . .	42 95	7 50
Chicago. . . . .	58 65	10.13
Montreal. . . . .	20.00	3.75
Pacific Coast Points	142.25	24.13

A suggestion is made that those from the North Atlantic States who come to Boston by the Eastern Steamship Lines through Cape Cod Canal on the evening of June 10, register in advance with the local committee members, Miss Elsie Rackstraw for Washington and Baltimore; Miss Gertrude D. Peterkin for Philadelphia and New York. New York delegates wishing to travel together on the Colonial Line should communicate their wishes to Miss Gertrude D. Peterkin

Elsie Rackstraw, Federal Reserve Board Library, Washington.

Gertrude D. Peterkin, American Telephone & Telegraph Co. Library, 195 Broadway, New York.

F. W. Faxon, Chairman, 83 Francis Street, Boston.

### SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

	BREAKFAST CONFERENCES	MORNING	LUNCHEON CONFERENCES	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Tuesday June 11		Harvard Day — Leave Statler 9 30 Harvard Business School Harvard College Library	Harvard Faculty Club — 1:00	Other Harvard Libraries, Rad- cliffe College Museum Group — Tea, Fogg Museum, Cambridge Science-Technology Group — Mass. Institute of Technology Executive Board and Adv. Council, Statler — 4:00	First General Session — 8:00
Wednesday June 12	Biological-Science Newspaper Science-Technology (Public Utility Section) University & College Departmental Libra- rians	Biological-Science Commerce and Financial (Joint) Insurance Museum Newspaper Science-Technology	Biological-Science Financial Newspaper	Biological-Science Financial Insurance Newspaper Science-Technology (Chem. section) University & College Departmental	Annual Dinner — 6:30
Thursday June 13	Newspaper	Second General Session — 9:30	Civic-Social Commerce Financial Insurance Newspaper Science-Technology	Biological-Science Civic-Social Insurance Museum Newspaper Public Business Librarians Science-Technology Tea, Christian Science Pub- lishing Society — 4:30-6:00	Reception, Boston Public Library — 9:00-11:00
Friday June 14	Newspaper	Third General Session — 9:30	Newspaper Public Business Libra- rians Science-Technology (Rubber Committee) University & College De- partmental Librarians	Civic-Social Commerce Public Business Librarians Science-Technology University & College Depart- mental Librarians	Wayside Inn — Leave Statler 5:00

## Our Speakers—and Why

**Dr. Karl Compton**, now President of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is a graduate of the College of Worcester. He started his career as an instructor in the Physics Department of that College. Later he joined the Physics Department at Princeton University, and was chairman of the Department at the time of his appointment to the Presidency of M. I. T. During these years he contributed many articles to scientific literature, and his original research covered investigations in new fields in the realm of physics.

His wide reputation as brilliant scientist and able executive has brought Dr. Compton into active participation in recent matters of national adjustment. He was a member of the Massachusetts Commission for Stability of Employment; and has been Chairman of the Science Advisory Board, appointed by President Roosevelt as part of the national recovery program, to bring the advice of scientific leaders to bear upon the problems of the government in its scientific work. He has recently been elected President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

\* \* \*

**Governor James M. Curley** has for many years been one of the most vigorous and colorful of figures in city and state politics. He was mayor of the City of Boston for three terms. For four years, he was a member of the Examining Committee of the Boston Public Library. During his period of service to the Library, and largely due to his influence, a long-range building plan was launched and developed. In January 1935 he became Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Governor Curley's interest in libraries makes his presence, as guest of honor, at our Annual Dinner singularly appropriate.

\* \* \*

**Dr. J. Anton deHaas** was born in Amsterdam, Holland, and came to the United States in 1904. He is a graduate of Stanford University, and holds higher degrees from both Harvard and Stanford. A specialist on the subject of foreign trade, the list of universities

which have honored him with professorships is impressive. He is now William Ziegler Professor of International Relationships at the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration. A brilliant speaker, his information is always up to the minute in interest and importance.

\* \* \*

**Joseph B. Hubbard** is Assistant Professor of Business Economics at the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration. From 1921 to 1934 he was editor of publications for the Harvard Economic Society. His latest book, published in 1934, is "The Banks, the Budget and Business." We may expect from him a most interesting and useful talk on important trends in financial and business publications.

\* \* \*

**Major Howard A. Giddings** is a military man and a writer as well as a business man. His "Reminiscences of a Busy Forty Years" ran serially in the *Eastern Underwriter*, and he is the author of books on military, business, and outdoor subjects. He has long been connected with the insurance business, and is now vice-president of the Travelers Insurance Company of Hartford.

\* \* \*

**Dr. Glover M. Allen** was for twenty-six years librarian of the Boston Society of Natural History. He is an authority on the literature of biology and natural history, both old and new. He has traveled extensively as a member of scientific expeditions and is now Curator of Mammals at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University.

\* \* \*

**Mrs. Jean Reed** of the staff of the Peabody Museum, Harvard University, has done special research in the field of Peruvian textiles.

\* \* \*

**Everett W. Lord** organized the Boston University College of Business Administration, and has been its able and resourceful Dean since 1913. At one time he held the position of Assistant Commissioner of Education in Porto Rico, and later organized the College of

Business Administration there. He has written a number of books which cover an interesting range including books of verse. Dean Lord can always be depended upon to give a constructive talk on whatever subject he may choose.

\* \* \*

**Mrs. Ruth McG. Lane** is librarian of the Vail Library at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This collection is one of the three great electrical libraries of the world. Mrs. Lane is a graduate of the Simmons College School of Library Science, and has had experience in the public as well as the special library field, though most of her time has been devoted to the latter.

\* \* \*

**Miss Ethelwyn Manning** heads a large staff at the Frick Art Reference Library in New York. The Library's new building, which, be-

sides books, houses a great collection of photographs of paintings, drawings, sculpture and manuscripts, was opened in January 1935.

\* \* \*

**Dr. Thomas Barbour**, Director of the Harvard University Museum and the Museum of Comparative Zoology, has made extensive zoological explorations in foreign countries. He holds membership in the most important scientific societies of the world. A distinguished naturalist, he is also a most delightful personality.

\* \* \*

**Mr. M. Alvah Blanchard**, after graduation from Syracuse University, was associated with Condé Nast Publications, Inc. He later joined the staff of *The Christian Science Monitor* and became Manager of Western Advertising. He now holds the position of Manager of National Advertising.

## What S. L. A. Means to Me

*A pertinent question, answered by members representing different interests, and including many of those recently entering the profession, to whom the future growth of the Association is of special moment.*

### FROM A MUSEUM LIBRARIAN

Active membership in the Special Libraries Association has brought so many benefits to me, that it is difficult to put my thoughts into words.

As a member of the Illinois Chapter, I have met Chicago librarians, and discovered through visits to their libraries the contents and scope of those libraries. Many times the subjects covered were far removed from those in my own particular field of architecture, but I have been able to refer many patrons to them without loss of their time in securing the important material they were seeking. The gratitude of these patrons in each case has been great. Through speakers heard at Chapter meetings unusual services have been discovered and used to good advantage. An opportunity to serve as an officer and on committees has helped to develop an appreciation of the executive side of our professional life. This is especially valuable to the younger members of the profession. Many fine friendships have been made and cherished.

The particular group to which I belong is the Museum Group. At National Conventions I have met other museum librarians who have many of the problems which present themselves in my work. When these problems are discussed they solve themselves quite easily, or, given a new viewpoint they seem less difficult. Meeting these museum librarians serves to give one more of a group feeling, a more professional viewpoint, and many wider contacts.

The larger group — the National Association — serves to tie up the local chapter and the "interest" group. It makes one realize that we are all part of a large, active organization, vital in its contacts and in the service it renders. The speakers heard at the conventions, the reports of the various activities of the organization, and the librarians that form the organization, inspire one to produce better service in one's own library. One's chosen profession seems to be the dignified, satisfactory thing we wish it to be after meeting those people whose names and services are respected

and admired. One's own horizon is greatly enlarged by these meetings, and the real aim of the special librarian becomes more vital. — *Marion Rawls, Assistant in Charge, Burnham Library of Architecture, Art Institute, Chicago.*

#### FROM THE LIBRARIAN OF AN INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT

Times of trouble stress the value of a membership in Special Libraries. On two separate occasions, one of them being a Saturday morning, in desperation for material badly wanted and not available here, I telephoned New York, and in the first mail Monday morning the information came to my desk. This meant a good deal of hard work for the New York specials in securing the material and getting it in the mail, and doubtless ruined a Saturday morning, when one may reasonably expect a little peace. This is only one illustration of the ready spirit of helpfulness that I have never failed to find in the Association's members.

Formation of our local organization has opened to us great funds of information which previously were unavailable. In our Special Libraries Directory, and in our Union List of Periodicals which we are jointly preparing with the Quebec Library Association, we have listed many institutions, corporations, and associations which have no librarians, but which have material invaluable to the research worker. These organizations, through such projects, are becoming increasingly interested in the work done by special librarians, and the eagerness of their officers to cooperate is very refreshing. There are few organized special libraries here, but the number is increasing, and the membership in the Association is growing steadily.

The "We-do-it" column of SPECIAL LIBRARIES is watched very carefully in this library. While our routine is of the simplest, I am constantly watching for some "royal road" to the reduction of routine processes. The joint projects and the symposiums on methods I always examine carefully. When the project does not fall within my ordinary "field," it may be exactly what is most needed on some occasion, for what special has a field that can be definitely bounded? The Duplicate Exchange list is one of the first items I read, and, of course, the lists of recent publications. We

suffer some handicap here in the matter of duty on United States publications, and again in the lack of facilities for the inspection of books before purchase, as the book shops cannot stock business books except those of general interest. McGraw-Hill is now making provision for this. Naturally, we hope other publishers will follow suit. Failing this, we scan reviews, and the inclusion of a book in the SPECIAL LIBRARIES review list gives it a certain status. — *Mary Jane Henderson, Librarian, Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, Investment Library, Montreal.*

#### FROM A TECHNICAL LIBRARIAN

The Special Libraries Association offers me these opportunities:

A chance to learn the latest developments in library administration and methods for making the most use of the material in my library.

A chance to keep in touch with fellow workers, to get new viewpoints and stimulating ideas, to learn how to solve my problems, or, at the worst, to learn that others are trying to solve the same problems.

A chance to meet people from all over the country who are wide awake, intelligent and interested in all kinds of human endeavor.

It is up to us to make the most of these chances. Here are your library vitamins—come and get 'em. — *Charlotte Noyes Taylor, Librarian, Experimental Station, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, Wilmington.*

#### FROM A NEWSPAPER LIBRARIAN

For seven years I have been reaping the benefits of my membership in Special Libraries Association through SPECIAL LIBRARIES. The Association provides me with the most valuable professional journal it has been my privilege to enjoy. The experiences of fellow members as recorded in its volumes, and the personal help so generously given by outstanding librarians in my own field, furnish the necessary stimulus and renewed inspiration to fulfill my ambition to build this library on an unshakable foundation.

In SPECIAL LIBRARIES advertising columns I find what is new in books, supplies, and equipment. Our Duplicate Exchange Committee's work enables me to obtain for my library, valuable books and services we could

not afford to purchase. Our current book reviews and lists of other available publications of interest to the business librarian and the general public meet the increased demand for information service. Knowing what others in the same work are doing gives me a basis of comparison by which I can judge my own work. "We Do This" gives me new ideas, new helps which I can apply to my daily work.

Because my membership in the Association affords me all these services I have a responsibility to fulfill. I can do my share by taking an active part in the work of the organization; by standing ready to share my experiences with my fellow members; by showing students what a useful and prosperous career awaits the young man or woman who chooses the special library field for his own; by soliciting advertising for our magazine; by serving on committees; by attending meetings whenever it is possible for me to do so; and by helping in other ways to promote the growth of the profession in numbers and influence. — *Emelia Bohne, Librarian, Manitowoc Herald-Times, Manitowoc.*

#### FROM A COLLEGE LIBRARIAN

Dear "S. L. A". You may be surprised that one so young (only one year old in S. L. A. growth) would be willing to attest to the benefits derived from becoming a member of your family, but my teething experience has been made so painless, thanks to the cordiality and generosity of the other members of your family, that I feel others should know what you have meant to me already. I came into the fold only one year ago, but I was "born" with the conviction that you could give me the professional expression which I could not find in other affiliations, and I found you not the old-fashioned parent who believes that "the young" should be seen and not heard, but the decidedly modern parent who believes in directed expression. I shall later tell you what form this expression has taken.

You have introduced to me the other members of the family, whose experience in teething and developing has been similar to mine, and these contacts have spared me a great deal of unnecessary growing pain. You have been very indulgent too with your gifts (through

your Duplicate Exchange Committee my depression-ridden library has acquired much valuable reference material which could not otherwise have been secured), and through the advice and guidance of the older members of your family, new vistas of service have been opened up to me, which otherwise would have been unknown.

And now, as to the form my expression has taken: I have been given a job. No religion is worth anything, I guess, unless you work at it, and so I am daily hammering away at my new hobby, which has become the University and College Departmental Librarians Group. And here again, you showed unusual parental foresight in placing me in a group, steered by the world's greatest tactician, Miss Dorothy Bemis.

I feel that I have been enriched in other ways by my association with the traditions of S. L. A., and anticipate even greater benefits in the future. — *Guelda H. Elliott, Librarian, Commerce Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.*

#### FROM A CHEMICAL LIBRARIAN

As I have been a member of S. L. A. for only a short time, I do not feel that I am familiar enough with the organization to know all of the benefits which may be gained from it. On the other hand, those who have been members for a number of years reach the point where they take so much for granted that they no longer see as clearly what S. L. A. does bring to them.

In the first place, there is a professional pride that comes in the mere fact that you belong to such an organization as S. L. A. You are part of a large and growing movement. Your position in the business world is stabilized. You establish the fact that your work is a profession, that it demands certain training, that it is not just a "job." Then, too, there is the glow of professional pride that comes when someone, thinking to trip you up, asks, "Do you know of such and such a library?" and you, outwardly very casual but inwardly proud as Punch, answer, "Oh yes, that library also is a member of S. L. A." It is as if you really said, "Why, my dear fellow, anyone but a Dodo knows of that!" You put the other fellow in his place, and raise your

own stock five or six points by that little word "also."

There are more tangible benefits to be gained from S. L. A. than the above. There is contact with other librarians. This means a chance to get together with people in your own line of work, to talk to some one who is familiar with your sort of problems. Even though this does not solve your problem (it won't, talking never solves anything), it often starts a new line of thought, shows you a new angle at which to attack the difficulty.

Through contacts with other librarians, you learn of the different types of libraries in your vicinity and the sort of information to be found in them. When a request for data which is not in your own collection is received, you are able, by this knowledge of other collections which you have gained, to go directly to the library having that information or to someone who can put you on the right track. It is a decided asset to know where to go when information desired is not in your own collection. This knowledge can come only with a growing familiarity of other Special Libraries in your own vicinity. Your membership in S. L. A. will help you in this better than anything else.

Another thing that S. L. A. gives to its members is an opportunity to learn what people on the other side of the fence think librarians should do. Addresses given by business men at different meetings show you your library from the point of view of the seeker for information; they give you a different gauge by which to determine the utility of your library.

These are only a few of the ways in which membership in S. L. A. helps the individual. Now, look at the other side. What can you give to S. L. A. in return? How can you show your appreciation of what the organization does for you? The answer to these questions is easy — support S. L. A. wholeheartedly. The organization needs you; it cannot function properly without your aid. Your support can best be given in four ways.

1. Prompt payment of dues. The chief source of revenue of any organization is membership dues. If you do not pay promptly, the funds are cut down, and the activities of the organization are necessarily curtailed. You cannot afford to have that happen.

2. Attendance at meetings. Show your belief in your organization. It takes more than mere payment of dues to keep an organization going. If an organization is good enough to join, it should be good enough to support. Show faith in your own judgment by attending the meetings.

3. Willingness to work. You expect S. L. A. to work for you; it is only fair you should work for it. Of course, it requires time and effort, but did you ever get anything that amounted to a row of pins for absolutely nothing? You get out of a thing just what you put into it, and you enjoy it in proportion to the amount of endeavor you put forth.

4. New members. Try for new members. You don't have to be on the membership committee to do this. Talk S. L. A. to those who do not belong. If you are interested, you can arouse interest in others. If there is something in S. L. A. for you, there must be something for the other fellow. Try it. — *Betsy Joy Cole, Librarian, Calco Chemical Company, Inc., Bound Brook.*

#### FROM A PUBLIC LIBRARIAN

##### CREDO

1. I believe that the value of the Special Libraries Association, to me, is greater than that of all other associations put together.

2. I believe that its New York convention represented the concentrated essence of S. L. A.: Cooperation; practical usefulness; the greatest good to the greatest number.

3. I believe that I can fulfil the responsibilities of membership: by broadcasting my enthusiasm for membership; by living up to the ideal of cooperation in relations with other libraries; by accepting, whenever humanly possible, the duties required of me by the Association. — *Rosamond Cruikshank, Technical Librarian, Public Library, Hartford.*

#### SNIPS AND SNIPES ANSWERS A QUESTION

Dear Chief: I feel a bit out of my element in these decorous surroundings and rather exposed without the covering of my editorial "we," but you asked a question and you must be answered!

What does S. L. A. mean to me in my professional life? I found that I was a trifle fuzzy

in my thinking until I defined "profession" for myself. I mean and I think you do, by profession, "the body of persons engaged in a vocation or calling," not the vocation itself. Well, the fact that I am conscious that there is "a body of persons" is due entirely to S. L. A. Without its unifying purpose, I am an isolated individual, a lone voice crying in the wilderness, unheeded and very tiny. Within the Association, I am a part of something that has entity. What I am really trying to say is that only because of S. L. A. do I have a "professional life" in the sense of belonging to or being connected with a profession.

Aside from giving me "a professional life" what has S. L. A. done for me? It has given my job importance, dignity, and prestige in the eyes of the professional world. Those qualities are all inherent, of course, in my work, but

S. L. A. demanded, and then made possible, recognition for them. By spreading the gospel of special libraries, S. L. A. increases my professional opportunities. By setting certain standards, it gives me a criterion for my own work and for the profession as a whole. And it gives me the chance, if I am wise enough to take it, of making in some way an unselfish return for benefits received.

From the practical viewpoint, the gain from S. L. A. seems too obvious to mention. Back among the intangibles again: Will you think me naïve if I admit — I blush as I write it — a bit of inspiration now and then?

Since I'm not at home I'd better not stress the fact that S. L. A. contributes to my "professional life" — that gets more ponderous each time I write it — an awfully good time. — *Snips and Snipes.*

## The "Unaffiliated" Member and S. L. A.

By J. H. SHERA

Scripps Foundation for Research, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio

WIDESPREAD membership participation in official activities is essential to the welfare of any organization. Thus stated baldly, such an assertion appears to be the most obvious of platitudes, yet surprisingly few associations ever achieve this difficult goal. Failure to do so is less frequently the result of indifference on the part of administrators than the exigencies of geography. It is desirable for the promotion of efficiency that executive and administrative authorities be highly centralized regionally; but if an organization is to be of real service it must not neglect the less articulate membership that lies in the *hinterland*.

In recognition of these principles, the Special Libraries Association has developed an admirable unit for their realization — the local Chapter. Through it the members not only can cooperate in the solution of local problems, but they can become more closely affiliated with the parent Association, and can effect more efficiently the furtherance of national programs. The marked achievements of S. L. A. furnish ample testimony to the merits of such a scheme. But it is perhaps pardonable to inter-

rupt one's praise to point out a very real attendant danger. In a country so large as the United States, complete membership affiliation with local chapters is manifestly impossible. Herein lies the nub of the problem — that those who must perforce lie without the pale of influence of the local chapter be not forgotten; that they who are compelled to endure not-so-splendid isolation be not excluded from the program of the national Association.

To develop further this thesis, it is well to examine more closely the nature of S. L. A. itself. Its primary interests, it must be confessed, are decidedly "of the market place" — commerce, finance, industry. While there is room for others, it is none the less true that Business with a capital "B" is its dominating spirit. As such it is necessarily highly urban, and the vast majority of its members draw from the great poly-nucleated areas that cluster about the metropolitan centers in which there are well established local Chapters. Yet despite all this, about one tenth of the total membership of S. L. A. is unaffiliated with any "local," and the problem of making use of the ability represented by this tenth is very real indeed. It may



well be, however, that even one-tenth is not an accurate proportion; doubtless there are many members of "locals" such as Connecticut, Illinois, Michigan, and Southern California, who are as isolated as are those officially characterized as "unaffiliated," and if there be any such they, too, should be brought more completely within the national fold.

One more element merits consideration before the picture is complete. Of the unaffiliated ten percent, almost three-fourths are active members, a proportion far in excess of that displayed by any "local." The implications of this are obvious. Since the interests of these members look toward the parent Association exclusively, any program that seeks to attract their interest must come from that source, and the official organ, *SPECIAL LIBRARIES*, must be the focal point. By this it is not meant that locals are to be excluded in furthering the work. They can do much to develop and encourage the coöperation of those unaffiliated members who are within their respective areas; but in dealing with those who are isolated, traveling expenses must at all times be kept at a minimum, and the mails must be utilized to the fullest extent.

So much for the situation as it stands. The problem that now presents itself is how to draw from this reservoir of latent talent and to divert the flow into channels that will benefit both the Association itself and the participants. There are many possible ways by which this could be done. Perhaps the most obvious is through the creation at Headquarters of a committee whose sole function would be to deal with this group and to stimulate coöperation and active participation from its numbers. It might be organized under the direction of the Liaison Officer or again it could be an additional standing committee. But, in any event, its function would be to determine the interests of the group it represents, classify, and coöordinate these interests and assign them to the specific committee in whose activity the major interest lay. There will be those members who will be most concerned with the work of the committee on Classification, others with that on Duplicate Exchange, others with Methods or Publications, others with book reviews or general work in connection with *SPECIAL LI-*

*BRARIES* itself. Additional activities readily come to mind. The preparation of union lists of various kinds, the advancement of more adequate systems of inter-library loans among special libraries, and perhaps a more ambitious program for the development of greater coöperation between S. L. A. and other library organizations and agencies. So one might go on and on, but whatever the interests are, the work of the committee on unaffiliated members will be to coördinate the whole and to place those individuals in the group where they will work to the best advantage. Conversely, the other branches of the Association can turn to this committee when help is needed that will fall within the scope of the abilities of the unaffiliated group. Thus will be created a kind of "clearing house" that will serve to bring into active participation the isolated "fringe," and serve in a national way, much as the individual locals serve in their way. The methods employed will, of course, be different, but the result will be the same.

These proposals are not the outgrowth of any spirit of dissatisfaction with S. L. A. as it is now organized, and the ideas contained herein are not even particularly new. It is desirable that the work of the Association be centralized in the East, and that the interests of local Chapters to a great extent dominate the work of the organization as a whole. Nevertheless, it is quite possible that at some future time the dangers of inbreeding through too high a degree of centralization may outweigh the administrative advantages of mere geographical propinquity. That the ideas herein suggested have been in the minds of those in administrative offices is evident from the fact that rather recently the membership was circularized with a questionnaire, wherein one was asked to express his viewpoint and state his major interests.

Admittedly, this program will not be an easy one to put into operation. The stimulation of voluntary coöperative enterprises is one of the most difficult of tasks. The national officers would do well in promoting such a program to invite — nay urge — the unaffiliated members into more effective participation. If successful, the rewards would be great — the chance is decidedly worth the taking.

## Reminiscences of S. L. A.

By SENECTATUS

**R**EMINISCENCES! Just as soon as anyone is asked for them, the suggestions are one foot in the grave, gray hair, physical aches and pains, and a touch of mental senility. Besides one simply can't write impressions of the S. L. A. over seventeen years without getting into some kind of trouble. Furthermore, such impressions are from the outside looking in and not from the inside looking out.

First impression. The general pulchritude distributed among the feminine group has increased 310 per cent. The members of the modern group have firmer chins, more flashing eyes and quicker strides.

Second impression. The modern group has lost that wonderful sense of humor which was ever an outstanding characteristic of 1920 and previous years. A great cloud of seriousness has enveloped the younger members of S. L. A. Only those of ten years' membership or longer retain that most delightful understanding of relative values. The latent twinkles in the blue, gray or brown eyes are not so apparent in the modern youthful members during the meetings. Special Library work has always been of a serious nature but the more mature members of today retain that fundamental twinkle.

Third impression. Back in the days of 1920 the members were thoroughly trained in fundamentals of business and special library work. From 1920 to 1935 the economic and social orgy made it necessary for the special librarians to know about a multitude of details, seldom related to fundamentals. The interest of the special librarians was concentrated in the development of a new technique. Business men became chaotic in their demands and the special librarian gave way under the strain. The S. L. A. mind was compelled to accustom itself to mental gymnastics. By the time the depression hit us, fundamentals had been discarded from the filing section of the cerebrum. It was all a good deal like a specialist in industrial pensions who had never heard of the law of supply and demand.

Fourth impression. The 1920 group were zealots, when zeal was necessary. They were

fighters, whenever a fight was considered essential. It is not difficult to recall the old days when one half wanted full A. L. A. affiliation and the other half wanted to raise the S. L. A. into a real, separate organization. We know which side won. But the fur did fly and the velvet diplomacy of Tallyrand was unknown. Maybe the present S. L. A. has just as many hard hitting members, only there is no war on at present . . . for which we may be duly grateful.

Fifth impression. During the past fifteen years the S. L. A. members have made fine advancement in educating the business or technical man in the use of the special library. It was about three hundred years after Lorenzo the Magnificent began a public library for the masses that it really took hold. So, the S. L. A. can be proud of the last fifteen years. Miss Alice Rose often told the story of the vice-president who sent to Egypt for some trade data, took a couple of months and cost about \$100. Had he used the library he could have had the same information in ten minutes with no additional cost to the institution. From underground reports, hints and stories it appears that Miss Mary Louise Alexander led the attack on the big business man's intelligence and it is certainly true that the great John Cotton Dana sowed the seed for making the business library known to the general public.

Sixth impression. The family of S. L. A. is running on all cylinders without carbon or other friction — a smooth, capable, energetic machine and the best brains of any of the professions directing it. Special library work is in its teens. The future needs its Special Library School as a part of one or more of the great universities — not just a library course but a *special* course. Its future members should have this recognized education, training and a real honest-to-goodness degree. There is a vast difference between S. L. A. and A. L. A. work which is not generally appreciated. The business world must be made to appreciate the difference — the difference even between a file clerk and a special librarian.

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

BY the time this issue reaches you, every member of the Association, including Associate members, will have received my letter setting forth the financial situation of the Association. I hope you have made yourselves familiar with the details set forth there, so that you now have a better understanding of the many factors which enter into the administration of the Association.

It is imperative that every member take a personal interest in this phase if the Association is to continue to render the services and conduct the activities incident upon the accomplishment of its purposes — services and activities which, it seems to me, have too often been taken for granted as their rightful due by many members who are not willing to contribute unselfish service to promote those activities and achieve those purposes which ultimately are identical with our own professional advancement.

S. L. A., now in its twenty-sixth year, with over 1,700 members working in fifteen chapters, ten groups, and eight national committees, can point with pride to its many accomplishments, achieved solely and entirely through the voluntary efforts of its loyal and enthusiastic members — members who believed in their chosen profession, who wanted to see the Association prosper, and who were willing to give their time and efforts to its advancement.

Growth has been gradual and recognition hard won. We have had to learn too often by trial and error methods due to the very fact that all our work *was* voluntary — tacked on at the end of busy and oftentimes trying days in our own professional jobs. Doubtless, the difficulties were the greatest spur that could have been offered.

Now, that we have reached somewhat of a milestone in our career, it behooves us to consider how we are to maintain the prestige we have won and continue to make membership in S. L. A. mean the worthwhile things that are so ably presented elsewhere in this issue by a group of members in various parts of the country, working in various fields and in various capacities. If we are to do this — and can anyone doubt its value? — even greater efforts must be put forth by the membership

at large until such time as we may be able to secure greater financial support either from within or without the organization, so that a properly staffed Headquarters may be maintained.

As I see it, these efforts fall into three categories:

1. *Knowledge of the abilities of our entire membership*

The greatest problem that a President and Executive Board — both National and Local — must meet is how to find the ability latent in the membership, how to assign the right Committee Chairmanship or Committee work to the right person. Members who have worked on both National and Local nominating committees will bear me out in the statement that the presentation of a suitable slate seems an impossible task. Why? First, because those who are known to be qualified to serve by ability and experience *will* not accept the responsibility or, in some cases, are prevented from doing so by the exigencies of their personal problems; second, because, many others who have the ability and experience to qualify them are not known.

This latter situation could readily be remedied through our local Chapters making a thorough survey of their members' abilities, calling on new, untried members for work on committees and projects under way and passing on to the National Association information thus acquired. This would abolish the practice which is not peculiar to this Association of constantly calling the same members over and over because they have proved themselves willing and able to help. By spreading the demands, new blood, and consequently new ideas, would be instilled into the Association's activities with a resulting lessening of pressure on the few, and a possible and probable bettering of the work assumed.

2. *Membership promotion*

By this I do not necessarily mean more members, but more interested and more active members — active in their participation in Association activities and falling into the category of Active Membership. We must face facts. As a matter of support, we need this type of membership. Unfortunately, our or-

ganization is not endowed and consequently it is dependent upon its membership dues for a large part of its income. If we have substantial support, we can sponsor stronger and more far-reaching projects. If we are to be content with adding a disproportionate number of Associate Members who contribute nothing financially to the National support, we must accordingly expect a restriction of our accomplishments. Associate Members now represent more than 60% of the total number of members, but contribute less than 20% of the dues. The support of the Association would be more evenly and more fairly divided if such members would move up into the "Active" class.

So much for the Association's standpoint. The statements in this issue from typical members express better than I can the advantages from the individual's point of view — the professional information and stimulation to be acquired through the pages of SPECIAL LIBRARIES; the contacts and willing coöperation of fellow-members which help in one's daily work; the practical usefulness of the reference tools issued by the Association; the professional advancement and help in employment. Active membership with all it implies — active support, active voice in operation and active interest — develops a more thorough *esprit de corps* and makes for a stronger organization.

### 3. *Development of a national viewpoint*

In a national association serving members distributed far and wide, as ours are, a great deal depends upon the operation of our local Chapters, if the best interests of our organization are to be realized. The Chapters are intended to function not only for the purpose of satisfying their local needs, but they also have the responsibility, too little realized, of developing a National feeling and spirit. Is each Chapter, in planning its programs, keeping in mind the support due the National Association? Is it instilling in its individual members a consciousness of S. L. A. and a pride in this National Association; or, is it fostering a purely local attitude? I am sure that in every one of our fifteen Chapters there is at least one member who has had the advantage and privilege of serving as a National officer or in Group or Committee work. Are these people

who are in a favorable position to appreciate the broadening influence of these National contacts, doing all possible to direct the locally-minded members to a National understanding? In carrying out Chapter projects and in trying to meet local requirements, too often the National objectives are obscured and those who *could*, fail to bestir themselves to spread national inspiration.

If funds were available, the ideal solution of this problem would be to have the National President visit every Chapter at least once during the year, thus fostering local understanding of national projects and national understanding of local projects.

Personally, I feel strongly that an association such as ours, which gives to its members so much in professional aid and professional opportunity, to say nothing of the less material but no less important and vital contributions such as friendship, stimulus to carry on the job, and an added dignity in the professional world, should be willing to put its shoulder to the wheel and increase through every possible means the Association's income so that its administrative officers would not be called upon for the terrific sacrifices of time and energy which are now demanded. Until the membership as a whole realizes to the fullest extent how much they are accepting at the hands of their officers, they will not appreciate the necessity of every individual's contribution of both labor and money.

This is my last Presidential message to you. I regret that circumstances have prevented me from closer contacts through the year and from promoting and carrying out many projects which I had planned. It has been a hard year, but I wish I could give to each of you some small share of the enthusiasm and inspiration which I have acquired through responsibility and labor shared and some idea of the joys of working with and for S. L. A.

To Chairmen of Groups and Committees, and to Officers of Chapters, I want to express my appreciation of their consideration at all times. To every member of the Executive Board and to the Headquarters staff on which so much of the work has fallen during the trying time of my illness, I can only say a heartfelt "Thank you!"

RUTH SAVORD, *President*



## Snips and Snipes

*Changes and Chances.* . . . Ethel Wigmore who has been at the National Health Library for nine years, upped and transferred her allegiance to the Bellevue School of Nursing on April 15th. She was speeded on her way with an antique silver brooch from her Library Committee and an Elgin watch from the National Health agencies. Bellevue is the oldest school of nursing in the country. Mrs. Eva R. Hawkins, assistant librarian, continues as acting librarian of the National Health. . . . Marion Mead, our second vice-president, has been made assistant to the editor of *Banking*, the official publication of the American Bankers Association. . . . Jane Wilkinson, a this year's Columbia Library School student, is going down to her new job at Standard Statistics as soon as she gets her diploma. She did practice work at Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn during the Christmas holidays and in among her examinations. . . . Elizabeth McClenahan Stevens, who used to be with Mr. Rigling in Philadelphia, joined up with the Columbia Broadcasting System recently. She's in the Promotion Department, organizing the Library and Information Files.

*S.L.A.ers in Print.* . . . Hazel E. Ohman is running a column in *Placements* called "Library Notes" in which the reader is offered "economic meat and drink." . . . In the souvenir edition of the *Chicago Daily News* commemorating its 60 years of publication, we saw a picture of Thomas V. Sayers and his library. The *News* claims he is a walking encyclopedia with a prodigious memory for names, dates and events. . . . In a footnote on page 43 of Coutant & Doubman's new book "Simplified Market Research" we discovered a nice little reference to Dorothy Bemis and her Lippincott Library. . . . Laura B. Krause's 25th Anniversary with H. M. Byllesby & Company and the Byllesby Engineering & Management Corporation was certainly an occasion. The president presented her with a handsome leather-bound, engrossed copy of a resolution passed by the joint Boards, and 25 red roses. Some of the things they said were: "She has established a library which under her charge has so developed that it has won the

reputation of being one of the best of its kind in the country"; her work has "been rewarded by countless evidences of the great value of the library to the officers and employes." "Miss Krause has also been a leader in the development of the business library as a whole to a high standard of usefulness." In closing, the resolution hopes "that her association with these companies will extend over many more mutually pleasant years." . . . The leading article in the April issue of *The File* was Marguerite Burnett's speech before the joint meeting of the Filing Association and the New York S. L. A. . . . Did you read Paul P. Foster's article in the March *Walton Bulletin* on "Neglected Sources of History"? He discusses the collecting and indexing of newspaper articles in local history as a valuable source of history. He ought to know about newspapers; he's the *Philadelphia Inquirer's* librarian. . . . The April 25th issue of *Advertising & Selling*, one of the leading advertising papers, carries a fine story on a special library, "Getting Facts When You Need Them" by — you've guessed it — the manager of the Library-Research Department at Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn, Inc., Mary Louise Alexander. . . .

*New Jersey makes up its mind.* . . . As we've told you, New Jersey has wanted a chapter all its own and it looks as if they were going to get it; at least they're petitioning the Executive Board for one. On April 24th, the Jerseyites met and after an interesting discussion of advantages and disadvantages voted yes they did want to be a chapter. Admiral Alexander was there to tell about the National organization, and Eleanor Cavanaugh, New York S. L. A.'s president to assure the incipient chapter of New York's friendliest feelings. Alma Mitchill opened the meeting. Marian Manley talked, Betty Joy Cole talked, Miss Hart and Mr. Smitley talked, Mr. Storrs talked, Miss Rummell talked, Miss Gates talked. In fact, everyone talked and everyone had a grand time. As soon as we can, officially, we'll extend the r.h. of f. to the new chapter. . . .

*Snippets.* . . . We have learned that Laura Ferguson of the San Francisco Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce is now Mrs. Cusack. . . . Under "not so good" comes the news that Mr. Cutter has resigned his library job in Bermuda because of ill health. He's in New York for a time and then will be in Boston. We hope to see him at Convention. . . . Other n.s.g. items are Selina Caldor's eyes, which have been troubling her and keeping her from her Case, Pomeroy Library, and Edith Osborn's fractured hip. She's been out from her library at the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* for some time, but by now we hope she's left the hospital. . . . O. E. Norman, librarian of the People's Gas Light and Coke Company has done a clever bit of propaganda for better letter writing. On a blotter he has listed 21 questions to be asked when one has written a letter. If all 21 are answered favorably, it's a good letter. . . . Marjorie J. Darrach, librarian of the Detroit Public Library Science Department is going to the Second International Congress of Libraries and Bibliography. It's in Madrid from May 20th to the 30th and we think she's pretty lucky. We've just seen the program and "international" is certainly the word. The section on Special Libraries sounds interesting. It's divided into libraries of industrial and commercial firms and libraries of parliamentary and government offices. . . . Esther E. Fawcett of the Fine Arts Branch of the Carnegie Institute Library, president of the Pittsburgh Chapter, talked to the students of the Carnegie Library School on March 21st. She told them about the different types of special libraries and suggested their reading the series of articles on "The Special Library Profession and What It Offers." . . .

*Chapter Chat.* . . . Montreal is the banner chapter to date. No members lost for non-payment of dues. . . . Baltimore had a regional meeting on April 12th at the Southern Hotel, to which several Washington librarians came in spite of the weather. Admiral Alexander was the speaker of the evening. She and Eleanor Cavanaugh had such a good time being driven around by Laura Woodward that they stayed over until Sunday. They visited Amy Winslow's Science and Industry Department and Maria C. Brace's Business and Economic

Division in the beautiful new Enoch Pratt Library. Miss Brace, incidentally, was responsible for the successful meeting. Unofficial comments from the Admiral included the statement that there was not a cherry blossom in all Washington but that a swell chicken and waffle dinner at the Olney Inn made up for several cold breezes. *N.B.* to all interested inquirers: She and Miss Cavanaugh did *not* leave their luggage at Manhattan Transfer this time. . . . Cleveland's April meeting was held at the Warner & Swazey Observatory of Case School of Applied Science. There was an opportunity for all members to peer through the telescope. . . . The American Philosophical Society more than gave the Philadelphia Special Library Council an interesting meeting on March 29th. A copy of the Declaration of Independence in Jefferson's handwriting was on display along with other priceless Americana. Carl E. Oldack talked on "Rare Bookbinding through the Ages" and the evening ended with three playlets presented by a former member of an English theatrical troupe called the Merry Morality Players. . . . Pittsburgh had an open discussion on "Weeding" on April 18th. We liked particularly the question "What, besides your conscience, is your guide in discarding?" . . . Florence Bradley gave the New York S. L. A. a most interesting account of her month's stay in New Mexico, where she went to study libraries for the Indian on a government assignment. Her experiences merit an article of its own and we hope she'll be persuaded to write it. Marie J. Carroll of the World Peace Foundation outlined the present potentially dangerous situation in Europe in a very illuminating manner, and brought back to life that old familiar resolve — to read all the foreign news every day. . . .

*Orchids with Palms; or S. & S.'s Annual Awards.* . . . One to Ruth Savord for carrying on through an extremely difficult year, handicapped by ill health and a serious operation. . . . One to Marian Manley for Special Libraries plus endless other activities for S. L. A. . . . One to E. Lois Clarke for being just about 100% in her job. . . . One to the Directory Gals. . . . And one for Admiral Alexander who never leaves the quarter deck when she's needed. . . .

## Constitutional Amendments—Some Comment

### FROM A FORMER S. L. A. PRESIDENT

The letter including the three proposals for amendments to our Constitution and By-Laws, arrived today. Of course, the recommendations of Mr. Brigham's Committee have undoubtedly been decided upon after full consideration, and one can have no objection; except, I have been wondering if it were the intention to exclude *Group* and *National Committee* chairmen from the provision in regard to alternates, in his amendment to By-Law 8.

I haven't a great deal of objection to the Amendments proposed by the list headed by Mr. Alcott's name, dated April 20th. I do not think that they could do any harm to the effective functioning of the Association if the majority of members at our annual meeting should decide to pass upon them.

The set of amendments proposed by the list headed by Mr. Ballard's name and dated April 24, I consider to a large extent, either unworkable or dangerous. The proposal to increase the size of the Executive Board, by the addition of three directors—including two Chapter presidents and one Group chairman, is entirely unworkable.

In the first place, it is hard enough to find each year the present number of members who are willing to make the necessary sacrifice of time and money for attendance at Board meetings and general supervision during the year. In the second place, Groups and Local Chapters are going to have an even harder time in getting members to serve as chairmen and local presidents when there is the possibility always that they may be obliged to serve on the national Board as well, entailing time and expense in addition to their original duties.

The proposed amendments in regard to membership in local chapters, the formation of new chapters, and the allocation of budgets, are too cumbersome and therefore unworkable. But I do think the Association should as soon as possible come to some better understanding as to local chapter membership and the allocation of dues and budgets. The same applies to Group budgets.

The proposal to set up an Advisory Council with elected officers and independent meetings would obviously create an executive organization within an executive organization, with always the danger of war between the two and therefore complete break-down of any progressive functioning of the Association as a whole. An executive board of president and other officers and directors

was created to carry out the will of the Association as a whole, not just one Group or local section, and if the membership is not satisfied with the way it is functioning it is the duty of all the voting members of the Association to see that the situation is remedied at the next annual election. The Advisory Council was created merely to keep the Executive Board in closer touch with the more intimate problems of the groups, committees, and local chapters. It was never intended as a *check* on the functioning of the national Board, and if it begins to work actively in opposition to the Board, as is undoubtedly intended by the framers of these amendments, then we may as well give up any idea of harmony and forward-looking policies by our national Association from then on. — *Alta B. Clafin, Librarian Federal Reserve Bank, Cleveland, Ohio.*

### FROM A CHAPTER PRESIDENT

I find myself completely confused over the two sets of proposed amendments to the S. L. A. Constitution that were sent out to members under date of May 6th.

I can understand two sets of proposed amendments—but I am at a loss to understand how five identical people signed both sets of the amendments. Which amendments do these five people really subscribe to? I know that it is not the case, but the average person reading the amendments dated April 24th would get the feeling that the S. L. A. Boards had, in the past, badly mismanaged the affairs of the Association, when exactly the opposite is true. Each succeeding Board of the Association has managed the Association exceedingly well and at the same time has always had the best interest of the Association at heart.

I think we all feel very strongly that the Advisory Council should be at the Board meetings for we all know that the more members who know intimately what is being planned and done, just so much the better will our Association be. Did not we have this very thing in mind when the Advisory Council was formed?

Why should we clog our machinery by setting up a Board that has power over the Board of Directors? Are not the Board of Directors elected by the members to conduct the affairs of the Association? Would it not be much better for all the members of the Association to have a more flexible constitution than it would have should the new amendments be adopted?

As to including in the Constitution iron-clad rules regarding the budget, I feel that this would be fatal. No Constitution can be changed at a moment's notice, so wouldn't it be much better to leave the budgets in the hands of the Board who are without doubt working for the betterment of the Association, not only for this year, but for the next year and the indefinite future? — *Eleanor S. Cavanaugh, President; New York Special Libraries Association.*

#### THE EDITOR COMMENTS

I, too, found myself confused by the amendments submitted and tried to clarify my own reactions as a member of the Association who is conversant with the working of our present constitution.

The fundamental question in connection with these amendments is how simply and efficiently do we wish to run our national organization? Under the present constitution we have an Executive Board of eight members elected by the Association, a board small enough to transact business efficiently.

At the annual meeting, the whole Association considers its problems and takes appropriate action. Opportunity for this consideration is provided at considerable expense by firms or individuals.

At infrequent intervals during the year (infrequent because of the expense involved), and after much correspondence on Association business, the Executive Board meets and the members of the Advisory Council are present to bring reports, suggestions, and advice "from the field" to the Executive Board and, in turn, to pass on to groups, chapters, and committees, the information derived from this attendance. This means that during the year the members, directly or through their representatives, are informed of the progress of the Association but the actual transaction of business is left to the efficient small Executive Board elected by the votes of the members. Does this not seem a more effective way for a small professional organization such as ours to transact business rather than setting up a second administrative body which would have great difficulty in meeting more than once a year and whose very size would make it unwieldy?

The second basic problem is to what extent shall S. L. A. restrict its freedom of development by the inclusion of regulations as to details of administration in the constitution? In my own experience with Group and Chapter activities the present constitution appears to function adequately. Its fluidity appears admirably suited to a dynamic rather than static organization. — *Marion C. Manley, Editor.*

### THE OFFENDING BY-LAW

By REBECCA B. RANKIN

Librarian Municipal Reference Library, New York

At the Boston Convention, in the business meeting of S. L. A. on June 14th, will occur a discussion on amendments to the constitution. Amending a constitution of even a small organization like ours appalls most members, and they run away from such a discussion. Perhaps if it is clarified for you, you may find it a simple matter and enjoy the discussion, profit by it, and have a grasp of the situation so you can vote intelligently.

The proposals for a change revolve around the Advisory Council and its powers. Now the Advisory Council is the outgrowth of an actual need felt by the national president in 1922/23. We experimented with the idea for a year or two by inviting interested members of the Association into our Executive Board, asking their advice. The president found it practical and helpful and therefore suggested the formation of an Advisory Council and that was incorporated into the revised constitution passed in 1924. It was a necessary part of the larger scheme then inaugurated of affiliating all the local chapters with the national association.

As you know, the Advisory Council is composed of the presidents of the fifteen local chapters or associations, the chairmen of the many Groups, and the chairmen of the national committees. These members bring to the Executive Board at its meetings the opinions of the various sections of the country, the ideas of the special librarians of all types of work, and the suggestions of those doing the actual committee work in touch with the entire membership. The Executive Board needs this broad viewpoint, and since it has only eight members upon whom devolve the responsibility of determining policies, it is decidedly advantageous for them to get advice from all portions of the Association as represented in the Advisory Council.

In addition to giving advice and suggestions, the Advisory Council serves as an instrument for the spreading of information about the activities and accomplishments of the Association to the entire membership. We have an organ, *SPECIAL LIBRARIES*, for that purpose, but direct information by word of mouth is often more delectable. This dual function of the Advisory Council has been found to be very advantageous to the welfare of S. L. A.

The usefulness of the Advisory Council was somewhat dimmed in 1929 when on revision of the constitution that year a by-law stated that



"it should meet with the Executive Board before or during the annual conference"; and in 1932 amended further to provide that the "Advisory Council should meet at least once during the annual conference and upon invitation at any other times of the year." These amendments infer that the Executive Board has the power to exclude the Advisory Council from its meetings, or at best must have the Advisory Council only once at its meetings.

Alas! that gives a very different aspect of the situation. The original purpose of the formulation of the Advisory Council was to help the Executive Board; while the later amendments make it appear that the Executive Board only tolerates the Advisory Council at one of its meetings.

There is a revulsion of feeling on the part of many members toward this seemingly changed attitude in the Executive Board. The clause in the by-law, however, does not express the opinion of the present Executive Board, I am sure.

Some members are now inclined to believe that a sparring for power is necessary, and the proposed amendments to the constitution under discussion in June would give greater power to the Advisory Council and create it as the policy-making body of the Association. That is not at all advisable because we should then be setting up an additional council, constructing a cumbersome piece of mechanism for a small association. It is so much simpler to re-state the By-Law No. 8 relating to the Advisory Council so that the Advisory Council shall maintain its rightful position and power in the Association as originally planned. That By-Law might read: "The members of the Advisory Council shall *ALWAYS* meet with the Executive Board, and shall submit individually or collectively such recommendations as are deemed advisable. Each local association or chapter or group may designate an alternate to represent it in the Advisory Council whenever the attendance of its executive officer is prevented. The alternate shall be a member in good standing, and prepared to express the majority opinion of the chapter, group or committee represented."

The second sentence of the By-Law above provides for an alternate of any member of the Advisory Council who is not able to attend a Board meeting. This is a point about which there exists, at present, a feeling of injustice on the part of the local associations because in recent years there have been two instances of unwise procedure concerning that provision. In the fall of 1930, a new president ruled that a local president should not be in attendance at an Executive Board meeting. The Executive Board of that year did

not invite the Advisory Council to a single one of its meetings, because in her opinion "a greater amount of business could be transacted in parliamentary form in a shorter period of time." That action was permissible under the constitution as it had been amended unwittingly, I believe, by the membership in 1929. However, the old practice of inviting Advisory Council members to the Executive Board was resumed in 1931 and continued happily for all until the convention of June, 1934.

At that time, the incoming president inadvertently abided by the constitution literally and the Advisory Council was invited to only the first of the two meetings held that week by the Executive Board. At the first meeting a matter of great importance to the local chapters was on the calendar for discussion concerning a drastic innovation in the method of allocating dues to local chapters. Many of the locals did not agree with the recommendations made and felt it important that all local chapters be represented at the November meeting of the Executive Board in order to express their hearty disapproval of the proposals.

Chapters at a distance are often not able to have personal representation at an Executive Board; therefore in this instance far-distant chapters requested other local chapter presidents who were nearer to represent them. This procedure was questioned as being in accordance with the constitution, and it was interpreted by the president as not proper. That difference of interpretation was possible. But if the constitution shall be amended to provide that the Advisory Council shall *ALWAYS* meet with the Executive Board such a situation as arose in November 1934 can *NOT* occur again.

Representation of alternates is not highly important as far as power in the Association is concerned. The Advisory Council members do *not* have a *vote* in making the policies but their advice and their opinions have great weight and have never been over-ridden by the Executive Board, not even on the memorable occasion of November 1934. It seems expedient and diplomatic to leave the appointment of an alternate for a member to the Advisory Council to the choice of that Chapter or group or committee by any method they wish to pursue.

The question of the amount of dues to be paid by members and what proportion should be allotted to the locals, the groups, and the national is one which *must* be settled over and over again as conditions change. S. L. A. has changed these amounts many times in the past and will in the future. But it would be a great mistake to in-

clude such decisions as to amounts in our constitution or by-laws as proposed by petition of some members. One can not place the exact amount of dues or even a percentage amount into a set mould in the constitution. That power is wisely placed in the hands of the Executive Board (to be advised by the members of the Advisory Council), and its action must be approved by a majority of the membership.

In consideration of all the points raised by the three proposals for amendments to the constitution, we must keep firmly in mind that our constitution is intended merely to outline the framework of our organization; it is so worded that nothing is iron-clad and may not be easily changed to suit new conditions. The details of administration must be determined upon each occasion by a committee which surveys a situation carefully, presents its best judgment to the Executive Board, which in turn considers the matter and secures the opinions of all members through the Advisory Council and then determines the policy to be advocated and gets final approval for such action from a majority vote of the membership. Why should we incur the Association with more machinery than that? That method S. L. A. has found efficient and satisfactory. Only when we deviated from it has dissatisfaction arisen in that portion of the Association which was not rightfully consulted. The second important point to keep in mind in passing amendments to the constitution is that the provision shall be so worded that there can be but one meaning. A difference of interpretation may cause discussion.

The membership of S. L. A. can accomplish most of the objectives sought by all the present proposals for amendments to the constitution by rewriting By-Law No. 8 which might read as follows:

The members of the Advisory Council shall ALWAYS meet with the Executive Board, and shall submit individually or collectively such recommendations as are deemed advisable. Each local association or chapter or group may designate an alternate to represent it in the Advisory Council whenever the attendance of its executive officer is prevented. The alternate shall be a member in good standing and prepared to express the majority opinion of the chapter, group or committee represented.

Undoubtedly there will be a spirited discussion at the Boston meeting on many points not alluded to in my analysis. Well and good! I know the meeting will end happily, and trust a simple change in By-Law No. 8 may effect the desired result.

## Presiding Officers

### Twenty-Seventh Annual Conference

President — Ruth Savord

#### Group Chairmen

Biological Science — Frank Place.  
 Civic-Social — Mrs. Lucile L. Keck.  
 Commerce — Katherine D. Frankenstein.  
 Financial — Elizabeth H. Holden.  
 Insurance — Mrs. Grace Child Bevan.  
 Museum — Mrs. Clara Harvey Josselyn.  
 Newspaper — Blanche L. Davenport.  
 Public Business Librarians — Dorothy G. Bell.  
 Science-Technology — Mrs. Charlotte Noyes Taylor.  
 University and College Departmental Librarians — Dorothy Bemis.

## Convention Committees

Convention Chairman — Elizabeth Buraage.

Advisory Program Committee — James F. Ballard, Chairman; William Alcott, Arthur H. Cole, Marion Eaton, Elinor Gregory, Milton E. Lord, Edward H. Redstone, Howard L. Stebbins.

Dinner Committee — Georgiana Ames, Chairman; Ruth V. Cook, Abbie Glover, Dorothy St. J. Manks.

Harvard Day Committee — Arthur H. Cole, Chairman; Mrs. Mary H. Feiss.

Local Arrangements Committee — Lorraine A. Sullivan, Chairman; Louise M. Alcott, Edith B. Fagerstrom, Marcena L. Ring, Dorothy T. Merrow.

Local Hospitality Committee — Mrs. Ruth McG. Lane, Chairman; Marion Bowman, Marguerite Chamberlain, Elizabeth S. Downes, Mrs. Stella Merwin, Frederick T. Persons, Edward H. Redstone, Bertha P. Trull.

Travel Committee — F. W. Faxon, Chairman; Gertrude D. Peterkin, New York; Elsie Rackstraw, Washington.

National Hospitality Committee — Florence Bradley, New York; Mrs. Louise P. Dorn, Detroit; Mary Jane Henderson, Montreal; Geraldine Rammer, Stevens Point; Ralph J. Shoemaker, Philadelphia; Rose L. Vormelker, Cleveland; Sue M. Wuchter, Chicago.

## Publications of Special Interest

**Armer, L. A. Southwest.** Longmans, N. Y. 1935. 237 p. \$3.00.

A sympathetic interpretation of the color and spirit of the Southwest but without the specific data of Mary Austin or Charles Loomis. Its charm and understanding make it a delightful addition to a collection of books on this region, but it is hardly a foundation purchase.

**Bartlett, F. C. Problem of noise.** Cambridge Univ. Press, N. Y. 1934. 97 p. \$1.25.

An illuminating, brief discussion of the effects of noise on various individuals with the psychological factor given particular attention. Clear and witty in style. A selective bibliography is included.

**Becker, C. L. Everyman his own historian.** Crofts, N. Y. 1935. 325 p. \$2.50.

Essays by a serene and understanding student whose approach to contemporary problems of government is based on sound scholarship and whose work can do much to develop judgement in relation to history as it grows.

**Brewster, S. F. Twelve men in a box.** Callaghan & Co., Chicago, Ill. 1934. 188 p. \$2.00.

A clear, condensed description of the factors involved in the jury system. Free from excessive legal terminology, it explains the steps in court procedure, and defines the responsibilities, and privileges of jury duty. A stimulating treatment of a vital subject.

**Chant, S. N. F. Mental training.** Macmillan, N. Y. 1934. 205 p. \$2.50.

The personal and practical applications of psychology discussed clearly and delightfully in a style slightly reminiscent of Dimmet's "Art of Thinking." An excellent treatment.

**Commission of Inquiry on Public Service Personnel. Better government personnel.** McGraw-Hill, N. Y. 1935. 192 p. \$2.00.

A clear analysis of the need for a career service system for government personnel. Deals effectively with the fallacies relating to residence requirements, employment of married persons, etc. Shows the great value of ease in transfer. Includes statistical tables, short analyses of State Civil Service laws, a digest of the Federal Civil Service law, etc.

**Cookson (Mrs.) Nesfield. Costume book.** McBride, N. Y. 1935. 278 p. \$2.00.

A compact little volume giving the essential data on costume from 1300 to 1800, illustrated with line drawings with clearly depicted details. Deals with costume problems of little theatre groups suggesting the use of inexpensive materials, otherwise serving as a handbook for amateur theatrical costumers. Includes a brief bibliography.

**Cooper, C. R. Ten thousand public enemies.** Little, Brown & Co., Boston, Mass. 1935. 356 p. \$3.00.

A graphic record of organized crime, and of the prob-

lems involved in its eradication. The work of the Federal Bureau of investigation, in its relation to local crime control, is described at length. While the author presents no definite plan for meeting the problem, he makes clear the responsibility of the average citizen. An engrossing book.

**Coutant, F. R. and Doubman, J. R. Simplified market research.** Walther Printing House, Philadelphia, Pa. 1935. 152 p. \$1.00.

An invaluable little book for those considering problems in market research. The steps in satisfactory procedure, and the pitfalls to avoid are noted. Extensive lists of information sources, and notes on their use are given. Sample questionnaires, standards for market research and a short bibliography are included. The clear, direct style adds to the value of the book. Not indexed, but gives detailed chapter headings.

**Dafoe, J. W. Canada, an American nation.** Columbia Univ. Press, N. Y. 1935. 134 p. \$2.00.

Interprets the Canadian attitude toward Great Britain and the United States as it has developed since the Revolution. An able discussion, particularly interesting because of its detached observation of American growth. The clear, direct style adds to the value of the book. Commonwealth of Nations is clearly shown.

**Davis, M. M. and Jarrett, M. C. Health inventory of New York City.** Columbia Univ. Press, N. Y. 1934. 391 p. \$2.00.

One of the useful studies prepared by the Research Bureau of the Welfare Council in an endeavor to "inventory, appraise and evaluate" the many efforts for social welfare. A careful analysis of the service relating to health education, maternity hygiene, tuberculous control, mental hygiene, etc., is given. Data on clinics with costs and extent of service are included. The study is a masterly presentation and will serve as a valuable guide and checklist for any similar effort.

**Davis, Watson, ed. Advance of science.** Doubleday, Garden City, N. Y. 1934. 414 p. \$3.50.

A book that can bring home even to the completely unscientific, the fascinating developments in all phases of science from understanding the elements to controlling disease. It introduces the reader easily to the leading workers in their fields. The stimulating discussion is frequently followed by pithy, condensed, chronological records. Excellent charts and photographs. A brief glossary of new words in science is included. Well indexed.

**Dubois, Florence. Guide to statistics of social welfare in New York City.** Columbia Univ. Press, N. Y. 1934. 332 p. \$2.50.

Another of the studies compiled by the Welfare Council in 1930. A list of subject headings for social statistics is given with a note on the type of information included. The index covers 344 reports or studies containing such statistics. The location of these reports in different libraries is indicated.

**Marshall, L. C., comp.** Hours and wages provisions in NRA Codes. Brookings Institution, Washington, D. C. 1935. 125 p. 50¢.

A valiant attempt to put on a comparative basis the regulations on two vital points in the hundreds of codes. The explanations of the compared features have been carefully made and the book is a useful addition to the NRA data assembled by Brookings Institute.

**Mather, F. J.** Concerning beauty. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, N. J. 1935. 314 p. \$3.00.

Essays on esthetics that do much to clarify the mental processes of appreciation. Charmingly written with a wide range of illustrative comment. The discussion of the place of the connoisseur, the collector and the art dealer in the chapter on the art lover is particularly pertinent. A selected reading list is included.

**McDannald, A. H., ed.** Modern encyclopaedia. Wm. H. Wise & Co., N. Y. 1935. 1334 p. \$1.95.

Perhaps as good for its price as the World Almanac; these two, and a good small dictionary could make of a cubbyhole a workable reference library. Excellent concise notes, thoroughly up-to-date. Well printed on clear paper and with sturdy make-up.

**Men of Turmoil.** Minton, Balch & Co., N. Y. 1935. 376 p. \$3.75.

Interpretive biographical articles of thirty-seven of the men most crucially affecting contemporaneous events, ranging from such leaders as Roosevelt, Stalin,

Hitler and Mussolini to spiritual guides as Pius XI and Dr. Schweitzer, scientists such as Einstein, Bergson, Freud and Havelock Ellis through music and art to statesmen. The contributors are themselves outstanding in the world of letters. An engrossing guide to a better understanding of world movements as expressed through these vital characters.

**Outhwaite, Leonard.** Unrolling the map. Day, N. Y. 1935. 365 p. \$3.75.

An amazingly, well-planned book. The vivid, yet condensed narrative, and the method of map illustration clarify and define the whole history of exploration from 2750 B. C. to 1935. Careful pen drawings of famous ships of different periods are included as well as well selected bibliography with stimulating notes.

**Pound, Arthur.** Golden Earth. Macmillan, N. Y. 1935. 326 p. \$3.50.

An accumulation of interesting, even amazing records of New York's growth in values combined with skill and discrimination into a thoroughly readable volume. The relation of the bridges and transportation systems to city progress are effectively indicated while the part played by large holders of real estate such as Columbia University or the Astor family is given its proportionate place. A bibliography is included.

**Ryder, Violet and Doust, H. B.** Make your own job. Wilson, N. Y. 1934. 217 p. \$2.00.

An entertaining little book giving a method of self analysis, the experiences of fifty men and women in developing unusual jobs and a checklist of additional opportunities. Each anecdote on job development is

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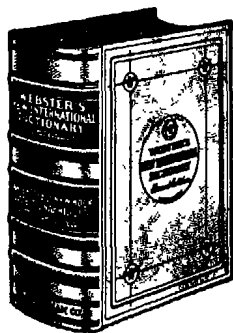
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