

University of Rhode Island

DigitalCommons@URI

---

RILA Bulletin

Rhode Island Library Association

---

10-1938

## Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association, v. 11, no. 1

RILA

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila\\_bulletin](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila_bulletin)

---

### Recommended Citation

RILA, "Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association, v. 11, no. 1" (1938). *RILA Bulletin*. Book 10.  
[https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila\\_bulletin/10](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila_bulletin/10)[https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila\\_bulletin/10](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila_bulletin/10)

This Book is brought to you by the University of Rhode Island. It has been accepted for inclusion in RILA Bulletin by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons-group@uri.edu](mailto:digitalcommons-group@uri.edu). For permission to reuse copyrighted content, contact the author directly.

# BULLETIN

OF THE

## RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

---

VOL. 11

OCTOBER 1938

NO. 1

---

### PROGRAM

FALL MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, October 25, 1938

HARRIS INSTITUTE LIBRARY, WOONSOCKET, R. I.

#### Morning Session

9:45 GREETINGS

Hon. Joseph Pratt, Mayor of Woonsocket

#### BUSINESS

Reports of Committees

10:30 *The Breakdown of Collective Security*

Mr. Campbell B. Beard

11:30 ROUND TABLE CONFERENCES

A. *Which New Book?*

Miss Ruth C. Coombs, Readers' Advisor,  
Providence Public Library

B. *Unusual Library Services*

1. Books for Shut-Ins

Mrs. Muriel C. Wyman

2. Library Training for Children

Miss Ida May Anderson

3. Reference and Circulation Service

Mrs. Sara E. Sherman

4. Correlation of Museum Objects, Books and  
Pictures

Miss Sally E. Coy

C. *Work for the Small Library*

1. What the Watchemoket Library Association  
Has Done

Miss Harriet M. Briggs

2. Small Regional Organizations

Mrs. W. E. Compston

3. Work with Young People

Mrs. Helen S. Jerrett

12:30 LUNCHEON

#### Afternoon Session

2:00 *The German Mind*

Dr. Hedda Korsh

3:00 *The Wind of the Vikings*

Miss Maribelle Cormack

**BULLETIN**  
of the  
**Rhode Island Library Association**

Published every now and then  
and designed to be of interest  
to librarians of Rhode Island

**R. I. L. A. BULLETIN COMMITTEE**

Edith R. Blanchard

Brown University Library

Mildred Bradbury

Providence Public Library

Barbara Hubbard

Providence Athenæum

Vol. II      SEPTEMBER      No. 1

**HARRIS INSTITUTE LIBRARY**

Harris Institute Library owes its existence to the public spirit and generous munificence of Edward Harris, who did so much to advance the prosperity and well-being of Woonsocket. About 1850, the Carrington Library Association, of which Edward Harris was the first president, came into existence.

Several years after this association had been formed, Mr. Harris withdrew from it to protect and execute plans for an institution of greater proportions and more extensive scope. As a preliminary of this object, he erected in 1856-7 the Harris Institute building, in which to provide a place for his enterprises as well as to secure an income for their maintenance.

In 1863 he secured the passage of an act by the general assembly incorporating the "Harris Institute" and later presented the trustees with a deed of the foregoing property, to be held for the purposes expressed in the act. This property was valued at \$70,000 and it was stipulated that the revenues arising therefrom should secure privileges which, under moderate restrictions, might be freely enjoyed by all the citizens of Woonsocket and vicinity. In 1865 Mr. Harris added to his previous gift a gift of \$2500. This money, together with the rentals from the building, was used in purchasing about 4000 volumes for the

library, in rooms prepared for it in the second story of the Institute. This was formally opened to the public in October, 1868, and was the first free library in the state.

Later this building, including the library, became the property of the City of Woonsocket.

*GRACE H. HALL, Librarian.*

**WOONSOCKET MEETING**

Luncheon will be served in the ballroom of the Blackstone Hotel. The cost of the luncheon will be seventy-five cents.

An exhibit and demonstration of methods of book repairing will be given from 2 to 3 o'clock, showing work done by the W. P. A. under the auspices of the State Library.

**OUR SPEAKERS**

Mr. Campbell B. Beard is a member of the Brown University faculty in the Department of Political Science.

Miss Maribelle Cormack is assistant to the Director of the Museum, Roger Williams Park. She is also author of two popular books for children, "The Wind of the Vikings" and "The Runner of the Trail." With William P. Alexander she collaborated on two other juveniles, "Jacques the Goatherd" and "Horns of Gur."

Dr. Hedda Korsch, now head of the German Department of Wheaton College, Norton, Mass., has taught in progressive schools in Germany and Sweden. Before the war she was actively interested in the German Youth Movement, especially where it concerned the advancement of women's education. She, herself, received one of the first doctorates granted to a woman.

**REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

Mr. Clarence E. Sherman, Librarian of the Providence Public Library, has been elected delegate from Rhode Island to attend the meeting in November which will arrange for the next regional conference of Librarians of New England.



# RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## OFFICERS 1938-39

*President*, Norman L. Kilpatrick, Brown University Library  
*First Vice-President*, Ruth C. Coombs, Providence Public Library  
*Second Vice-President*, Francis P. Allen, R. I. State College Library  
*Recording Secretary*, Mrs. Muriel C. Wyman, William H. Hall Free Library  
*Corresponding Secretary*, Esther Levine, Providence Public Library  
*Treasurer*, Gertrude E. Brown, Providence Public Library

## COMMITTEES

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Officers and

Sallie E. Coy, Westerly Public Library  
Grace H. Hall, Harris Institute Library, Woonsocket  
Mrs. Helen Jerrett, Old Warwick League Library

### STATE PLANNING COMMITTEE

(EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)

### COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE STATE

also

### FEDERAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Sallie E. Coy, Westerly Public Library, *Chairman*  
William Davis Miller, *Trustee*, Providence Public Library  
Clarence E. Sherman, Providence Public Library

### COMMITTEE ON CERTIFICATION

Clarence E. Sherman, Providence Public Library, *Chairman*  
Francis P. Allen, Rhode Island State College Library  
Mrs. L. M. Shaw, Oaklawn Public Library

### BULLETIN COMMITTEE

Edith R. Blanchard, Brown University Library, *Chairman*  
Mildred Bradbury, Providence Public Library  
Barbara Hubbard, Providence Athenaeum

### EXHIBITS COMMITTEE

Janet Merrill, Providence Public Library, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Margaret Reid Alsop, Elmwood Public Library  
Ida M. Anderson, William H. Hall Free Library, Edgewood

### HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Aimee F. Draper, Providence Public Library, *Chairman*  
Harriett M. Briggs, Watchemoket Free Public Library, East Providence  
Gertrude E. Brown, Providence Public Library  
West De Rocco, Westerly Public Library  
Eleanor F. Whittemore, Providence Public Library

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Eleanor F. Whittemore, Providence Public Library, *Chairman*  
Alice P. Albro, Narragansett Library, Peacedale  
Edith M. L. Carlborg, Brown University Library  
Alice I. Franklin, Barrington Public Library  
Betty Lewis Richardson, Jessie Smith Memorial Library, Harrisville  
Eleanor L. Robinson, Harris Institute Library, Woonsocket

## ADDRESS BY GRACE SHERWOOD

State Librarian, at the  
Spring library meeting

The other evening I drank a cup of coffee, strong and large, floating heavy cream on top, an old Welsh custom, sipping first the velvety texture of the elixir of mooley-cow and then the tincture of the coffee bean savoring through — as dark strength of tree trunk comes through the thin film of Spring loveliness.

Towards the small hours of early morning, having ticked the sheep on the mental adding machine and addressed my maternal and paternal grandparents from their airy perch on the respective bed posts, I gave up the unequal contest, snapped on the reading light and found this in "A Prairie Grove":

"Of the prairie province they say that the seas made it. Its bones are of coral, of diatoms, and protean microscopic animals. A little later, in the course of millenia that cannot be reckoned, the fishes made it. And then, when the bed of the sea was uplifted and it became dry land, rain fell on it, and the tropical club mosses grew in the marshes tall as trees. When the Carboniferous wind blew in their awkward branches, the golden spores were piled like snow-drifts in the peat. So were the coal measures laid down, and sometimes a fern leaf, broken by an amphibian foot, fell in the ooze to leave its imprint fossil there \* \* \*

"The seas came back, and the continent uneasily shouldered them off again. Each time the great waters came and went they laid down the deep layers of death, out of which life was born. It took all of that—all that growth and dying and time measured off by the millions of years of planetary revolution around the sun—to make the Indian corn grow so tall and taste so like an August day."

Savoring Peattie's rhythm in prose, his cadences as tall and graceful as the grasses filling the prairie spaces under the sky—I cannot wait to share my discovery with someone who has not known the joy of Peattie, the naturalist, singing of the convocation

of amphibians, of green frogs plucking their 'cello strings to the aqueous and lonely rim of March.

If you believe heart and soul in your Library; if you have something precious there, share it with your constituency. You cannot confine your attention just to the technical handling of material, its proper placing on the shelves, its automatic charging out and check off in return, just the routine posting of book reviews and publishers' blurbs. There must be within you more than just the collector of rare documents. You have to be a sort of super-salesman, selling your Library to your community with that never ending urge to share with generosity the nuggets of gold in the stacks. It may depend upon the degree of missionary spirit which we have inherited from that rugged past when our forefathers thought nothing of crossing turbulent oceans to spread the gospel into dark continents, but I do feel that every librarian must put themselves out, indeed it is a responsibility to attempt to enlarge the circle of friends and believers. When so much beauty is caught in the paragraphs of a book like Peattie's "A. manac for Moderns," and always in the Spring also, in the "Wind In the Willows," or in "Fiddler's Green," where the little sisters of the ground swell sing to keep the tides in step—or where map or brochure or rare document, priceless rich in literary content or bibliographical research, are known to you because it is your job to know them, then I claim that it is a privilege and a duty to bring these matters to the attention of the constituency.

There is a great joy in accomplishment, in watching something develop to greater usefulness with more secure foundation, but that joy may well be shared by many. It is a hard task to make your library grow and the more friends you have who share your purpose the more numerous the ripples on the Lake of Community Indifference. I think people are wonderful in the way they respond to a little coaxing and something straight from the shoulder, but you will have to nourish the missionary spirit within yourselves first before



you can sow the seed of enlightenment. Find out what your community would really like through these new friends. Encourage them to tell you the truth and not just please you for the sake of social amenity and then try to expand your collections along the lines based upon a true study of your Community needs.

Friends of your Library will also mean friends in search of ways and means to bring gifts for the purchase of more books. We cannot be insular; nor can we afford to be afraid to make and speak to those friends. It is not for ourselves that we are seeking new avenues of expansion. It is for the good of the whole and on that unselfish premise we have a right to try to grow in endeavor and output.

---

### LIBRARY NEWS

#### Brown University Library

Mr. David A. Jonah, formerly Circulation Chief, has been made Librarian of the new Science Division Library in the new Metcalf Research Laboratory. This divisional library includes seven department libraries—Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Biology, Botany, Geology and Psychology.

Miss Edna M. Worthington, formerly Circulation Assistant, has been appointed Librarian of Pembroke College Library.

Miss Dorothea Lyman, Mt. Holyoke 1935 and Radcliffe 1937, has been appointed as Librarian of Marston Hall Library, which comprises the Romance and Germanic department libraries.

Mr. William H. Jesse, University of Kentucky 1933, Columbia University School of Library Service 1938, has been appointed as Circulation Chief, and Miss Charlotte L. Morse, Pembroke 1936, Miss Josephine M. Russo, Pembroke 1938, and Mr. Roger B. Francis, Brown 1938, have been appointed as Circulation Assistants.

Miss Lois M. Allen, Pembroke 1938, has been appointed as Order Assistant.

New appointments of Catalogers are: Miss Sarah H. Beck, University of Pennsylvania 1926, Drexel Institute 1935; Miss Margaret E. Drewett, Pembroke 1930; Miss Estelle A. Fiddell, New York University 1934, Co-

lumbia University School of Library Service 1938; Miss Marian L. Kesselring, Wheaton College 1931, Columbia University School of Library Service 1938; Miss Hope Reeder, Utah State Agricultural College 1931, Columbia University School of Library Service 1938.

Miss Catharine W. Grout has returned from her leave of absence, spent studying at Columbia University, and is now Chief of the Cataloging Department, succeeding Miss Phoebe Parker, who has retired.

Mr. Norman L. Kilpatrick, formerly Assistant to the Librarian, is now Assistant in Charge of the Preparations Division, which includes the Order Department, the Periodical and Binding Division, and the Catalog Department.

---

### ELMWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Miss Dorothy Wight, librarian of the Gilbert Stuart Junior High School since its opening, 1931, resigned her position last June to become the bride of Mr. Harry A. Tuell of 175 Ontario Street, Providence.

Miss Ruth M. White of Oakdale, Pa., succeeded Miss Wight as librarian of the Gilbert Stuart Junior High School and commenced work there in September. Miss White is a recent graduate of Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, and the School of Library Science of Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, Class of 1938.

Miss Elizabeth D. Packer of Winchester, Mass., a graduate of Tufts College, 1937, and of Simmons College School of Library Science, 1938, was recently appointed as Senior Assistant to the staff of the Elmwood Public Library.

---

### NEWPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mr. Herbert O. Brigham has accepted the Librarianship of the Newport Historical Society Library.

#### AN EXTENSION COURSE

on the Organization and Management of School Libraries is being given this year by the Rhode Island College of Education. The instructors are Clarence E. Sherman, Librarian, and Mary R. Lucas, Supervisor of Young People's Reading, Providence Public Library.