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BULLETIN

OF THE

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Vol. 12

OCTOBER, 1939

No. 1



THE WEAVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

PROGRAM

FALL MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, October 17, 1939

WEAVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY, EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Morning Session

10:00 ADDRESS OF WELCOME

Cyrus M. Wheaton, President, Board of Trustees, Weaver
Memorial Library

BUSINESS MEETING

10:30 LIBRARY SCHOOLS

Dr. Herman H. Henkel

11:30 SYMPOSIUM ON PAMPHLETS

Alice McGrath, Leader

12:45 LUNCHEON

Afternoon Session

2:15 ADULT EDUCATION

Professor Miriam D. Tompkins

3:30 TEA

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
Rose Karlin, Providence Public Library
Barbara Hubbard, Providence Athenæum

THE WEAVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

What is now the Weaver Memorial Library was started in 1870 as the Watchemoket Library Association by a small group of women. It was run as a subscription library until 1885, when it was incorporated and opened as a free library with an appropriation from the town of two hundred dollars.

With further appropriations through the years, the Association continued to operate the library, its members still owning all the equipment, and constantly working hard for its support.

In 1936, at the death of Mrs. Susan B. Anthony of East Providence, the Association received a bequest of money with which to erect a library building in memory of Mrs. Anthony's mother, Mrs. Susan Weaver, one of the original members of the Association.

Now all equipment has been transferred to the town, and the library will hereafter be run by a board of trustees appointed by the town. The Watchemoket Library Association continues as an auxiliary body.

HARRIETT M. BRIGGS, *Librarian.*

THE OCTOBER MEETING

To reach the Weaver Memorial Library: — Take the Taunton Avenue car from Providence and get out at the Town House, East Providence. Automobilists — take Route 44 beyond Washington Bridge.

Following the morning session of the October meeting of the Rhode Island Library Association, luncheon will be served at 12:45 at the United Congregational Church by the United Workers, a group composed of ladies of the church. The cost of the luncheon will be seventy-five cents.

The Watchemoket Library Association extends a cordial invitation to all members of the Rhode Island Association attending the October meeting to be its guests at an informal tea following the afternoon session.

Our Speakers

Miss Miriam Downing Tompkins is associate professor of the School of Library Service at Columbia University.

She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and has done graduate work at the University of Chicago and Yale University. Before joining the faculty of the Columbia University School of Library Service she was chief of the adult education service at Milwaukee Public Library, and later Associate Professor of Book Selection at the Library School, Emory University. She has been an active member of the American Library Association for some years, serving on various committees.

Dr. Herman H. Henkel is the Director of the Simmons College School of Library Science.

A graduate of the University of California, his early experience in library work was gained in the public libraries of Berkeley and Oakland. Later he was in the Bio-Medical Library of the University of California. He gave up this position to become a member of the faculty of the University of Illinois Library School which office he held until he assumed the directorship.

THE JOHN HAY LIBRARY

For over eight months the John Hay Library of Brown University has been a place of noise and dust and much confusion, but now it is beginning to assume its proper role as a place of order and information and helpfulness in the college community.

The new wing provides stack space for 150,000 books. It also contains two new reading rooms and a new circulation room. The old reading room has been re-arranged to afford space for a reference room, and a magazine room. One of the most attractive features is a students' reading room equipped with luxuriously deep-cushioned armchairs. This is called the Reuben Aldrich Guild Room in honor of the librarian who served Brown from 1848 to 1893.

The Division of Social Studies will have seminars and a reading room with direct access to the stacks containing the books which deal with the fields of history, sociology, economics, and political science. There is also a reading room for the Humanities Division with adjacent seminars and faculty studies.

The Preparations Division, including the Order Department and the Cataloging Department, occupies, as before, the College Street level of the building, but partitions have been taken down and new arrangements made to facilitate the work and save time and space.

The students and other users of the Library have already expressed their appreciation of the comfort and convenience which the new addition affords, but only librarians can appreciate fully how much it means to the staff to have at last spacious quarters for work, and ample room for the ever-increasing number of books, as well as adequate equipment for the larger use of the Library so strongly urged by the administration.

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Scholarship

The Rhode Island Library Association offers a scholarship of \$50.00 for the year 1940-41 to a librarian employed in a Rhode Island library, for attendance at an accredited library school, either regular or summer session.

Special consideration will be given to persons employed in smaller libraries.

All applicants must appear in person before the committee when notified.

Applications will be passed upon by a committee consisting of the President of the Rhode Island Library Association, chairman; the immediate Past President and the State Librarian.

Applications must be in the hands of the President of the Rhode Island Library Association by April 1, 1940.

Conference Award

An award of \$25.00 will be granted during 1940 to a member of the Rhode Island Library Association in good standing who shall have made a significant contribution to Rhode Island library service.

This award is to be used for attendance at such library conferences outside of Rhode Island as are approved by the Scholarship Committee.

Only persons employed in smaller libraries (i.e. less than 25,000 volumes) will be considered.

Recommendations must be in the hands of the President of the Rhode Island Library Association by April 1, 1940.

NORMAN L. KILPATRICK, *President.*

LIBRARY NEWS

Brown University Library

The Brown University Library because of the new extension and the re-arrangement of some of the divisional libraries, has added several members to the staff:

In the Circulation Department, — Mrs. Clarence S. Cleasby, Jr. (A.B., Pembroke, 1939), and Mr. Wilbur F. Eastman, Jr. (A.B., Brown, 1939). Mr. Eastman is replacing Mr. Roger B. Francis, who is attending Columbia Library School this year.

In the Catalogue Department, — Miss Martha A. Foster (A.B., Drake, 1936; B.S., Columbia, 1939), and Mrs. Royal Gladding (B.S., Simmons, 1935). Mrs. Gladding was formerly at Middlebury College Library.

Four divisional libraries have been set up in the place of various department libraries. In the John Hay Library are the Division of Humanities (Miss Dorothea Lyman in charge, Miss Thelma M. Salisbury (A.B., Pembroke, 1939), assistant, and the Division of History and Social Studies (Miss Hortense F. Richardson in charge and Miss Louise D. Lyon, A.B., Pembroke, 1939, assistant). In the Metcalf Research Laboratory is the Division of Mathematics and the Physical Sciences (Mr. David A. Jonah in charge and Miss Elizabeth C. Jenney, A.B., Wheaton, 1939, assistant). In the Arnold Biological Laboratory is the Division of Biological Sciences (Miss Gertrude Kopech in charge and Miss Mildred K. Thomas, B.S., R. I. State, 1936 and M.S., Middlebury, 1937, assistant).

Miss Dorothy E. Spofford has returned to the staff after a year's leave of absence spent at Vassar College Library. She is now Librarian of Pembroke College while Miss Edna M. Worthington, formerly in charge of that library, is attending Columbia Library School this year.

Providence Public Library

Helen G. Fickweiler, formerly Assistant in the Reference Department, resigned this summer to take a position in the American Library in Paris, France.

It is hoped that librarians in Providence will take an active interest in the city-wide Exhibit of Printing to be held from November 13th to December 9th.

The Providence Public Library was obliged to close two of its branches in September, — the Rochambeau Branch and the South Providence Branch Library.

The W. P. A. Project for the Blind has produced and distributed throughout Rhode Island a catalog in Braille of the Braille books owned by the Providence Public Library. These books are available to any blind readers in the State and will be mailed both ways postage free.

William H. Hall Free Library

During the month of September the Library held an interesting exhibit of toys, books and native handicraft from South America and the West Indies. This exhibit was loaned by Miss Louise Hobson who every year shares her travels with the Library's readers.

This year three groups of seventh grade classes are spending weekly periods at the Library for recreational reading and instruction in the use of library facilities.

Story Hour will open on October 7th with a lantern slide illustrated story, "The Five Chinese Brothers."

The Library is continuing its service to shut-ins which seems to be much appreciated. Books are delivered and called for by the Library.

Rhode Island School of Design

Mrs. Beatrice B. Rakestraw has resigned her position of Cataloger at the Library of the Rhode Island School of Design. Her place has been taken by Mrs. Elizabeth Geohegan Fisk, formerly a Cataloger at the Brown University Library.

Harrisville Library

Miss Betty L. Richardson of the Harrisville Library has presented her resignation from the Executive Committee of the Rhode Island Library Association. Miss Richardson has accepted a position in Brooklyn, New York.

Newport Historical Society

Mr. Herbert Olin Brigham, formerly Librarian of the Rhode Island State Library, and now Librarian of the Newport Historical Society, was married on September 9th to Miss Mary E. Parrish of Newport.

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Officers, 1939 - 40

PRESIDENT

Norman L. Kilpatrick, Brown University Library

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Ruth Miller, Providence Public Library

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

Francis P. Allen, R. I. State College Library

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Mrs. Muriel C. Wyman, William H. Hall Free Library

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Esther Levine, Providence Public Library

TREASURER

Gertrude E. Brown, Providence Public Library

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The Officers and

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Mrs. Howard S. Harris, Jr., Anne Ida Fuller Library, East Providence

Mrs. L. M. Shaw, Oaklawn Public Library

STATE PLANNING COMMITTEE

(Executive Committee)

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE STATE

also

FEDERAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

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Harriet M. Briggs, Weaver Memorial Library, East Providence

Sallie E. Coy, Westerly 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

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Barbara Hubbard, Providence Athenæum

Rose Karlin, Providence Public Library

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Harriet M. Briggs, Weaver Memorial Library, East Providence

Ida M. Anderson, William H. Hall Free Library, Edgewood

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Gertrude E. Brown, Providence Public Library

West DeRocco, Westerly Public Library

Mrs. Sara E. Sherman, Elmwood Public Library

Edna Thayer, Providence Public Library

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Alice P. Albro, Narragansett Library, Peacedale

Carolyn Bell, Rhode Island State College Library

Edith M. L. Carlborg, Brown University Library

Eleanor L. Robinson, Harris Institute Library, Woonsocket