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Rhode Island Library Association

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10-1941

## Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 14, no. 1

RILA

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### Recommended Citation

RILA, "Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 14, no. 1" (1941). *RILA Bulletin*. Book 16.  
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# BULLETIN

of the

## RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Vol. 14

OCTOBER, 1941

No. 1

### PROGRAM

#### FALL MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, October 7, 1941

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN AUDITORIUM

#### Morning Session

- 9:30 GREETINGS Dr. Royal B. Farnum  
*Executive Vice-President, R. I. S. D.*
- 9:40 BUSINESS MEETING
- 10:00 WHAT'S GOOD AMONG THE NEW FALL BOOKS? Winfield T. Scott
- 10:45 THE NOVEL IN VERSE Christopher La Farge

#### Afternoon Session

- 2:00 DEMOCRACY'S ENEMIES: AT HOME AND ABROAD Professor Campbell B. Beard
- 2:45 WRITER'S CRAMPS Professor William E. Wilson, Jr.

#### The Auditorium Building of The Rhode Island School of Design

Three and a half years ago the Rhode Island Library Association met in the "new building" of the School of Design. Once again the Association is to meet in the "new building" — but it is a different one this time for the Auditorium Building was started almost as soon as the College Street Building was finished.

The Canal Street Entrance or the side entrance on Market Square bring you into the handsome marble tiled vestibules and the main lobby. The modern simplicity and beauty of these are enhanced by the indirect lighting from the ceiling coves. Two carpeted staircases give access to the auditorium proper which is entered at the middle of the single orchestra floor. Nearly a thousand persons can be seated here, and we are hoping that our small group will not feel too lost in the forest of seats.

The stage of the Auditorium is elaborately equipped for the actual production of plays, for the painting of scenery and for other theatrical activities. The electrical arrangements are most intricate, since they must care not only for the unusual lighting of the arched ceiling with its varied color effects, but must also control the spots, the footlight circuits and the overhead stage lights.

In addition to the stage workshops, the dressing rooms and the green room, the Auditorium Building houses the Costume Design studios and workshops. The entire fifth floor is given over to these and is well worth a visit.

A tour of the building will be arranged if enough people are interested.

PROPERTY OF  
RHODE ISLAND STATE COLLEGE  
LIBRARY

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

R. I. L. A. BULLETIN COMMITTEE

ROSE KARLIN, Providence Public Library  
LOUISE ALLEN, Elmwood Public Library  
WILLIAM H. JESSE, Brown University Library

Vol. 14 OCTOBER, 1941 No. 1

### Speaker's Who's Who

Campbell B. Beard of the Department of Political and Social Science, Brown University, has been generous enough to come to our R.I.L.A. meeting and talk on DEMOCRACY'S ENEMIES, in spite of his being at Harvard this year on Sabbatical leave.

Christopher La Farge is a poet, short-story writer, novelist, architect and painter. HOXSIE SELLS HIS ACRES, Mr. La Farge's first novel in verse, was published in 1934. EACH TO THE OTHER followed in 1939 and was a Book of the Month Club selection. Last year POEMS AND PORTRAITS, a collection of his shorter poems, received high praise. At present everyone is chuckling over THE WILSONS, his first prose novel. Selig Greenberg's interview with Mr. La Farge in the *Evening Bulletin* for September 18th, and those with Mr. Wilson and Mr. DeJong are "musts" for Rhode Island libraries' clipping files.

Winfield T. Scott is a poet and critic, also acting literary editor of the *Providence Journal*. His BIOGRAPHY FOR TRAMAN was published in 1937, and even before that Mr. Scott's poetry column has aroused much interest.

William E. Wilson, Junior, has not only written BIG KNIFE, THE WABASH and his latest novel YES-TERDAY'S SON but has also found time to teach English at the Rhode Island School of Design, much to the delight of his students.

If you have not already seen the Library of the School of Design with its beautiful Reading Room panelled in teakwood, this will be a good opportunity to do so. The easiest way to reach it is through the Benefit Street entrance to the College Street Building. The Library is situated one floor above that entrance. The Museum of Art of the School of Design is also extending its hospitality to the Library Association. In addition to the wealth of treasures that are regularly exhibited, there are three special shows on hand at the time of this meeting. They are as follows: American Subjects in Printed Cottons, Persian and Paisley Shawls and Mrs. James Ward Thorne's Miniature Rooms. Admission to the Miniature Rooms is twenty-five cents on all days except Saturdays and Sundays.

### Where to Eat

Luncheon may be obtained at any one of a number of restaurants near the Auditorium. The Handicraft Club on College Hill, Child's or Gibson's on lower Westminster Street, the Dreyfus Hotel or Miss Dutton's on Washington Street, Old France on Eddy Street, the Minden on Waterman Street and Carr's on Angell Street.

### R. I. L. A. Awards

Mr. Wilbur F. Eastman, Brown University Library, was the recipient of the scholarship award for 1941, and is attending Columbia University Library School.

Conference awards went to Mrs. Harriet M. Briggs of the Weaver Memorial Library, East Providence; Mrs. Mary M. Nixon of the Summitt Free Library; and Mrs. Grace Hey of the William H. Hall Free Library in recognition of their outstanding work.



## LIBRARY NEWS

### Brown University Library

New appointments to the staff are as follows: Joseph S. Jackson, Columbia, 1941, in charge of Special Collections; Ruth K. Mann, Minnesota, 1941, Cataloger; Abraham Schwartz, Brown, 1941, Order Department assistant; Frances J. Thompson, Pembroke, 1941, Reserve Desk assistant and Mabel C. Wyllie, Drexel, 1938, Cataloger of Latin American films.

### William H. Hall Free Library

Miss Susan Beckwith has left for a year of study at Simmons College.

The library has a most unusual exhibit of handicrafts, vegetation, books and pictures of Guatemala, lent by Miss Louise Hobson, a Cranston teacher.

Another exhibit celebrates the centennial of the birth of Antonin Dvořák, the well-known composer.

### The Providence Athenæum

The Providence Athenæum has recently announced the retirement of Miss Grace F. Leonard, who has been connected with the Athenæum for forty-six years, including thirty years as Librarian. Miss Leonard was the seventh Librarian of the institution, succeeding Joseph L. Harrison in 1912. The Board of Directors has appointed Mr. Henry Adams La Farge, of the Yale University Library, to be Librarian to succeed Miss Leonard. While at the Yale Library, Mr. La Farge was chiefly occupied with the classification and administration of historical manuscripts and research connected therewith.

Although the Providence Athenæum is traditionally maintained for the special use of its shareholders, the privileges have recently been extended to all officers of the United States Army or Navy who are or may be stationed in or near Providence.

In common with a great many other libraries, the Athenæum notes a drop in circulation during the past year, which is without doubt due to factors connected with the defense

program and war relief activities. Books classified under the heading of History, however, showed an actual increase, which probably denotes a current interest in readers who wish to become better informed on the background of the world conflict.

### Providence Public Library

On Monday evening, November 24th, a program called Christmas Book Buying Guide will take place in the Boys' and Girls' Department with the following participating: Miss Ruth Coombs, Miss Virginia Fooks, Miss Alice McGrath and Mr. Clarence E. Sherman, the Librarian.

Miss Catherine Towers, Branch Librarian at Wanskuck has succeeded Miss Theresa McAnarney who has resigned as Branch Librarian at South Providence.

Miss Mary O'Neil has been appointed Branch Librarian at Wanskuck, while Miss Marion W. Walker will take over the position of Sub-branch Librarian formerly held by Miss O'Neil.

Miss Margaret M. Reynolds, assistant in the Circulation Department, has been named First Assistant. Miss Elizabeth M. Carroll, Simmons, 1941, has been appointed to the Department to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Mary Elizabeth Mayo, who has gone to Savannah, Georgia as Librarian of Armstrong Junior College.

Miss Helen E. Mabbott has succeeded Miss Louise E. Herbert as Children's Librarian at Rochambeau. Miss Herbert has accepted a position as Librarian at the Great Neck, L. I. Public Library.

### Rhode Island Historical Society

The renovation program of the Rhode Island Historical Society, which has been in process most of the summer, is nearly completed and the building will soon be open to the public. Even now the work is far enough advanced so that any one wishing to do research is welcome to do so.

# RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Officers, 1941 - 42

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