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BULLETIN

of the

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Vol. 19

MAY, 1947

No. 1



SPRING MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, May 20, 1947

RHODE ISLAND STATE COLLEGE, KINGSTON, RHODE ISLAND

MORNING SESSION

At Quinn Auditorium

10:30 ADDRESS OF WELCOME—DR. CARL R. WOODWARD
BUSINESS MEETING

11:00 THE KINGSTON FREE LIBRARY

Professor Joseph W. Ince

11:20 RHODE ISLAND SEMINAR OF HUMAN RELATIONS

R. Franklin Weller

11:45 TOWN MEETINGS, PAST AND PRESENT

Professor Clarence M. Webster

1:00 LUNCHEON AT LIPPITT HALL

AFTERNOON SESSION

2:30 VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE

Miss Agnes Jones

2:30 WORKSHOPS FOR SMALL LIBRARIES

Book Repairing Demonstration

Poster Work

Children's Book Selection

Basic Reference Books

Demco Company
Misses Chapdelaine, Hough and O'Neil

Miss Virginia Fooks
Miss Helen L. Whiton

4:00 TEA AT THE KINGSTON FREE LIBRARY

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
DORIS L. LEAVENS Providence Public Library
MRS. ANNIE C. COOKE Providence Athenaeum
MARGARET E. DREWETT Brown University Library

VOL. 19 MAY, 1947 No. 1

R. I. State College Library

Green Hall, the library and administration building at Rhode Island State College, was made possible through a P. W. A. grant from the federal government of more than \$65,000 and a state loan of over \$168,000 which was financed by a bond issue. Ground was broken on October 14, 1935 and the building was ready for occupancy in July, 1937.

It is named Green Hall in honor of Hon. Theodore Francis Green, U. S. Senator from Rhode Island, who was governor of the State at the time when the P. W. A. grant was approved. He was instrumental in obtaining the allocation of the federal funds for the large state building program of which the college buildings are a part.

The building is situated apart from the quadrangle of the campus which gives adequate space for broad lawns and landscape development. There are pleasing views from all sides making the location suited for quiet study. Viewed from the exterior it is imposingly constructed of granite, which blends with the other campus buildings. The stone was obtained from quarries at Westerly, R. I. Architecturally well balanced in the shape of a "T" it comprises two stories plus a large basement and attic. Two chimneys, a cupola with clock and weather vane, and rooms on the second floor, finish what comprises a dignified and distinctive building.

To Mr. F. Ellis Jackson, architect

of the firm of Jackson, Robertson and Adams of Providence goes the major portion of credit for the beauty of the architecture and design. In the main, the building is not only pleasing but also satisfactory for library purposes.

The combined seating capacity of the main reading room and periodical room is 214. The stack capacity is approximately 80,000 volumes and the reading room brings the total book capacity of the library to 96,000. The murals in the main reading room were done by Albert Gold, a graduate of the R. I. School of Design. The room at the west end of the main reading room is now a cataloging room, although it was originally designed as a reserve book room.

Kingston Free Library

The Kingston Free Library is pleased to join with the Rhode Island College Library in extending a welcome to the Rhode Island Library Association for its annual spring meeting.

In colonial days, Kingston was one of the three capitals of Rhode Island and here in the old Court House, which now houses the Kingston Library, were held sessions of the General Assembly as well as county court proceedings. Erected in 1775, the interior of the building still retains much of the original woodwork.

Speaker's Who's Who

Professor Clarence M. Webster is Assistant Professor in the English Department of Brown University. He was born in Hampton, Ct. He served in World War I from 1917-1919. He was instructor of English, University of Michigan 1919-1920; Assistant Professor at Albion College, 1922-1924; Battle Creek College, 1924-1928; University of Tennessee, 1928-1932. He received his A.B. from Clark University in 1915; and A.M. from the University of Michigan in 1916 and a

Ph.D. from Brown University in 1935. He is the author of *PURITANS AT HOME* (1936) and *TOWN MEETING COUNTRY* (1945).

R. Franklin Weller was born in Redbanks, N. J. He attended Brown University in the class of 1926. He was Regional Director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and is now Director of the Rhode Island Seminar of Human Relations, which is a branch of the larger organization. For nine years he was connected with the Chamber of Commerce in Providence.

Professor Joseph W. Ince, a Trustee of the Kingston Free Library since 1926, has been Professor of chemistry at the Rhode Island State College since 1919. He is a native of Providence and a graduate of Brown University.

Miss Agnes Jones, Miss Elizabeth Hough, Miss Mary O'Neil and Miss Virginia Fooks are all members of the Staff of the Providence Public Library. Miss Doris Chapdelaine is the Librarian of the Harris Institute Library of Woonsocket. Miss Helen L. Whiton is Reference Librarian of the Westerly Public Library.

Barrington Public Library

Miss Susan E. Demery, librarian for five years and recording secretary of the R. I. L. A., 1945-46, resigned in the summer to accept the post of librarian at Stoneham, Mass. Her successor is Miss Mary H. Falt, Acadia University and Simmons College, librarian of the American Optical company, Southbridge, Mass. for the past five years and prior to that on the staff of the library at the University of New Hampshire.

Barrington Girl Scouts held a special exhibit of their work in the exhibition room at the library during Girl Scout week, October 28 - November 2.

A marionette show was the highlight of our observance of Book week. A special Christmas story was held

and colored slides of the Nativity were shown. Regular story hours are held every second Thursday.

The fourth annual hobby show took place from March 23-29. It was limited to "MEN ONLY" because of the lack of space. Many interesting hobbies were exhibited and one of the men, whose hobby is cooking, took complete charge of the "hobby buffet" served on the opening day. Men also did the pouring, which made a big hit.

Brown University Library

Dr. Van Hoesen has been on sabbatic leave since September, teaching at the Columbia University School of Library Service, and working on the forthcoming new edition of his book, *BIBLIOGRAPHY, PRACTICAL, ENUMERATIVE, HISTORICAL*. Professor David A. Jonah, who has been appointed Associate Librarian this year, has been Acting Librarian during his absence. Mr. Philip Leslie, formerly Librarian for the Rumford Chemical Works, has succeeded Mr. Jonah at the Physical Sciences Library. Miss Marion E. Brown, a graduate of the University of Toronto Library School and former Curator of Rare Books at Smith College has been in charge of Special Collections since September. Mr. Harold E. Clark, who also joined our staff in September as cataloguer, was previously Assistant Librarian at Colby College.

Deborah Cook Sayles Public Library

Miss Ernestine Baxter, for many years Children's Librarian, has accepted a position as Reference Librarian at the E. F. Parlin Memorial Library in Everett, Mass. Miss Mae E. McConnon has succeeded Miss Baxter.

Librarians may be interested to know that the entire staff of the Pawtucket Library received a \$300 increase in salary on January 1st. This is in line with the general increase granted all city employees.

The library lecture rooms have been in constant use during the year. The library's policy of free use to all civic and community affairs has encouraged the following organizations to take advantage of the rooms: The Social Action Institute Labor School, Naval Reserve, Boy Scouts, Parent-Teachers, and the Blackstone Valley Music Teachers' Association.

Elmwood Public Library

The employment situation has made the smooth functioning of the library exceedingly difficult and in consequence no new projects have been undertaken, but we have concentrated on service to the public. To cover the hours from nine to nine, every weekday in a library of this size with children and adult departments, having only six full-time assistants and three part-time high school girls, has been a difficult and exhausting undertaking. As a new salary schedule goes into effect April 1st, we are looking forward to brighter days.

The following lecture courses were held and were well attended by appreciative audiences: New England and Our National Parks, by Mrs. Charles F. Towne of Providence, illustrated with her own colored slides; Adventures of a scribler, by Maribelle Cormack, Assistant Director of the Park Museum and well-known author of children's books; New England calling and Christmas festivities of the Canadian Ukrainians, which were talking motion picture films in technicolor; The Amazon awakens and America the beautiful, also talking motion picture films in technicolor; China, Netherlands East Indies, Australia, talking motion picture films in technicolor.

Several exhibitions have been held. One on Antique fans was loaned by the Museum of the R. I. School of Design; Hooked rugs, loaned by Mrs. Remington of Cranston; Art books, from our own collection in celebration of Book Week; Salt and pepper

shakers, loaned by Mrs. Louis D. Richardson of Cranston; Commemorative medals, loaned by Donald S. Wrathall of Cranston; Books and moppets, exhibited in the window of the Phenix National Bank, and loaned by Mrs. Fred Moulson of Rehoboth; Miniature crowns, loaned by the Rev. Arthur L. Washburn of Providence; Wood carving, loaned by Harold A. Robinson of Elmwood. Mr. Robinson was a G. I. who collected these carvings in Germany.

The ten most popular books according to our reserve lists were: MacDonald, The egg and I; Liebman, Peace of mind; Caldwell, This side of innocence; Roosevelt, As he saw it; Wake-man, Hucksters; Yerby, Foxes of Harrow; Du Maurier, King's general; Asch, East river; Busch, Duel in the sun; Williams, Strange woman.

Providence Public Library

The Providence Public Library is proudly going ahead with plans for its long delayed addition, secure in the knowledge that the people of Providence realize the need for a larger building to house and service the half million books now in the collection. Approved by the heartwarming vote of 41,000, a bond issue amounting to \$1,300,000 will be floated by the City of Providence, and when materials for construction are easier, a new and modern building will be built on Empire Street between Washington and Fountain Streets, adjoining the present building. This addition will not only extend the capacity of present departments, but will provide space for several entirely new features.

The South Providence Branch of the Providence Public Library is experimenting with the use of paperbound, pocket-sized books in the light fiction, or popular field. The titles are selected with the same care as the regular fiction, and a study is being made of the possible economy in their use. The low price of the book, and

almost no formal preparation for circulation, are expected to effect a worthwhile saving in money and cataloging time. The money saved will be used to buy more books of substantial value for the Branch.

Among the lists which have been prepared by various members of the staff of the Providence Public Library for distribution to the public have been several specialized ones: The Negro in America; Books on Labor (revised March 1, 1947); Books for Cost Accountants.

"POINTS FOR PARENTS", 10 suggestions for making children's reading more pleasurable, have been prepared by Miss Virginia Fooks, the Library's Supervisor of Children's and School Libraries. Appearing originally in a feature article in the Providence Evening Bulletin, the "Points for Parents" are being reprinted for distribution within the library, and throughout the city, to Parent-Teacher Associations and children's welfare agencies.

A new service is being offered by the Providence Public Library to the adults of the city, a Vocational Counseling Service, not in competition with any of the other services already established in the city, but to help anyone interested in another job or career to read up about the possibilities, the advantages and disadvantages, the educational and physical requirements, and to make use of the printed material to be found in the library on jobs, trades, schools and professions.

Mr. John Norton, who has been an Assistant Librarian for several years, has resigned to accept the librarianship of the Public Library of Norfolk, Virginia. Miss Martha Finch and Miss Ruth Ohler have also resigned. Miss Finch has gone to the Library of the University of California. Miss Agnes B. Jones, formerly an assistant in the Circulation Department, Library Association of Portland, Oregon, is in charge of a new department in the Library, with the title of Voca-

tional Counselor. Miss Esther Walsh and Mrs. Elise Moulton, two former staff members, have returned to the staff. Other new appointments include Miss Mary Bennett, recently discharged as Sergeant from the Marine Corps Women's Reserve, as an assistant in the Boys' and Girls' Library. Miss Marion F. Holt, formerly Librarian of the Concord, New Hampshire, Public Library is now Librarian at the Washington Park branch. Miss Lillian R. Horwood who was an hospital librarian in Vancouver, B. C., is an assistant in the Circulation Department and also Librarian at the Rhode Island hospital. Mrs. Alice P. Merriam, formerly Reference Librarian at the Public Library in Portland, Maine, is an assistant in the Reference Department. Miss Elizabeth Phelan, a graduate of Simmons College in June, 1946, is Children's Librarian at South Providence branch. Miss Marion L. Arnold and Miss Cora L. V. Drake were retired on the first of January.

Rhode Island Historical Society Library

At this library, an increasing number of people are using the genealogies, manuscripts, newspapers and items pertinent to the State of Rhode Island. The library continues to emphasize Rhode Island material. New lights have been installed in the way of table lamps in the reading rooms and fluorescent lights in the stacks. The library will be closed during the month of August, but the John Brown house will be open for the benefit of tourists and other visitors.

Weaver Memorial Library

The Weaver Memorial Library has been lending phonographic records without charge over a four months period as a try-out. If this proves successful and the breakage is not too great, we will probably continue the service.

Library Demonstration Bill

The Public Library Demonstration Bill (H.R. 2465—S. 48) was introduced into the Senate early this year. If hearings can be secured within the next few weeks, the bill has a good chance of passing during this session of Congress. Passage of the measure would directly benefit the libraries and educational resources of this state.

The bill has a two-fold purpose: (1) To provide demonstrations of adequate public library service to people now without it or inadequately served. (2) To provide means for studying methods of providing library service primarily in rural areas.

The Library Demonstration Bill would provide \$25,000 per year for 5 years in each state, financed entirely by federal funds. Each state committee is to decide upon what form the demonstration will take. Should the demonstration prove satisfactorily the need for federal funds for improved library service, the bill would also provide for continued financial support.

It is urged that all rural libraries in the state secure the support of local newspapers, granges, and other organizations in aiding the passage of the bill.

Members of Rhode Island Federal Relations Committee: Edna Thayer; Grace M. Sherwood; Stuart C. Sherman, Publicity Director; Sallie E. Coy, Chairman.

Join the R. I. L. A.

The Rhode Island Library Association's campaign for new members helped to add 49 librarians and trustees to the Association family. Although the total enrollment for 1946 was 251 as against 218 for 1945, this year when the handbook is going to press and the lists are being carefully revised, we find our final total to be 226. Part of this decrease was due to personnel changes, 19 having left

the state and have resigned from the Association. Also included in the list of the names being dropped are 11 members for non-payment of dues. To them we are extending an invitation to renew their membership. Suggestions for membership will be gladly received by the Membership Committee. Annual dues of \$1.00 are now payable to Mrs. Laurence M. Shaw, treasurer, Oak Lawn Public Library, Oak Lawn, R. I.

A. L. A. Membership

Dues for the American Library Association are being solicited at this time. They may be sent either to F. P. Allen, Librarian, Rhode Island State College, Kingston, Rhode Island, or directly to the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago 11, Illinois. The scale of annual dues is as follows:

<i>Salary</i>	<i>Dues</i>
\$1201 and under	\$ 2.00
\$1201-1500	\$ 3.00
\$1501-2100	\$ 4.00
\$2101-3000	\$ 5.00
\$3001-4000	\$ 6.00
\$4001-5000	\$ 8.00
\$5001 and over	\$10.00

All members receive the Bulletin. The Association will hold its annual meeting in San Francisco, June 29-July 5.

Librarians wishing to affiliate with the Children's Library Association, a section of the American Library Association, have only to indicate that section on the A. L. A. membership blank. The dues for the section are included in the A. L. A. dues. This division needs and deserves support to carry on its work of service in children's library work. Rhode Island's present support is very poor. Let's do better. Membership blanks may be secured from Virginia Fooks, Providence Public Library, Providence 3, R. I.

New England Library Association

The conference of the New England Library Association will be held at the New Ocean House at Swampscott, Massachusetts, beginning Saturday noon, October 18th and continuing through Tuesday evening, October 21st. Some state associations are holding their fall meetings in conjunction with the New England conference.

Members of the Rhode Island Library Association are urged to attend and it is hoped that all librarians will make it possible for their staffs to attend at least part of the session. Librarians are also urged to invite their trustees to attend.

There will be special sessions for Children's librarians and catalogers, as well as several general sessions. More information will be available later.

New England School Library Association

The spring meeting of the New England School Library Association will be held at the Nathan Bishop Junior High School, Elmgrove Avenue and Sessions St., Providence, Saturday, May 17. Registration starts at 9:45 A. M. All school librarians whether members or not are invited to attend. The program includes as speakers Anne T. Eaton, formerly librarian of the Lincoln School, Teacher's College, Columbia University and Dr. James L. Hanley, Supt. of Public Schools, Providence. A visit to the John Carter Brown Library is planned for the afternoon.

Massachusetts Library Association

The annual meeting of the Massachusetts Library Association will be held in Pittsfield, Massachusetts on May 15-16.

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