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Rhode Island Library Association

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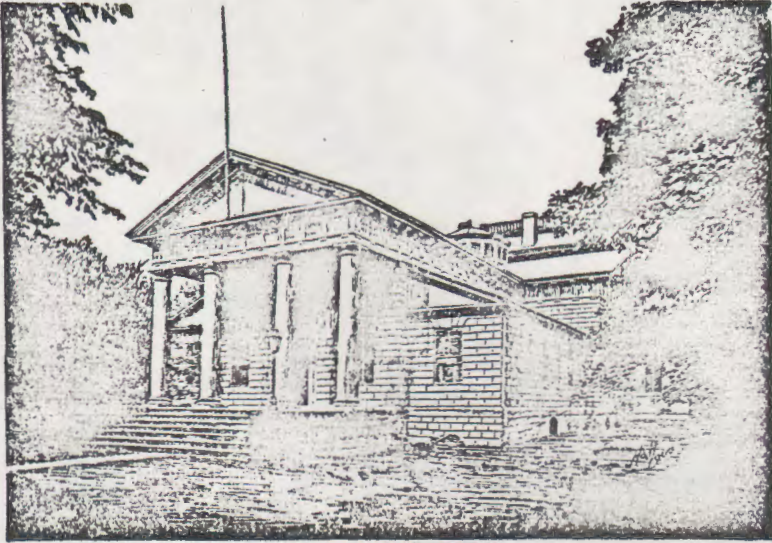
# BULLETIN

OF THE  
RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Vol. 4.

JUNE 1931.

No. 2.



THE REDWOOD, NEWPORT, R. I.

ANNUAL SPRING MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATION, FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1931.  
OLD CITY HALL, NEWPORT, R. I.

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### MORNING SESSION.

- 9.30 Business.  
Greetings from Newport.
- 10.00 Address. Speaker to be announced.
- 11.00 Some American Artists I have known.  
Mrs. Maud Howe Elliott.
- Luncheon.

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### AFTERNOON SESSION.

- 2.00 The work of a State Library Commission.  
Miss Sarah B. Askew, Librarian and Secretary of the  
N. J. State Public Library Commission.
- Adjournment.

# 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

HARRIET M. BRIGGS, WATCHMOKET

PUBLIC LIBRARY, EAST PROVIDENCE

MARIAN F. BONNER PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

MISS GRACE SHERWOOD STATE LIBRARY

Vol. 4. June, 1930. No. 2.

The old "Brick Market," designed by Peter Harrison, and built in 1762, will be the place of meeting for the Rhode Island Library Association in Newport on June 5th, thanks to the courtesy of the Chamber of Commerce, which now occupies the building.

Members arriving by bus will have but a step to walk from the bus terminal to the foot of Washington Square, where, beautifully restored, the old market, later the city hall, stands out in much of its former glory.

Those in their own cars should drive down the side of the building, turning on Long Wharf and park facing Washington Square. The entrance to the hall is by the side door.

## A. L. A. CONFERENCE.

The annual meeting of the American Library Association will be held at New Haven, Conn., June 22-27. The program offers much of interest and benefit. The Headquarters will be at the new \$7,000,000 Sterling Memorial Library which is called the finest library in existence.

The round trip fare from Providence (fare and one half) amounts to only \$6.11, obtainable by means of identification certificates which will be sent to members in advance. Eighteen dormitories accommodating 2000 persons will be open for A. L. A. guests at \$1.50 per night if taken for five or more nights. Rate for four nights or less will be \$2.00 per night. In making your reservation, state date of arrival, probable departure and whether you wish a single or double room. Application may be sent to F. B. Johnson, 20 Ashmun Street, New Haven, Conn. For those who wish to eat at the Yale Commons, excellent meals may be had on cafeteria plan.

It is several years since an A. L. A. Conference has been so accessible to New Englanders. I hope that our Association will appreciate this unusual privilege by sending a large representation.

A four day Post Conference bus trip through parts of New England, total expense \$43.00, is another delightful attraction offered.

SARA E. SHERMAN.

## SELF RESPECT CONDEMNS A 'FREE RIDE'

BY ADAM STROHM,  
PRESIDENT, AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Why should I become a member of the American Library Association?

Every library should be a conscious part of a national service scheme. Back of all must be some propelling power in the nature of discussion, planning and experiences. This is lodged in the Headquarters of the A. L. A. in much the same way as applies to the central body of other organized national services. All of which calls for money.

The individual librarian may raise the question: What has the A. L. A. ever done for me?

Whatever tends to animate our interests, to strengthen and accredit a library with its constituency and public opinion is, of course, of direct benefit to those in the service and productive of individual prosperity and reward. On that score we are all in the debt of those of our fellows who have associated themselves for the good of all. Lastly, you and I should belong to our national body, as a matter of self-respect. Every self-respecting individual much prefers to pay for those privileges rather than to take a free ride.

A \$2.00 membership counts as \$40; a \$4.00 membership counts as \$80; a \$5.00 Institutional membership counts as \$100; a \$25 Contributing membership counts as \$500; and a \$100 Sustaining membership counts as \$2000 in the \$1,000,000 Endowment Drive. One dollar initiation fee for new members or renewal of lapsed membership.

By vote of the Executive Committee of the R. I. L. A. the sum of \$25.00 was recently forwarded to A. L. A. headquarters toward this Endowment Fund. On the special basis of computation allowed by the Carnegie Corporation this was counted as a sustaining membership with the capitalized value of \$500.00.

At a special meeting of the Providence Public Library Staff Association, it was voted to become a Sustaining (\$100.00) member of the American Library Association.

## R. I. L. A. New Members.

To all librarians who do not now belong to the R. I. L. A. The membership committee wished to urge upon you the duty to your profession of giving its association your personal support. This should be looked upon in the light of what you can do toward helping library work in Rhode Island rather than what you can get out of it for yourself.

## Association Bridge.

The bridge held at the William H. Hall Library last fall netted \$80.00.



IN MEMORIAM.  
HON. CHESTER W. BARROWS.

An Associate Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, an orator, a 33rd degree Mason, and a member of the Rhode Island Library Association. He died February 19, 1931.

Judge Barrows was one of the incorporators and a charter member of the William H. Hall Free Library. He was elected President at its first meeting in October 1920, having served the Edgewood Free Public Library in the same capacity since May 1908. His service as President was marked by an unusual devotion to his official duties and by his watchfulness in advancing the interest of the Library.

Judge Barrows has been ill since his return from Europe last October. His death is a great loss to all who knew him.

Senator William G. Troy of Providence in his tribute to Judge Barrows said: He was a great man. A great friend of all of us. He was one of nature's noblemen."

In the death of **Mr. Knight C. Richmond**, the Providence Public Library has lost a valuable counselor and devoted friend. As a member of the Board of Trustees since 1918, he was not only interested, but exceptionally active in the work of the Executive Committee, especially in matters relating to building construction for which his education and training as an architect and engineer particularly fitted him. In the building of the Rochambeau, South Providence and Wanskuck Branch Libraries, and in the reconstruction of the Tockwotton Branch building, his experience and advice were invaluable. The Providence Public Library has been fortunate in attracting to its Board of Trustees citizens who give generously of their time and thought. The name of Knight C. Richmond will take its place among those who should always be remembered and revered for distinguished service.

A STAFF RETIREMENT PLAN.

One of the most important evidences of progress in the administration of the Providence Public Library is the introduction of a Pension Plan for members of the Library Staff, which went into effect as of Jan. 1, 1931.

A most generous gift was received from Miss Helen C. Robertson, who offered, in memory of her father, who had labored so long for a Staff Pension Plan, a gift of \$25,000 for the specific purpose of establishing such a plan not later than Jan. 1, 1931. With this assistance, the program quickly moved forward. A plan prepared by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company was

adopted, incorporating the objectives of the Pensions Committee. Participation in the plan is voluntary; but no staff member past 40 years of age may join. Retirement takes place at age 65, although, in special cases, by mutual consent, service may be continued year by year, but not past age 70. After 15 years of service, there is a provision for total and permanent disability. A retirement annuity of approximately 50 per cent of the average salary of the member is provided. For "past service," each member joining the plan at its beginning is credited with an amount of income equal to 1 per cent of her salary, multiplied by the number of years of service, the entire expense of this credit being met by the Library. or "future service," the cost to each member is approximately 3 per cent of her salary, and the cost to the Library is about 3.5 per cent of the total salaries of the members of the Staff who participate.

MARIONETTES FOR THE STORY HOUR.

For several years we have wanted to use marionette plays at our story hour, but it seemed impossible to obtain marionette. The figures of wood with papier-maché heads seemed much too elaborate to be easily made, and when we found marionettes for sale the price was prohibitive. Finally "Marionettes, easy to make! fun to use!" by Edith F. Ackley was published, giving directions for the making of just the kind of simple rag-doll marionette, that we needed.

At first we felt that Mrs. Ackley was a little too optimistic in her sub-title "easy to make", but after experimenting we found that by weighing the feet with as much lead as they would hold, and stuffing the legs as hard as we could, our marionettes would walk and dance quite humanly.

The clown seems always to delight the children, but his close rivals in popularity are the Old Witch with the wicked laugh and the Troll from under the mountains.

It is wise to make for your first characters the usual princess and the poor lad, old witch and her cat and the old peasant woman that are found over and over again in fairy tales. They can then be used in innumerable plays. Our old witch has already appeared in three performances.

Mills, "Marionettes, masks and shadows" gives good suggestions for stage building and stage settings. Excellent puppet plays for the older children to use may be found in the Show Book of Remo Bufano, while Everson, "Puppet plays for children" serves the same purpose for the first and second grader.

MARGARET M. REID,  
ELMWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY.



#### RHODE ISLAND DOCUMENTS.

The state prints various documents and reports which are available for distribution to the public libraries of this state. Application for these documents should be made to the State Librarian, who is in charge of distribution. A check list is furnished by the State Librarian and libraries are asked to check and return this list.

The following items are of importance:

The session laws which are issued in three forms (a) Paper bound Public Laws, issued annually, available in the month of June; (b) Acts and Resolves containing all laws and resolutions, issued annually; (c) Public Laws, bound, issued biennially.

Rhode Island State Manual, current edition 1931-32, is now available.

Constitution of the state.

Various pamphlets issued by the State Bureau of Information which can be obtained by direct application to that Bureau or through the State Librarian. Additional copies are also furnished on request.

Laws relating to banking, birds and game, corporations, education, elections, factory inspection, food and drug, forests, hairdressing, health, inland fisheries, insurance, motor vehicles, public utilities, shell fisheries, taxation, workmen's compensation.

Reports of the various departments and special bulletins and annuals issued by the departments. A list of these publications will be sent upon application to the State Librarian.

#### NOTES ON RHODE ISLAND LIBRARIES.

##### Providence Public:

Afer 36 years in the service of the Providence Public Library, Mrs. Mabel E. Colwell, Librarian of the Olneyville Free Library, retired March 1st. Mrs. Colwell became a member of the staff in 1884. She quickly displayed qualities which definitely marked her future career in librarianship, first as Reference Librarian, and later in charge of one of the largest branch libraries of the city. Under her direction the Reference Department at the Central Library developed rapidly, and when she resigned in 1910, to be married, she left behind a department well known for the spirit and the efficiency of its service.

When the Olneyville Free Library Association and the Providence Public Library entered into an agreement in 1920 for the administration of the Library in Olneyville Square as a branch of the Providence Public Library, Mrs. Colwell rejoined the staff as Branch Librarian.

The retirement of Mrs. Colwell, has caused several changes in the staff of the Providence Public Library. Mrs.

Jeanne M. Brittan, Librarian at the North End Branch, has been transferred to Olneyville to succeed Mrs. Colwell. Miss M. Teresa McAnarney, Childrens Librarian at the South Providence Branch, has assumed the duties of Acting Librarian at the North End Branch. Miss Doris E. M. Johnson has been transferred from the North End Branch to South Providence to take over Miss McAnarneys activities with the children.

Miss Mary F. Kiely has been appointed Acting Children's Librarian at the Wanskuck Branch. Miss Rose Karlin has been made Assistant in the Circulation Department at the Central Library. Miss Alice V. McGrath has been appointed Acting Librarian of the Foreign Department and Miss Elizabeth West assistant

##### Deborah Cook Sayles:

Mrs. M. Theresa Mason has been appointed permanent assistant and Miss Maryland A. Paine has been added to the regular staff. A most successful story hour was conducted for eighteen Saturdays by Miss Baxter. This year instead of using one long story for the period, an imaginary "Trip around the world" was taken, visiting the principal city of each country, stopping over a week at each to relate the greatest epic or legend of that particular country, with the customs and habits of its people also told. Slides were shown on Lincoln and Washington to celebrate those special days in mid-winter. Posters on each country were used in the Childrens' room at the Delivery Desk.

##### Wm. H. Hall:

Mr. E. Butler Moulton has been elected President of the William H. Hall Library, succeeding the Hon. Chester W. Barrows. Mr. Moulton has been Chairman of the Library Committee for the last seven years. He is a well known lawyer of Providence and is chairman of the Cranston School Committee.

##### Westerly:

On Thursday evening, May 14, a Community Music Festival was held in the Westerly Public Library. Several groups of local musicians volunteered their services for this program in appreciation of the fine collection of music scores available at the library, and for the cooperation extended to them at all times. The assembly hall was taxed to its capacity and many were turned away because of lack of room.

Leaflets containing a supplementary list of members to those in the handbook will be distributed at the meeting in Newport. Anyone not getting a copy there can secure one by sending a stamped envelope to Miss Gertrude Brown, Providence Public Library.