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Rhode Island Library Association

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# BULLETIN Dup.

OF THE  
RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

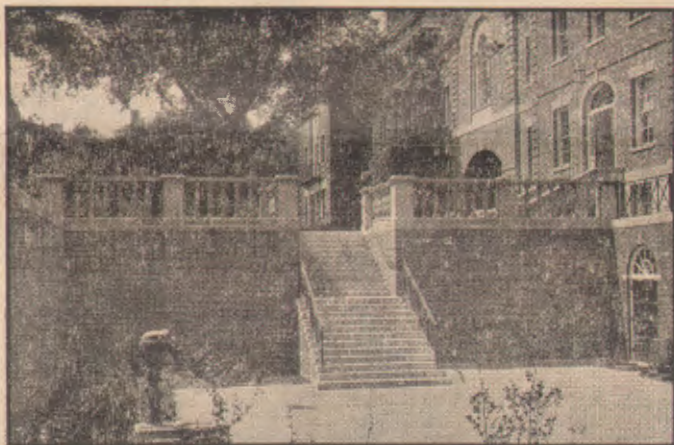
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VOL. 6.

MAY, 1933

No. 2

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FAUNCE HOUSE

**ANNUAL SPRING MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,  
FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1933, AT FAUNCE HOUSE THEATRE,  
BROWN UNIVERSITY, PROVIDENCE, R. I.**

Welcoming speech, by Dr. Clarence A. Barbour, President of Brown University.

The order of the other speakers is not yet determined, but they will be as follows:

Subject to be announced.

Theodore Francis Green, Governor of Rhode Island.

Early Brown poets and playwrights.

S. Foster Damon, Curate of the Harris Collection of American Poetry and Associate Professor of English, Brown University.

Some historical aspects of the Narragansett country.

William D. Miller, President of the Board of Trustees, Providence Public Library.

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Other details of the programme will be issued later.

# 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

JOSEPHINE A. HOPE,  
PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ANNIBE KANE,  
CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL, PROVIDENCE  
MRS. DOROTHY H. HELLEN,  
ELMWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY, PROVIDENCE

Vol. 6. May, 1933. No. 2

## COMING EVENTS.

Meeting of New England College  
Librarians, Boston College, May 20,  
1933.

## A. A. A. E. ANNUAL MEETING.

The Executive Board of the American Association for Adult Education extends a cordial invitation to the members of the Rhode Island Library Association to attend the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Association to be held at the Jones Library in Amherst, Massachusetts, May 22, 23 and 24.

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the American Association for Adult Education will be held in the Jones Library, Amherst, Massachusetts, May 22-24, 1933. The program includes three general sessions, two luncheon forums, one panel, and five round tables, to be followed by open discussion. In order to promote full and free discussions, opening speakers at the round tables will be asked to limit their remarks to twenty or, at most, twenty-five minutes, thus leaving ample time for discussion from the floor. Since not more than one session will be in progress at any given time, each person attending the meeting will be able to participate in the entire program if he so desires. Rooms will be available at all times for adjourned sessions or for informal conferences and meetings.

No sessions have been scheduled for Tuesday afternoon. Arrangements are being made to place excellent facilities for golf and tennis at the disposal of members of the Association; and Charles R. Green, Librarian of the Jones Library, is planning a motor tour to include Amherst College, Massachusetts State College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College, and points of historic interest in the immediate neighborhood.

The tentative program follows. Changes that may be made later will

be incorporated in the final program, which will be sent to members in advance of the meeting.

## TENTATIVE PROGRAM.

### Monday, May 22

Business Session, 11:00 A. M.  
Presiding: James E. Russell,  
Chairman of the Association  
Address of Welcome, Ray Stannard  
Baker, President of the Board of  
Trustees, The Jones Library.  
Annual Report in Behalf of the Executive Board, Morse A. Cartwright,  
Director of the Association.

Luncheon Forum, 12:30 P. M.

### THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND ADULT EDUCATION

Presiding: Benson Y. Landis, Chair-  
man, Committee on Rural Adult  
Education.

Report on the Regional Conference  
on Rural Adult Education in New  
England, Benson Y. Landis.

The American Village: Its Significance  
for the Adult Education Movement,  
Edmund de S. Brunner, Professor of  
Education, Teachers College, Colum-  
bia University.

Round Table, 2:30 P. M.

### NATIVE VALUES IN RURAL LIFE

Presiding: Hugh Baker, President,  
Massachusetts State College  
A Review of Agricultural Extension  
Experience, C. B. Smith, Assistant  
Director of Extension Work, United  
States Department of Agriculture.  
Some Findings of the National Study  
of Rural Adult Education, Benson  
Y. Landis, Executive Secretary,  
American Country Life Association.  
Discussion.

Round Table, 4:00 P. M.

### RACIAL DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION

Presiding: Eugene Kinckle Jones,  
Chairman of the Harlem Adult Edu-  
cation Committee.  
The Atlanta Experiment, Mae C.  
Hawes, Director of Adult Education,  
Auburn Branch, Carnegie Library of  
Atlanta.

The Harlem Experiment, Alain Locke,  
Professor of Philosophy, Howard  
University.

Discussion led by David K. Niles, Di-  
rector of Ford Hall Forum.

Round Table, 8:30 P. M.

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOL AND ADULT EDUCATION

Presiding: James E. Russell,  
Chairman of the Association  
The Des Moines Adult Education Pro-  
ject, J. W. Studebaker, Superintend-  
ent of Schools, and R. J. Grigsby,

Director of Adult Education, Des Moines.

Discussion led by Lyman Bryson, Forum Leader, Des Moines Adult Education Project.

### Tuesday, May 23

Round Table, 9:30 A. M.

#### THE NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL CONFERENCE

Presiding: Robert I. Rees, of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. The Program of the National Occupational Conference, Dr. Franklin J. Keller, Director, and Robert Hop-pock, Assistant to the Director, National Occupational Conference. Discussion led by Harvey N. Davis, President, Stevens Institute of Tech-nology.

Round Table, 11:00 A. M.

#### AN ADJUSTMENT SERVICE FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Presiding: Spencer-Miller, Jr., Secre-tary, Workers Education Bureau of America.

The Problem of Diagnosis, M. R. Trabue, Chief of the Division of Diagnosis, Adjustment Service of New York City.

Counseling, Training, Education, and Recreation, Jerome H. Bentley, As-sociate Director, Adjustment Service of New York City.

Luncheon Forum, 12:30 P. M.

#### RESEARCH PROBLEMS IN ADULT EDUCATION

Presiding: A. Caswell Ellis, Chairman Committee on Studies and Research.

Free Period, 2:00 P. M.

General Session, 8:30 P. M.

Presiding: Frederick P. Keppel, Pres-ident, Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Singing by the Amherst College Glee Club, Ralph Otey, Director.

Addresses by Dorothy Canfield Fisher, President of the Association, and by others to be announced.

### Wednesday, May 24

Panel, 10:00 A. M.

#### RECENT TRENDS IN THE AMERICAN MOVEMENT FOR ADULT EDUCATION

Presiding: Lyman Bryson, Director of the California Association for Adult Education.

A panel of six persons will be chosen to open the discussion, to be followed by discussion from the floor.

Luncheon and Business Session, 12:30 P. M.

Presiding: James E. Russell, Chairman of the Association.

All sessions of the meeting will be held at the Jones Library where head-

quarters will be established. There will be no registration fee, but every per-son in attendance at the meeting is re-quested to register at the headquarters desk.

Correspondence concerning room res-ervations should be addressed either to the Lord Jeffery Inn or to the Hotel Perry, Amherst, Massachusetts. The range of rates for each person per day is from \$5.00 to \$7.00 (American Plan) at the Lord Jeffery; from \$1.50 to \$3.00 (European Plan) at the Hotel Perry. The luncheon forums will be held in the dining room of the Lord Jeffery; no dinner meeting is being planned for this year.

#### ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB

with

Western Mass. Library Club.

The Northfield, East Northfield, Mass.

June 5-7, 1933.

#### PROGRAMME

##### Monday, 10:00 A. M.

Greetings by President of Western Massachusetts Library Club

Interesting spots in the Connecticut River Valley.

Mrs. Clifton Johnson.

The Public Library as a social force

Frank G. Willcox,

Holyoke Public Library

##### Monday, 2:00 P. M.

The trustee looks at the public library in a depression

Judge Robert C. Parker, Westfield

Group conferences:

Loan desk problems

Work with foreign-born

##### Monday, 8:15 P. M.

Meeting the city finance committee; or, The librarian presents her budget. A demonstration:

The librarian: Miss Spofford

Members of the finance commit-

tee: Mr. Redstone, Chairman;

Miss Hooper and Messrs.

Daugherty, Hill, Lord and Shaw.

##### Tuesday, 9:30 A. M.

Young people and their books

Mary R. Lucas, Supervisor of

Young People's Reading, Provi-

dence.

Public library management in a depression.

A round table discussion in charge

of Miss E. Louise Jones, Field

Library Advisor, Mass. Division

of Public Libraries, Department

of Education.

(Members are urged to send Miss Jones topics which they would like to have discussed).

##### Tuesday, 2:00 P. M.

After 40 years (1893-1933): Some

library memories and reflections.

W. N. C. Carlton, Williams College

Group conferences:

Reference service

Cataloguing

Children's work

**Tuesday, 8:15 P. M.**

"The staff meeting". A sketch presented by members of the staff of the Providence Public Library.

**Wednesday, 9:30 A. M.**

Annual business meeting

Mechanical substitutes for the book and the theatre

Walter Prichard Eaton

Group conferences. Informal, no set programme. Clearing house for exchange of ideas and questions.

#### ADDED ATTRACTIONS

Miss Mary Stanley-Smith of Maidstone, Kent County Library, England, Exchange Librarian at Athol Public Library, will be present and will speak informally on library conditions in her home country.

Harry W. Lydenberg, President of the A. L. A., is expected to attend one of the sessions and will speak briefly.

#### HOW TO GET THERE

Northfield is situated 11 miles northeast of Greenfield, and may conveniently be reached by machine by going through Worcester and then bearing northwest. More definite information will be published later.

#### WHERE TO STAY

Unusually satisfactory hotel rates (American plan) have been obtained as follows:

Rooms without private bath

Two or more persons in a room

\$4.00-\$4.50 each per day

One person in a room

\$4.50-\$5.00 each per day

Rooms with private bath

Two or more persons in a room

\$4.50-\$5.00 each per day

One person in a room

\$5.50-\$6.50 each per day

Members who desire to do so may spend a few days before the conference or may remain afterwards for a portion or all of their vacation at the conference rates.

The full program for the three days will be printed in the next issue of **The Bulletin** which will reach members at least two weeks before the meeting.

#### PAST EVENTS

Meeting of the R. I. Branch of the New England School Library Association, Saturday, April 29, 1933, East Providence Senior High School

Greetings

J. R. D. Oldham, Supt. of Schools,  
East Providence, R. I.

Recent books suitable for the High School Library

Miss G. Eleanor Hanson, Librarian of Nathan Bishop Junior H. S., Providence, R. I.

Illustrators and illustrated books

Miss Katherine L. Cuzner, Associate Librarian of the R. I. College of Education, Providence, R. I.

High lights in the school library day—from depression to constructive outlook.

Miss Eleanor M. Barker, Librarian of the Rogers H. S., Newport.

Discussion: Publicity for the library  
Everyone

Meeting of the New England School Library Association, Saturday, May 13, Hope Street High School, Providence, R. I.

#### HOW SHALL WE "SELL" THE OLD BOOKS?

Now is the time, if any, when the old novelists should have an opportunity to come into their own, as well as some of the more recent good novelists, many of whose works are disregarded because they are not hot from the press. Of course there is a more or less stable demand for all of these. "But", readers complain, "they are not new." Just now the lament continually rings in our ears, "Where are all the new books you used to have?" "I never can find anything new?" "Doesn't the library buy new books any more?"

It is usually a knotty problem to try to convert new book fans into devotees of the old, and perhaps it is too much to hope for. If it ever comes to pass, we will feel that the millenium has arrived. However, let us consider some of the possible methods of bringing about this consummation.

Of course, there is always the obvious method of exhibiting the books in a conspicuous place. This device seems to encourage people to take them, for the public feel, for some reason or other, that, if the books are exhibited, they are something special. Also, they are easily accessible, and so time and trouble are saved from hunting for something else.

Again, when you observe certain holidays, events and matters of current interest, it is well to display and advertise the old books as much as possible in these connections.

But there is one inherent difficulty in "selling" an old book to a new book fan. He has, he feels, neither the time nor the patience to wade through anything so detailed and discursive as Fielding's "Tom Jones" or Eliot's

"Middlemarch." It would probably require a good deal of self-discipline on the part of some readers.

Possibly they could be led to this goal gently, by first advertising with posters and exhibits the older works of contemporary authors, and making use of arresting quotations, such as the following, by the French philosopher Jaubert:

"We are forever craving new books, and yet in those we have long possessed, there are priceless treasures of wisdom and of beauty that are lost to us because of our neglect. The worst thing about new books is that they keep us from reading the old ones."

As we work back to the older and more lengthy books, we might pick out elements of each novel that would appeal to this and that reader, and advertise them from this point of view. We would consider the reader who likes plot and adventure; the reader who likes character study; the one who has a penchant for social novels; or still another who enjoys novels of atmosphere. "Ivanhoe," "The Count of Monte Cristo," or "The tale of two cities" are obvious suggestions for the first type of reader. Do not make the reader feel that he is tackling Scott or Dickens, but merely that he is reading a good adventure story.

In order to introduce the reader to old novels of character study, invite him to meet, and become acquainted with, some interesting characters, in "David Copperfield," or in "The mill on the Floss." Tell him that he is sure to like some of the characters, and many of them will become thoroughly endeared to him before he has finished the book.

Novels of social conditions, of course, include several of Dickens's, and Hugo's "Les misérables." The foibles of society are entertainingly displayed in "Vanity Fair" and in Jane Austen's works. Atmosphere we find in Hawthorne's "House of the Seven Gables" and in "The Marble Faun".

Or we might show how one novel may have several of these elements. "The tale of two cities" has adventure, above all, but also some arresting characters, Madame Defarge and Jerry Cruncher, and most certainly atmosphere. "Les misérables" is both a social novel and a tale of adventure.

After all though, we certainly have not obviated the whole difficulty when we advertise old novels from this point of view.

As we have considered above, many readers object to what they feel is un-

necessary padding. And possibly their objection is legitimate to a certain extent. Yet there is something delightful about this leisurely detail if the reader will only take the time to see it. If we endeavor to picture the costumes and pageantry described by Scott so minutely, what color and romance are added to the tale he has to tell! It remains in our imagination long afterwards. At first the reader resents the way in which Eliot and Thackeray step forth from behind the scenes as it were and comment on their characters. George Eliot shakes her head sadly and Thackeray, half in amusement; half in cynicism, as if to say, "Well, what could one expect, anyway?"

It seems to be a matter, in the first place, of making up your mind to be tolerant with the author's temperament and whimsies. After a while, the reader may even come to find a certain charm in them.

These books are excellent for the bedside, too, for you do not have to start the next day weary and heavy-eyed because you have read immoderately the night before. You enjoy these books while you read, but they will keep, and there will always be something to pick up for an hour or so before settling down to sleep. They are excellent for leisure summer vacation days, as you stretch yourself out on a warm hilltop or recline in a hammock—or for a rainy day when the out-of-doors is not inviting. Surely then, no one can complain that he lacks leisure to read the good old books.

Try advertising them from this point of view, or with some of the new literature on leisure. Perhaps, now that more leisure is practically promised to us in the near future, the old easy-going novel will again come into its own.

#### ELMWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY TAKES SECOND PLACE IN THE STATE IN NUMBER OF BOOKS CIRCULATED.

The year just ended (1932-33) records the greatest growth in our history. With a book collection of 42,034 books, we have issued 311,164 books of which 66,669 were issued by the Juvenile Department; 2,394 from our Sub-branch in the Children's Room of the Park Museum; and 11,590 by our Branch library in the Gilbert Stuart Junior High School. In addition to books issued, we have loaned 2,636 mounted pictures to teachers and school children. This is an actual growth of 35,790 books issued over the previous year's record, and a growth for the past two years of

62,813 books. The month of March yielded our highest circulation on record, that of 30,115 books, representing a 3-4 turnover in one month of our entire collection of books, which numbers only 42,034. To analyze the service rendered to a fine point, we have circulated 24 books to each reader who has a Reader's Card, and, if we may estimate the population served as 25,000, which is only an approximation, as no one seems to know what the population of the Elmwood section is, we have circulated per capita 12 books. The total circulation of books during the 18 years of our history totals 2,118,926 books. This library now takes second place among libraries of the State in point of circulation of books.

The Story Hour attendance, the largest in our history, numbered 3,172 children, an increase of 571 over last year's record. The number of new readers for the year numbers 4,308.

#### BORROWING PRIVILEGES FOR NON-RESIDENTS.

For many years, residents of other towns and cities, in the vicinity of Providence, have been allowed to have borrower's cards in the Providence Public Library free of charge. This is contrary to general practice. In a number of large American public libraries, non-residents are permitted to draw books only under very special circumstances. In practically all libraries that do throw open the borrowing privileges to them, a fee is charged for the service, usually \$2.00 or \$3.00 a year.

The Providence Public Library has been glad to extend the use of its resources beyond its own territorial boundaries, not so much to the readers interested only in recently published fiction but especially to those who need the resources of a large library in connection with serious reading or study. The response of the suburban area to this opportunity has been so lively that more than 12,000 Providence Public Library cards are now in use among non-residents. Since attempting to serve a volume of readers so large as this greatly exceeds the library's capacity for non-resident service, and in view of the reduction in the library's budget both for books and for personnel, the Trustees feel compelled to ask non-residents who desire to draw out books from this library to share in a very moderate way part of the cost of this extra activity. It should be added that the use of the library's books within the building is not affected by this regulation.

Following are the provisions affecting non-resident cards, which will allow adult and intermediate readers 4 books at a time (instead of the present limit of 2 books), new books (popular titles received within 3 months, or earlier if demand continues) being excepted.

A. Non-residents who pay taxes on property in Providence, wherever they may live, shall have the non-resident card without charge.

B. (1) Officials and full-time employees of the City of Providence, the State of Rhode Island, or the U. S. Government, **working in Providence** and living in Rhode Island; teachers in Providence educational institutions, living in Rhode Island; students in schools in which this library operates a branch; ~~and employees of this library,~~ shall have this privilege without charge.

(2) Residents of Massachusetts **living within 15 miles of Providence**, included in the above groups:—service charge, \$1.00 a year.

(3) Officials of any Rhode Island State Institution, the Rhode Island State College, or the U. S. Government living in Rhode Island but not employed in Providence:—service charge, \$1.00 a year.

C. (1) Adults and intermediates employed in or having a place of business in Providence, and living in Rhode Island; and students in Providence colleges and schools:—service charge, \$1.00 a year.

(2) Adult or intermediate residents of Massachusetts employed in or having a place of business in Providence, and living within 15 miles of this city:—service charge \$2.00 a year.

D. Adult and intermediate residents of Rhode Island not included above:—service charge \$2.00 a year.

E. Non-resident children living in Rhode Island:—service charge, 50 cents a year.

#### DEBORAH COOK SAYLES PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library of Pawtucket reports a very busy winter, with large circulation and reading rooms always full. The Lions Club of Pawtucket presented the library with fifteen volumes of the **Reader's Digest** in Braille, from July to November, 1932. From Mrs. Edwin McClellan of Cambridge, New York, it has received a very beautiful volume, "McClellan-Mynderse and allied families," by Helen McClellan, published by the American Historical Society, Inc. of New York.