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# BULLETIN

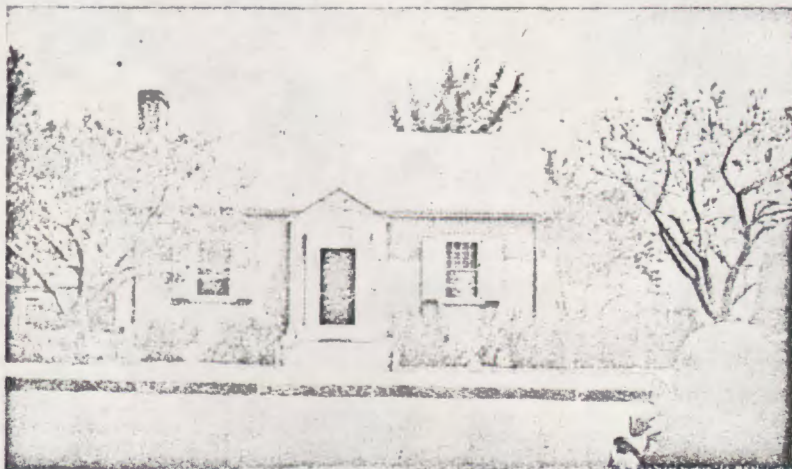
OF THE

## RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOL. 8

JUNE, 1935

No. 2



Jesse M. Smith Memorial Library

ANNUAL SPRING MEETING OF THE  
RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,  
TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1935, JESSE  
M. SMITH MEMORIAL LIBRARY,  
HARRISVILLE, R. I.

*Morning Session*

10:45 Addresses of Welcome  
Miss Dorothy M. Cummings,  
Librarian  
Mr. Austin T. Levy  
Business Meeting  
Propaganda  
Professor Benjamin C.  
Clough, Brown University  
12:30 Adjournment  
Luncheon: Loom and Shuttle  
Inn

*Afternoon Session*

2:00 Unemployed Youth  
Mr. George Horr, Superintendent,  
South Main St. Boys' Club.  
Mr. Clarence E. Sherman,  
Librarian, Providence Public  
Library  
Re-organization of the State  
Library  
Mr. Herbert O. Brigham  
The Re-cataloguing Problem  
Miss Edith N. Snow, Re-  
cataloguer, Providence  
Public Library  
3:30 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**  
Josephine A. Hope, Providence Public Library  
Annise Kane,  
Classical High School, Providence  
Mrs. Dorothy H. Hellen,  
Elmwood Public Library, Providence

Vol. 8                  JUNE, 1935                  No. 2

**A NEW LIBRARY**

The history of the Jesse M. Smith Memorial Library began in 1894, when, according to the will of Mrs. Mary E. Smith, a fund was given to the town for the establishing of a library. Her husband, Jesse M. Smith, had been a prominent business man in the town, and, though Mrs. Smith had lived in Harrisville only since her marriage, she had the welfare of the town very much at heart. Her will provided that the residue of her estate should be left to the Town of Burrillville; was to be known as the Jesse M. Smith Fund; and that, "as soon as the amount of such fund will justify the undertaking, it shall be devoted to the erection and maintenance of a Public Library in the said village of Harrisville". Some of the townspeople who had known Mrs. Smith felt that her desire to give a library as a memorial to her husband was inspired by her frequent visits to Uxbridge, Mass., where she often saw the library, which, she felt, was just the kind to bring pleasure and interest into the daily lives of the people.

Although the Fund was given in 1894, it was not until 1898 that the town voted to accept the trust created by the will and to administer the Fund as required by the will. And it was not until 1905 that any sort of building was erected. At this time the village lacked any hall in which to hold entertainments and dances, and many felt this an excellent opportunity to secure not only a library, but also a hall and new quarters for the town offices. Consequently a large brick building was erected in the center of the village, and two rooms on the second floor were devoted to the library.

As is usual in small towns, it was felt impossible to keep the library open for more than two afternoons and evenings during the week, and, though various librarians gladly gave their time and services for very small remuneration, the growth of the library was slow and uncertain.

It was not until the winter of 1933-34 that operations were begun to build the kind of library building which Mrs. Smith had wished for the town. Due to the generosity of Mr. and Mrs.

Austin T. Levy, and to their great interest in the welfare of the town, a community project was planned which included the erection of a small library, just such a one, it seems certain, as Mrs. Smith would have suggested had she been able to do so.

The library opened in its new quarters on April 21, 1934. With such pleasant surroundings and with the library hours increased to every afternoon and evening in the week, with the exception of Wednesdays and Sundays, its growth has been rapid. There has been a 300% increase in circulation, the juvenile circulation alone exceeding the total circulation of the previous year, and there has also been an increase of 332 borrowers. Even more gratifying than any statistics, however, is the assurance that the library is gradually becoming a habit in the lives of many in the community and that eventually it can hope to fill the place in the life of the town which Mrs. Smith hoped for it.

**HOW TO GET TO HARRISVILLE**

By Machine

Take Route 101 to Chepachet. At Chepachet take Wallum Lake Road and then take the right fork to Harrisville. Those south of Providence can take the Victory Highway to Chepachet.

**THE UNEMPLOYED YOUTH AND THE LIBRARY**

The economic crisis through which this country has been struggling has affected many groups of people in different phases of life. And the high schools are no exception. The schools must meet the crisis of decreasing funds and increasing attendance. The cause of this increase is due to various factors.

Students who, in prosperous years, would have been attending private schools, are now rubbing elbows with their fellow classmates in the public schools. Boys and girls who might have dropped out when they reached the legal school-leaving age are staying on. There are many more post-graduate students than in former years. Many cannot go on to college and so they are taking advantage of additional courses in the high school. In the good years, 91% of those who took the college course went to college. Now, only 75% can go.

Increased attendance has been noted in the trade schools also. And there has been a change in the personnel there too. The average age has increased for one thing. Older boys who had left school to go to work, and now are either without jobs or are on part time work, return to take up special courses. Formerly the majority of the students came from the 9th, 10th and 11th grades. Now 10-15% are high

school graduates. Many of these graduates are taking up commercial subjects.

It will be interesting to note how the students of this age will be affected psychologically. Will they become discouraged if their energies are not employed or will they make new opportunities? Will they have more respect for a job when they do get one, no matter how humble it may be? Will they appreciate a college education more than did the pre-depression youth? Only time can give the answer.

Meanwhile, what can the public library contribute to the situation? The question is a bit too involved to answer in full in the limited space that is available here, supposing it can be fully answered. But it is hoped that the following list will be of assistance to Rhode Island libraries both large and small.

#### A "VOCATIONS" BOOK SHELF

##### \*Careers

A series of leaflets issued by the U. S. Office of Education, on law, medicine, dentistry, librarianship, civil, electrical and mechanical engineering, optometry, home economics, art, chemistry and chemical engineering, veterinary medicine, music, forestry, pharmacy, architecture and music.

##### \*\*The Choice of an Occupation.

Crawford and Clements, editors. Covers seventy occupations: professions, occupations in the fields of science, engineering, business and the productive industries.

Published by the Department of Personal Study, Yale University. 1932. \$2.00 paper, \$3.00 cloth.

##### \*Careers for Women.

Filene. Covers over 150 careers described by successful women in each field. Gives descriptions of the work and training necessary, approximate financial returns and the advantages and disadvantages of many occupations. Houghton.

Revised and enlarged edition, 1934. \$3.00.

##### \*\*The Book of Opportunities: A Dictionary of Jobs; Personal Side-lights on 3500 American Occupations.

Putnam. Revised edition, 1933. \$3.00.

##### \*\*Occupations for Women. Hatcher. Very good. Lists many of the less obvious occupations.

Southern Women's Educational Alliance. 1927. \$3.50. New edition in preparation.

##### \*Outline of Careers: A Practical Guide to Achievement by thirty-eight eminent American. Bernays.

Doubleday Doran. 1927. \$2.50.

##### Fields of Work for Women. Leuck.

For girls who have had a year or more of high school, or for college women who wish to change their work. Excellent bibliography.

Appleton-Century. 1929. \$2.50.

##### The Girl and Her Job: A handbook for beginners. Brooke.

Advice for the high school and college graduate looking for a job, culled from the author's many years of experience as manager of an employment agency in New York. The second part of the book summarizes some of the opportunities for women, in finance, merchandising, advertising, journalism, publishing and publicity.

Appleton - Century. 1933. \$1.00.

##### Business Opportunities for Women.

Oglesby.

Brief surveys of opportunities in advertising, selling, finance and personnel work. Shows salaries paid; gives educational requirements.

Harper. 1932.

##### Vocations for Women. Peirce.

A book of information for girls of high school and junior college classes. Occupations are classified. Considered from points of view of evenness of advancement, required or desirable education, training and personal qualifications, financial and personal rewards.

Macmillan. 1933. \$2.00.

##### My Life Work: Office and Store Occupations.

##### My Life Work: Building and Metal Trades.

##### My Life Work: Printing and Servicing Trades. Cooley.

This series is known as the McGraw-Hill Vocational Texts.

McGraw-Hill. 1930. \$1.50 each.

##### Careers Ahead. Cottler and Brecht.

Written by two high school teachers who try to help students at least to discover in what directions their interests lean.

Little. 1933. \$2.50.

##### For Junior High School Students

##### I Find My Vocation. Kitson.

A job analysis of the task of choosing a vocation. Stresses development of habits of thought and action toward occupational problems. Not a source of vocational information.

McGraw. \$1.40.

##### \*Jobs for Girls. Cades.

Harcourt. \$2.00

##### Planning a Career.

Smith and Blough. American Book Co. \$1.44

Guidance of Youth. Davis.  
 Ginn. \$1.76.  
 Vocations. Proctor.  
 Houghton. \$1.48.  
 Vocational Civics. Hill.  
 Ginn. \$1.28.  
 \*\*The Girl and Her Future. Hoerle.  
 Discusses the task of getting a  
 job and the requirements of 80-  
 old occupations.  
 Smith. \$2.00.

#### REGIONAL MEETING

A regional meeting, including the library associations of New England, New York, New Jersey and Ontario, will be held at Lake George the week of September 9.

#### FROM HERE AND THERE

Anthony Free Library reports a growing demand for popular technical subjects.

In Barrington two new members have been added to the board of trustees: Russell Field and Robert Meyersham, taking the place of the secretary and treasurer who resigned in April. The latter were Ebenezer Tiffany, treasurer, who had served for 37 years, and Frederick Church, secretary, who had served for 15 years.

The Brown University Library's first experiment in substituting films for books was made for the Music Department. Several scores have been successfully photographed on moving picture films, and, when projected in the classroom, have given complete satisfaction.

A number of the staff of the Library of Brown University attended the Conference of New England College Librarians at Trinity College and Wesleyan University on May 10 and 11.

The People's Library at Newport, through the assistance of the F E R A, has been able to have its building repainted both inside and out. The Children's Room has been improved the most of all, for the walls have been painted a cheerful buff which gives the room a sunny appearance on the duldest days.

In the will of Albert W. Whittin of Whitinsville, Mass., who died in Paris on March 6, 1935, a bequest of \$5,000 is made to the Providence Athenaeum, to be known as the "Mrs. Sarah Helen Whitman, Mrs. Catherine Hart, Mrs. Annie Frances Fielden, Miss Eliza C. Lippitt and Miss Nora Perry Fund", the income to be used for the general purposes of the Society.

With simple but appropriate ceremonies, the five large murals painted for the Boys' and Girls' Department of the Providence Public Library by Edward Dubuque, under CWA and FERA auspices, were unveiled Tuesday afternoon, April 23. William Davis

Miller, President of the Board of Trustees, presided, and the speakers were Governor Theodore Francis Green; L. Earle Rowe, Museum Director, Rhode Island School of Design; and the artist, Mr. Dubuque. Five school children, representing as many schools, pulled the cords revealing the paintings. Clarence E. Sherman, the librarian, accepted the custody of the paintings.

Miss Mildred R. Bradbury has been appointed Head of the Art Department of the Providence Public Library, to assume her duties on June 1. She is a graduate of Simmons College and was Head of the Fine Arts Department of the Boston Public Library.

Miss Marion L. Arnold, formerly Head of the Art Department, becomes Associate Art Librarian.

Margaret Ridlon Van Ingen resigned as Librarian at the Rhode Island State College Library on April 1 to take a position with the New York City Public Library. Nathalie Elaine Briggs, a graduate of the college in the class of 1933 and of the Library School at Syracuse University in the class of 1934, has been added to the staff.

The seventh in a series of talks at the Robert Beverly Hale Library of Matunuck was given on Saturday, May 11. Dr. Roger Perkins, member of the School Committee of South Kingstown, who has recently returned from a six weeks trip through the West Indies and northern South America, gave a travel talk, "Through the West Indies". Dr. Perkins illustrated his talk with motion pictures, which he made during his trip. Tea was served in the Children's Room.

The boys and girls of Westerly are rallying to the old familiar cry, "The circus is coming!" This is the form which the Westerly Public Library's summer reading project has taken, and never has a plan been so enthusiastically received. To date, over 500 tickets have been issued. The price of admission to the big tent is the reading of five books before June 1. On that day the circus will have a grand opening, with a parade in which the boys and girls themselves will take part. From then until Book Week the alcove in the Children's Room will assume the likeness of a real circus tent. Inside will be a merry-go-round with cut-outs of famous animals on it; a peep show; freaks; and all things which go to make up a regular circus. The children will be asked to read one book for each object which they see, so that by Book Week they should be better acquainted with the animals and the countries from which they come. They will be asked to read ten books in all, and those who finish can be sure of a gala celebration at the end.