

University of Rhode Island

DigitalCommons@URI

---

RILA Bulletin

Rhode Island Library Association

---

5-1954

## Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 26, no. 1

RILA

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila\\_bulletin](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila_bulletin)

---

### Recommended Citation

RILA, "Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 26, no. 1" (1954). *RILA Bulletin*. Book 51.  
[https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila\\_bulletin/51](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila_bulletin/51) [https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila\\_bulletin/51](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/rila_bulletin/51)

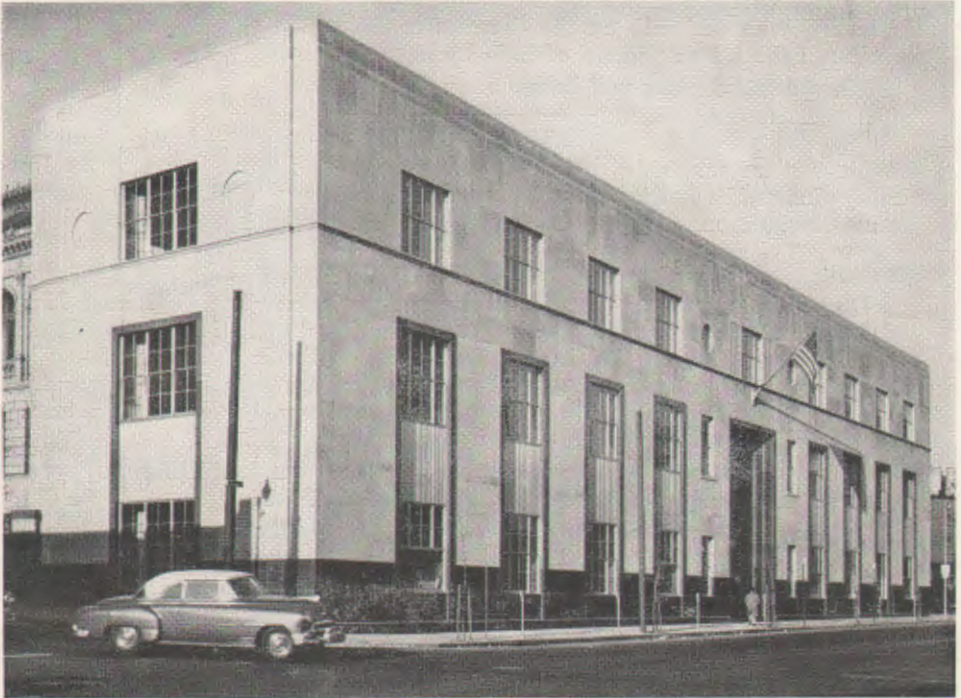
This Book is brought to you by the University of Rhode Island. It has been accepted for inclusion in RILA Bulletin by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons-group@uri.edu](mailto:digitalcommons-group@uri.edu). For permission to reuse copyrighted content, contact the author directly.

**BULLETIN**  
OF THE  
**RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

Vol. 26

MAY 1954

No. 1



**SPRING MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

**Tuesday, May 18, 1954**

**THE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**150 Empire Street**

## PROGRAM OF THE MEETING

The Spring Meeting of the Rhode Island Library Association will be held at the Providence Public Library, Empire and Washington Streets, on Tuesday, May 18, beginning at 10:15 A.M. After a business meeting, Mr. Clarence E. Sherman, Chief Librarian, and Mr. Stuart C. Sherman, Assistant Librarian, will talk on the new building. There will be conducted tours of the building, giving everyone an opportunity to hear the Department Heads tell about their special work in the location in which it is carried on, as well as to admire the work of the decorators and architects.

The President of the American Library Association, Miss Flora Belle Ludington, Librarian of Mount Holyoke College, will speak in the afternoon on "The A. L. A. and the Individual Member". The second afternoon speaker will be Miss Bertha M. Frick, Associate Professor, School of Library Service, Columbia University, who will talk on the libraries of Japan and her experiences while teaching in the Library School of Keio University, Tokyo.

More detailed plans will be announced later.

### LUNCHEON PLANS

Since plans cannot be definite at this time, Miss Ida Anderson of the Hospitality Committee has said that postcards will be sent to all members prior to the meeting, announcing the place, time and cost of the luncheon.

### A. L. A. MEMBERSHIP

Do you belong to the American Library Association? In 1950 Rhode Island had 102 members, but now there are 77: 61 individual and 16 institutional members. There are 270 individuals and 96 libraries on the R. I. L. A. mailing list. A little simple arithmetic will suggest to you your next step, for librarians need the A. L. A. just as much as the A. L. A. needs members. If 25 new memberships are received we can regain our former enrollment.

Memberships, open to all who are or have been employed in library service or related activities, are classified on a salary basis as follows:

<i>Salary</i>	<i>Dues</i>
\$2,999 or less	\$6.00
3,000 to 3,499	7.00
3,500 to 3,999 etc.	8.00 etc.

Retired, unemployed, librarians in religious orders: \$3.00.

Trustees and lay membership: \$6.00.

Institutional memberships are classified on the basis of the annual operating income, as follows:

<i>Income</i>	<i>Dues</i>
\$11,999 or under	\$6.00
12,000 to 100,00	\$.50 per \$1,000
100,000 and over	50.00

Membership in a single division can be included at no extra cost. The *Bulletin* is sent to all members.

There will be an opportunity to learn more about the American Library Association at the meeting of the R. I. L. A. on May 18, when the President, Miss Flora Belle Ludington, speaks on the A. L. A. and its individual members. Plan to join the A. L. A. when you pay your R. I. L. A. dues.

LYDIA M. GOODING  
*Rhode Island Representative*  
*A. L. A. Membership Committee*

BULLETIN  
of the  
RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATION

R.I.L.A. BULLETIN COMMITTEE

CAROL M. MORSE  
Pembroke Library

CHARLES W. CROSBY  
Providence Public Library

MARTHA MCPARTLAND  
East Greenwich Free Library

Vol. 26

MAY, 1954

No. 1

FROM THE FOUR CORNERS  
OF THE STATE

**Annmary Brown Memorial Library**

Miss Margaret Bingham Stillwell retired on December 31, 1953, after 36 years as curator of the Annmary Brown Memorial. She was widely known among bibliographers for her writings on the history of printing, especially for *Incunabula and Americana*, 1450-1800 and *Incunabula in American Libraries: a Second Census of Fifteenth Century Books* . . . Others, interested in the history of Providence, will remember the charm of her *While Benefit Street was Young* and the *Pageant of Benefit Street*.

The Memorial, erected by General Rush C. Hawkins in memory of his wife, contains his collections of over 500 books printed before 1500, American manuscripts and letters, paintings, and personal mementos. It was transferred to Brown University in 1948 and is now administered by the University Library. The book collection in the Annmary Brown has been made more widely representative of the Renaissance by the transfer from the John Hay of many books printed in the 15th and 16th centuries.

Miss Lydia M. Gooding, who had held various positions in the Brown University Library system, became curator of the Annmary Brown Memorial in January. Before coming to Brown she had been in college library work and a teacher in several library schools.

Visitors are cordially invited to the exhibitions in the Memorial, which is open from 10 to 4, Monday through Friday.

**Arnold Mills Community Library**

Can't think of anything startling that would be of interest to *Bulletin* readers. We are trying to do more in the way of publicity . . . book reports at monthly Communityites meetings, books on horticulture at Cumberland Garden Club Clinic, books on parents and children at P.T.A. meetings, lists of new acquisitions to the paper.

Have been trying to work out a way of getting more books into the hands of children attending Community School and Nursery School, but with indifferent success so far. My chief activity has been weeding our old material and acquiring new so as to have something more interesting to offer them.

MARY S. WILEY  
Librarian

**Ashaway Free Library**

Our circulation has been increasing since the fall of 1953. We have had the satisfaction of feeling that special projects planned have had results.

Story hours for 3 age levels on different afternoons were started in Book Week; these are repeated on special occasions. Several new youngsters have become interested.

A display case of good size has been set up and organizations such as Boy and Girl Scouts, the Grange, as well as smaller groups or individuals have been invited to use this opportunity to exhibit. It has proven very interesting and we feel parents have responded as well as those exhibiting. The demand for hobby, craft and camping books has increased to the point where we find it hard to keep up with our small allowance.

November 1953 seemed a good time to have an initial registration, including application cards which are filed as returned. Records of books borrowed had previously been kept in a

ledger but we have changed to the card system. Date due slips are now attached to all books as a reminder, and fines collected for books overdue without good reason.

Senior Girl Scouts are earning their Library Service Bar by assisting the Librarian. They have completed a book repair course and do the mending of books, lacquer new books, help with shelf arrangement and sometimes check out books. They hope to develop a children's corner in the future.

Fluorescent lights have been installed and are a great improvement.

A new encyclopedia has been bought; the World Book has served both adults and children very satisfactorily and it is a joy to be up-to-date!

Our State appropriation is all we have for the purchase of new books. Several people contribute books they no longer want. We hope that with the gradual changes we are making we will continually improve our service to the community.

MRS. GRANT W. PERRIN  
*Librarian*

### **Barrington Public Library**

The Barrington Public Library has had the busiest year in its entire history. Circulation has increased, and the rate of increase has increased. This has been due partly to the continued rapid growth of the town, and partly to a more regular and systematic program with the schools. The sixth graders have been instructed in the use of the li-

brary. This involves classes every week, followed by a browsing period, reports being made to the teachers on books read. The students seem to enjoy their time in the library, and the teachers are most enthusiastic and cooperative. We, in the library, have seen an improvement in the manner in which the students go about their research and in their whole outlook towards the library and its personnel.

Our most exciting project of the year has been the taking over of an unused room on the 3rd floor and making it the "arts" room. All books in the 700's have been moved here. The Town Hall Custodian painted the walls, ceiling and book shelves and refinished the table for us. The high school students made the book shelves, and the Barrington Junior Women's Club gave us a three speed, high fidelity record player. A few antique pieces found in the library attic and pretty drapes make the room most attractive. We regret the climb to the 3rd floor but hope the pleasantness of the room will make the climb worthwhile. A tea was held at the library on Sunday, March 21, at which the presentation of the record player was made.

Our big problem now and in the future is the question of room. The Adult Department has room for a few more years, but already, the Junior and the Young People's Departments are outgrown. Where we go from here we don't know.

SUSAN E. DEMERY  
*Librarian*

---

COMPTON'S

Pictured  
1954 Edition

ENCYCLOPEDIA

Compton's is bigger, better and more useful than ever due to our vigorously pursued policy of continuous revision PLUS continuous building. You expect up-to-dateness and adequate coverage — you get both in Compton's and MORE. For full particulars, write to:

Edwin Flanders, New England Dist. Mgr.

**F. E. COMPTON & COMPANY, Publishers**

351 East High Street

Manchester, N. H.

---

### Davisville Free Library

The activities of the Davisville Free Library for the past year have been as follows:

Last summer a children's story hour was conducted weekly by ladies of the community. Children of all ages attended and enjoyed them very much.

The South County Garden Club borrowed several rare antiques from the library for the "Early American Keeping Room" scene for the New York Flower Show. We are pleased that our library had a part in the winning of the International Flower Show Gold Medal and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Gold Medal.

MARION BARBER  
*Librarian*

### Elmwood Public Library

Business has been brisk at the Elmwood Public Library this spring, and we have had our hands full just keeping up with our patrons' demands on us.

Our Great Books Group, now in its sixth year, has continued to function and is perhaps our most successful group activity. This year, as last, the group has drawn people from outside Providence, one of its members coming from as far as Danielson, Conn. to meet with us.

Many improvements have been made throughout the building, including new lighting in our Children's Room and in the corridors.

In March we were happily surprised with the gift of a High Fidelity record player and we are now embarked on various projects to earn money for a record collection to go with it.

### Foster Public Library

The Foster Public Library completed its 4th year on April 1st. The total income is \$100 from the Town and \$100 in State Aid for new books. The Central Library, in an old gift shop on Route 6, is open afternoon and evening on Wednesdays and on

## THE RHODE ISLAND NEWS COMPANY

55 Hope Street  
Providence, R. I.

*Books of all publishers at  
lowest prices*

Thursday evenings. A station operates in a roadside restaurant near the state line. In the new consolidated school, three school libraries are placed in classrooms for lack of space elsewhere. They are the first school libraries ever to be established in Foster, and are run by 7th and 8th grade girls. The Hammond Library, consisting of the top four grades, has been circulating 125 books weekly. The Bemis Library, the lowest two grades, is teaching the children that books to read exist and also is giving them experience in using a library, although most of them do not take the books from the building.

The library has 3818 books, classified and in order on the shelves. A registration file is in process of being set up and already has 282 names listed.

Negotiations are nearly completed for the merger of the Foster Public Library with an old library organization which incorporated in 1923 to raise money to "erect a library building" and has done nothing since. The ending of this corporation as a group will aid greatly in bringing together the citizens of Foster in support of its going library. The money they own is not sufficient to erect a building.

The library's annual meeting is an educational meeting to acquaint the people with the regional library idea. The charter under which the Library operates has as its two aims—to give library service, and to cooperate with all libraries, corporations and towns for

the establishment of a regional library. At the April 1953 annual meeting, Miss Alice M. Cahill, the Supervisor of Field Services for the Library Extension Division of the Department of Education in Boston, told of regional libraries now existing in Massachusetts and particularly of the Field Demonstration Library at Conway which successfully joined a great area to the Greenfield Regional Library. This was a very potent talk and aroused great enthusiasm for a regional movement here.

ELINOR R. DORMAN  
*Librarian*

### Harmony Public Library

Harmony Library is situated in a small community. We have had 167 readers registered this year. Adult reading seemed to drop off somewhat but the juvenile reading kept about the same. This may be because we carry books to the school and I work two hours each week there. We are on Route 44 which is very well travelled and we do not consider it safe to allow the children to cross from the school to the library directly opposite.

Our circulation was 694 to adults and 2938 to juveniles. Our receipts from the Town are only \$100 which is used for books and supplies. We have book aid from the State so that we have been able to have quite an amount of new fiction.

I keep three shelves of books ready for the book reports in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades, the Principal having selected the titles at the beginning of the year.

ADAH S. HAWKINS  
*Librarian*

### Knightsville Community Library

At the annual meeting in November of the Knightsville Community Library, the following officers were elected: President, Mr. Joseph Pezza; Vice-President, Mr. John Di Biase;

Secretary, Mrs. Albert Addressi; and Treasurer, Mr. Theodore Saccoccia. We have made some improvements in the library room, five new lights have been installed, and the walls and shelves have been painted. Our circulation has doubled in the past year.

Our meetings are held at 8 P.M. on the third Wednesday of the month, and a social follows the business meeting, at which refreshments are served.

MRS. ALBERT ADDRESSI  
*Secretary*

## RECORD HOLDERS

for

7, 10 and 12 inch records

NOW AVAILABLE with

GREEN or TAN

PRESSBOARD COVERS!

*New England Representative*

S. G. HOPKINS

51 N. Main Street

Essex, Conn.

**GAYLORD BROS., Inc.**

Library Supplies

Syracuse, New York

### Narragansett Library Association

Mrs. Enid Thompson states that she has inaugurated the following activities: a Story Hour for children; publicity space in the local newspapers; and book reports to local church groups and clubs. Also, the circulation has doubled in the 2½ years that she has been librarian.

## **Rhode Island College of Pharmacy and Allied Sciences Library**

At the beginning of the college semester, Miss Gertrude F. Forrester, Librarian, retired due to ill-health. After many years of faithful service, the faculty and students alike were saddened by her decision. Miss Forrester has spent a life-time in the library field and was associated for many years in public library work.

Mrs. Maryland A. Estes, a former Staff member of the Deborah Cook Sayles Public Library of Pawtucket, was appointed in October to succeed Miss Forrester.

There has been a continued increase in the use of the Library. Dean W. Henry Rivard has emphasized his desire that the faculty provide definite assignments necessitating perusal of both texts and journals.

M. A. ESTES  
*Librarian*

---

## **The Sherman Leclerc Free Public Library**

The most outstanding accomplishment of the Sherman Leclerc Free Public Library in 1953 was the addition of a complete set of the Landmark Books, 50 volumes, paid for with proceeds from card parties and a rummage sale held by the Library Association.

MARGUERITE C. WEGIMONT  
*Librarian*

---

## **Union Public Library Tiverton Four Corners**

The library has had a successful year. It received some good publicity when the Providence Sunday Journal printed a brief story of its long history last August. At about the same time, the Library Association launched a profitable membership drive. Then, on Labor Day week-end, there was a food sale. Last of all, the townspeople, on the recommendation of the Budget

Committee, voted at Town Meeting in March to give the library \$400 for much needed repairs and improvements.

EDNA S. SNELL  
*Librarian*

---

## **University of Rhode Island Library**

We had an extremely busy year. We have without doubt purchased more volumes for the Library than ever before. It has however not been a year of any spectacular or particularly important achievement. Last summer we received a gift of 2000 volumes from Mr. and Mrs. W. Davis Miller of Wakefield, containing a great deal of local Rhode Island history, including many items from the library of Judge Elisha Potter.

FRANCIS P. ALLEN  
*Librarian*

---

## **Westerly Public Library**

An increased use of all of its resources is noted at the Westerly Public Library. In addition to a gain in the circulation of books and other printed material, there is an increased use of microfilm and microcards in the library, and in the borrowing of music scores, pictures and museum objects. By means of gifts from the Pawcatuck Valley Women's Club a Record Library has been established and is increasingly popular.

The adult education program has included two study groups, one on the history of painting given by Mrs. Agnes C. Lincoln of Stonington, and an extension course on The Contemporary American Novel by Professor E. A. Robinson of the University of Rhode Island. A series of four lectures on world affairs by Miss Eunice H. Avery of Springfield, Mass. was sponsored by the Library.

The Museum has been an exciting place with its display of the work of local artists both children and adults,



and an interesting loan exhibit of water colors from the Vose Galleries, Boston.

For the second year in succession a Nature Club is in full swing in the Children's Department. More than 100 children have fulfilled the reading requirements for membership and are now busily engaged in making their gardens grow, a process achieved only by reading.

To advertise its wares the Library has gone outside its own walls to arrange attractive displays both at the Y.M.C.A. and in the exhibit case of the Washington Trust Company.

---

### **Pre-Conference Library Buildings Institute**

A Pre-Conference Library Buildings Institute will be held in St. Paul on Saturday and Sunday, June 19 and 20, 1954 preceding the A.L.A. annual conference in Minneapolis.

The first day of the Institute will be devoted to the problems of all types of library buildings beginning with the early programming aspects of building planning through preliminary planning and working drawings. On the second day of the Institute, the group will be

divided into three special Institutes where the problems of public, college and school library buildings will receive consideration.

The Pre-Conference Institute is being jointly sponsored by the A.L.A. Buildings Committee and the several Buildings Committees of A.L.A. Divisions. The Institute will be held in the down-town area of St. Paul.

---

### **A Survey**

Going on the assumption that the avowed educational objectives of the American public library can only be achieved if the library acquires the important and significant books as they are published, a list of the "good" and "notable" books published in the last twenty years has been prepared for checking with public library catalogs. The list, containing 1,209 fiction and nonfiction titles, will be sent in duplicate to any public library able to devote approximately six hours to the job. The duplicate copy may be retained by the checking library. For copies of the list, write to: Professor LeRoy C. Merritt, School of Librarianship, University of California, Berkeley 4, California.

## **THE 1954 ENCYCLOPEDIA AMERICANA**

a thirty volume PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED reference work, contains some 24,000 pages. Since 1949 more than 20,000 pages have been completely revised, rewritten and reset.

The 700 page INDEX has been completely revised to conform with the new text. The illustrative material has been more than doubled since 1949.

Liberal trade-in allowance.

### **D. Charles Parker**

New England Representative,  
Americana Corporation,

4 Brewster Terrace,  
Brookline 46, Mass.

Tel. BEacon 2-2505

# RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## Officers and Board, 1953 - 1954

### PRESIDENT

MR. KAY K. MOORE, Brown University Library

### FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

MISS ISABEL S. WALLACE, Auburn Public Library

### SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

MR. WALTER CURLEY, Providence Public Library

### RECORDING SECRETARY

MISS DOROTHY BUDLONG, Elmwood Public Library

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MISS CAROLINE A. BOWEN, Weaver Memorial Library

### TREASURER

MRS. ROWELL L. WALLER, Pembroke College Library (ret.)

### THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Officers and

MISS JEANNE McCREADY, R. I. School of Design Library

MRS. ALICE McPECK, R. I. School of Design Library

MR. J. VAUGHAN MERRICK, Robert Beverly Hale Memorial Library

### COMMITTEES

#### Bulletin

MISS CAROL M. MORSE, Pembroke College Library, Chairman

MR. CHARLES CROSBY, Providence Public Library

MISS MARTHA McPARTLAND, East Greenwich Free Library

#### Exhibits

MR. ROWELL WALLER, Providence Public Library, Chairman

MISS ANN COLEMAN, Providence Public Library

MR. HAROLD CLARK, Brown University Library

#### Governmental Relations

MISS SALLIE E. COY, Westerly Public Library, Chairman

MR. FRANCIS P. ALLEN, University of Rhode Island

MR. STUART C. SHERMAN, Providence Public Library

DR. GRACE E. SHERWOOD, R. I. State Library

MISS ELLEN D. STONE, Elmwood Public Library

#### Hospitality

MISS SUSAN E. DEMERY, Barrington Public Library, Chairman

MISS IDA MAY ANDERSON, Providence Public Library

MISS LOUISE COTTRELL, People's Library, Newport

#### Membership

MR. DONALD T. GIBBS, Redwood Library and Athenaeum, Chairman

MISS NATALIE BRIGGS, University of Rhode Island

MISS MARTHA NOLAN, Providence Public Library

#### Nominating

MISS MARION HOLT, Providence Public Library, Chairman

MISS RUBY HORWOOD, Butler Hospital Library

MISS EDNA THAYER, Providence Public Library

MRS. MILDRED WUNSCH, R. I. State Library

#### Program

MISS LYDIA M. GOODING, Annmary Brown Memorial, Chairman

MRS. McSOLEY BEAGAN, George H. Norman Library, Newport

MISS KATHERINE BLODGETT, Providence Public Library

#### Scholarships

MR. H. GLENN BROWN, Brown University Library, Chairman

MISS HARRIET BRIGGS, Riverside Library (ret.)

#### Representative to the A. L. A. Council

MR. FRANCIS P. ALLEN, University of Rhode Island

## H. W. Wilson Dies at 85

Halsey W. Wilson, beloved founder of the H. W. Wilson Company of New York, died peacefully in his sleep on March 1, 1954, at his home in Westchester County, New York, after an illness of several months. Internationally renowned as a bibliographer, he was Chairman of the Board of the 56-year-old company, the world's largest reference publishing house, publishers of more than 20 major indexing and reference services acclaimed as indispensable to research and scholarship in libraries the world over. Best known perhaps of the Company's publications are the CUMULATIVE BOOK INDEX and the READER'S GUIDE TO PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

On the fiftieth anniversary of the Company's founding, in 1948, the American Library Association saluted it as "the most important bibliographical enterprise ever conceived and brought to fruition by any one man." And the *Saturday Review* commented: "The name H. W. Wilson is to bibliography what Webster is to dictionaries, Bartlett to quotations". A leading educator wrote that it would be difficult to imagine what modern scholarship and librarianship would be like without the Wilson publications". And Paul North Rice, then president of the American Library Association, conveyed the appreciation of all librarians when he wrote: "It is really incredible that one man could do so much. We take your various indexes and bibliographies for granted, but when we think of what American libraries would do without them, we realize that it is not exaggeration to say that you have done more for libraries than any other living man".

One of Mr. Wilson's keys to success in providing library services was his willingness to heed the requests and consider the problems of the libraries themselves. Every publication of The Wilson Company has been the outgrowth of a definite need in libraries, and in attempting to meet the need,

advice of the librarians has been widely sought. Cooperation was indeed the cornerstone of all Mr. Wilson's work. His questionnaires were well known throughout the library world, and he built up plans for collaboration with librarians from all types of libraries on all of his major publications. In the case of periodical indexes, the subscribers themselves from time to time vote on the periodicals to be indexed. The Wilson Company is in every sense a cooperative enterprise.

Mr. Wilson had been a regular attendant at library conferences, in recent years having attained the distinction of having attended more conferences of the American Library Association than any other member. He encouraged his staff to participate in library association affairs and give generously of their time and abilities to committee work. In still another channel of cooperation, representatives of the American Library Association and the Special Libraries Association have been invited frequently to sit with The Wilson Company's Board of Directors.

Considered by many the greatest benefactor of libraries since Andrew Carnegie, the recipient of numerous honors from educators and librarians, Mr. Wilson's contributions have been summarized in John Lawler's book, *The H. W. Wilson Company: Half a Century of Bibliographic Publishing*, as follows: "By imposing order on the chaos of information, Wilson indexes have been a factor in accelerating the progress of science, which relies on the swift exchange of ideas. By opening a fabulously rich lode of contemporary material, they have been instrumental in promoting a whole new approach to the writing of modern history. By making research possible even under the pressure of deadlines, they have aided in the improvement of all types of journalism. By extending the horizons of knowledge, they have provoked new experiments in education and agriculture, in art and industry, in law and government."