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BULLETIN

of the

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Vol. 31

November, 1959

No. 2



AUTUMN MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1959

RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE OF EDUCATION LIBRARY

Providence, Rhode Island

PROGRAM

- 9:00-10:00 A.M. Exhibits Open.
- 10:00-11:15 A.M. Business Meeting.
- 11:15-12:00 A.M. Panel Discussion: *Librarians and Teachers: Partners in Education*. Chairman: Dr. Mary T. Thorp, Director of Laboratory Experiences, Rhode Island College of Education.
- 12:00- 1:15 P.M. Tour of the Rhode Island College of Education Exhibits.
- 1:15- 2:00 P.M. Luncheon—Students' Center—Cafeteria.
- 2:30- 3:00 P.M. *Some editorial standards for the publishing of children's books*, by Miss Helen Jones, Editor for Children's Books, with Little, Brown & Co., Boston, Mass.
- 3:15- 4:00 P.M. Report of *School Library Conference* at the University of Chicago Graduate Library School.
-

Parking facilities are available on the college campus. Those who need transportation may call HOPkins 1-1165 (Elmwood Library).

You are urged to take time to visit the various exhibits from the publishers and library supply houses.

There will be an opportunity for you to pay your dues at the meeting. If dues have lapsed more than one year, the payment of one year's dues will put you in good standing.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION

In accordance with Section 8 of the Constitution of the Rhode Island Library Association regarding Amendments to the Constitution, notice is hereby given regarding a proposed amendment to Section 7, *Dues*, which now reads:

"The annual dues for all members shall be \$2.00. Members whose dues remain unpaid for three years shall cease to belong to the Association."

It is proposed that the word "all"

be deleted. This will remove a conflict with Section 3 regarding members.

It is also proposed that a new section be added acknowledging our chapter status in the American Library Association, as follows:

"The Rhode Island Library Association is a chapter of the American Library Association and is entitled to one councilor. The councilor shall be elected at the annual meeting and shall serve for four years or until his successor is selected and qualified."

President's Notes

The Rhode Island Library Association recognizes the accomplishments of the Public Library Services in Rural Areas program which has been operating in Rhode Island for a little over a year and a half. Benefits in the rural libraries are apparent. The output to date has been most encouraging and is accelerating now under improved working conditions and increased staff. One of the features of the program as devised by the Rhode Island Library Association was to provide central cataloging. This, of course, requires more time than just delivering books ordered. It is hoped that librarians and trustees in these rural communities will cooperate with patience and understanding realizing the vast amount of details involved in selecting, ordering, cataloging and processing books for the 42 rural libraries and in providing bookmobile service. This program for rural libraries is an important one which Rhode Island is fortunate to be sharing with 51 other states and territories under the Library Services Act.

REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON AGING

The Rhode Island Library Association was officially represented at *Regional Conference on Aging* held in Boston on September 16-17, 1959. The *Conference* was sponsored by the American Medical Association, Council on Medical Service, Committee on Aging, and the state medical societies of the six New England states and New York.

This Conference was one of many regional Conferences which are being held over the country in preparation for a national White House Conference on Aging to be held in 1960. Although the Conference is instigated by doctors, full co-operation is being sought from related agencies such as libraries and every effort is being made to have this Conference a movement from the grass-roots up.

Miss Dorothy W. Budlong, President of RILA, and Anne Maxville represented the Association at the Thursday meeting.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUPS

Libraries are being asked to provide a meeting for Great Books Discussion Groups. Ten or more libraries now have one or more adult Groups, some of whom have been meeting for three years, one for seven years.

Especially wanted this year are meeting places for a new young adult program designed for those still in high school. Certified teachers to lead these groups will be supplied and two school systems have already agreed to give the youngsters school credit for their participation when led by a teacher with certification.

NEW ENGLAND MEDICAL LIBRARIANS

The New England Regional Group of Medical Librarians will hold their second annual meeting in Providence, R. I., on Friday and Saturday, October 30-31, 1959. The meeting will be held at the R. I. Medical Society Library, 106 Francis Street, Providence, R. I. Any interested person is welcome.

NEWS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

Adult Correctional Institution Library Department of Social Welfare

Relatively recently the library facilities and programs at the Maximum Security Facility have undergone changes which have served as a means of helping many inmates who seek legitimate pleasure from good fictional literature. The non-fiction shelves are also being utilized by those who have a desire for learning in many categories of knowledge, especially in particular vocational interests.

Funds for books, periodicals and newspapers are appropriated for us by the State of Rhode Island. An important source of books, however, has been the donations by citizens and organizations throughout the state. We hope that these donations will continue. Recently a public library in a near-by community has given us books which were well received by our inmates.

If there are any books and materials which it is believed would be usable here, please call HO. 3-8200.

WILLIAM J. MORRO
Supervisor of Education

Arnolds Mills Community Library

Striving to meet the needs of the Arnolds Mills community, our library is increasing its services to both children and adults with longer opening hours, closer school-library relationships, and greater community awareness of our facilities for all library patrons.

During the past year, two series of lessons for the Sixth Grade pupils have been held at the library during class time for general library instruction in the use of encyclopedias, reference books, and the card catalog.

The experience has been of practical value in the reference work assigned by classroom teachers, and has been appreciated by teachers, pupils and parents.

Especially valuable has been the help of the Public Library Services in Rural Areas with its distribution of reference books and encyclopedias. Gifts and advice have also been appreciatively received from the State Librarian.

FLORENCE G. ALDEN,
Librarian

Auburn Public Library

A successful Summer Reading Program was held this year by the Auburn Public Library. In previous years, the entrants have been overwhelmingly female. This year our theme was "Railroads", with the result that an even number of boys and girls entered the program.

The Auburn Library Club, which serves as a "Friends of the Library" group, donated a new edition of the Encyclopedia Americana. This group of women pledges \$25 a month to the Library and supplements this with other gifts of money for books throughout the year. Their total gift to the Library this year was \$675.

A new schedule of hours for July and August was begun this summer when the Board of Trustees voted in the Spring to close the Library on Saturdays. We were closed for eight Saturdays, but the circulation decrease amounted only to that of one and one-half days circulation.

Another busy school year is before us with reference questions coming in from thirteen schools in our area.

ISABEL S. WALLACE,
Librarian

Barrington Public Library

Hoping that patronage of the Library would be spread over the week, one full day and one evening have been added to the Library's schedule of hours.

Mrs. Margaret Stevenson, part-time worker for several years, has become a full-time member of the Staff, and Miss Jeannette Bowles is now Acting-Children's Librarian. Miss Bowles is a 1959 graduate of Providence-Barrington Bible College, and has had library experience at the college and at the Bangor Public Library.

Three Staff Members and one part-time worker are planning to take the University of Rhode Island Extension course in Library Science.

SUSAN E. DEMERY,
Librarian

Brown University Library

An exhibition of Lincoln material, selected from the McLellan Lincoln Collection and the John Hay Collection, for display in England in honor of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln on February 12th is still touring the British Isles. It was first displayed in the King's Library of the British Museum and in April was transferred to the Newcastle-on-Tyne Laing Art Gallery and Museum. It has been shown at the Manchester Central Library, Gladstone's Land, Edinburgh, Royal Philosophical Society, Glasgow; Carnegie Library at Ayr, and is currently on display at the

Central Art Galleries, Albert Institute, Dundee, Scotland.

New appointments include Mr. Richard G. Johnson, Reference Assistant, Simmons College M.S. and a Reference Assistant at the Library of the College of the City of New York before coming to Brown; Miss Pamela R. Trier, Cataloger, on the Exchange Visitors Program from Australia with a year's experience at the Johns Hopkins University Library under the same program; Mr. Zoltan G. Zeke, Cataloger, who was a lawyer in Hungary before emigrating first to Australia and then to the United States, and is a candidate for a library degree from the Catholic University of America.

Recent resignations from the Brown University Library staff have been Miss Arline Willar, Reference Assistant, who accepted the position as Reference Librarian at Brandeis University, and Miss Martha L. Peck, Assistant Archivist, who will be attending Library School at McGill University.

DAVID A. JONAH,
Librarian

Elmwood Public Library

A program of painting and re-decorating which included the Circulation Department, Staff Room and Lavatories was carried out at the Elmwood Public Library in the late spring.

During Rhode Island Heritage Week, the silver service set of the "U.S.S. Rhode Island" was exhibited at the Library through the cooperation of the Gorham Manufacturing Company.

"Sea Treasures Reading Club" held the spotlight in the Children's department this past summer. As a climax

to the summer program, "Don Coyote", well-known storyteller, presented a special story hour and puppet show for the children on Saturday, September 26th, in the Library Auditorium.

Mrs. Lemoyne Thatcher resigned as Head of Circulation and Reference in August. Miss Rose Karlin was appointed to fill that position.

A Great Books Council meeting was held on September 8th and plans for the fall Great Books program in Rhode Island were outlined.

The Elmwood Public Library has scheduled two Great Books groups for the fall and winter season.

DOROTHY W. BUDLONG
Librarian

East Greenwich Free Library

The East Greenwich Free Library Association lost a member and a friend in the death of Mrs. Camilo Rodriguez. Since 1915, when her uncle, Daniel A. Peirce, built and endowed this library, she has been intensely interested in its welfare. An avid and discriminating reader, Mrs. Rodriguez also served as a member of the Book Committee.

A fine display of contemporary photography was shown at the library, on August 3-17. This was the work of Buck Hoeffler, a local man and recent graduate of the Rochester Institute of Technology. The pictures received much favorable comment from the many viewers.

Two members have been added to the Book and Program Committee, Mrs. George A. White, Jr. and Mr. Stanley Auslander. Mr. David A. Jonah serving as chairman.

Circulation figures tell of a very busy year, as we have issued 41,417

books in the first eight months of 1959, a gain of over 5,000 over last year's total for the same period.

The chance to participate in the Public Library Services in Rural Areas program has helped to build up our children's collection in particular; and, in general, has enhanced the value of the library to the community.

MARTHA R. MCPARTLAND
Librarian

Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital

During the last year, the Bradley Hospital Library has changed the system of cataloging books, adopting the Library of Congress system. This has taken considerable time, but it is believed that better service to the readers will be achieved.

Although the Library is highly specialized in the kind of books acquired: for the psychiatric, psychological, social work, pediatric and group work professions—extensive coverage is maintained in these fields.

Many periodicals dealing with problem children are received. A reading room where these may be read in the Library has been set up.

LYDIA M. QUILTY,
Medical Record Librarian

Greenville Public Library

Greenville has had another tremendous year. Circulation increased 50% over last year and necessitated opening the Library another day. Besides one volunteer worker who came every Wednesday afternoon, a class of six teen-age girls was trained to card and shelve books and to do messenger work. These girls are also willing to work on exceptionally busy days.

Two art shows were sponsored by the Library Association, as well as two lectures and a regional meeting of northern Rhode Island teachers who met in preparation for music week. The Lecture Hall has also been used for recitals and other group meetings.

DORIS A. DEXTER,
Librarian

Knightsville Community Library

A new library building is under way for the Knightsville Community to be located on the corner of Cranston Street and B Street. The foundation is in, but because of the steel strike, operations are halted while waiting for steel for the superstructure.

The library will have a large reading and study room, kitchen, a downstairs assembly hall, an office for the Librarian, and space for over 15,000 volumes. The Building Drive will continue for several months, and will include a spaghetti dinner, a Christmas dinner dance and several private bridge parties.

Location in the meantime is in temporary cramped quarters. Book purchases are continuing in order to hold up the ever increasing circulation.

A reading program for youngsters is being developed, and next month a membership drive will begin.

THEODORE A. SACCOCCIA,
Treasurer

Langworthy Public Library

Following construction and decorating work in the Langworthy Public Library in Hope Valley, all books and shelves have been rearranged and

cleaned by members of the Hope Valley Womans Club. This project was chosen by the local club as their part in the Community Achievement Contest sponsored by the General Federation of Womans Clubs and Sears-Roebuck Foundation. To enter the contest, each club was required to take on some worth-while community project.

Rhode Island was one of only three states in the union to have 100% participation of all clubs in their state for which the Rhode Island State Federation received a bonus of five hundred dollars from Sears-Roebuck.

The Hope Valley Club has given over eight hours of volunteer work to the Library with great interest and enthusiasm. The Club hopes to be of service in the future in any capacity in which it can be helpful.

GLADYS SEGAR,
Librarian

Middletown Free Library

An increase in funds was voted for the Middletown Free Library this year.

This has made it possible for the Library to be open six afternoons a week and two hours in the evening the year round. For the previous two years the hours had been four afternoons per week.

The extra hours are especially welcomed by the Staff for their technical work since during the school year, the Library is literally mobbed by classes from the 500 pupil Oliphant School next door.

The increased funds also allow for \$500 for books. There had been no appropriation previously, so that the Library subsisted on the State allot-

ment and the recent Public Library Services to Rural Areas.

A Book Committee has been organized and also a Building Committee. Preliminary plans have been made for an addition, and there is over \$200 in the Building Fund.

There are prospects of acquiring a small parking area, adjacent to the Library grounds, from the School playground. A parking area is a prerequisite to receiving approval from the town's Building Inspector for the erection of the addition.

North Kingstown Free Library

A 17% increase in book circulation revealed the growing use made of the

North Kingstown Free Library during the past year. The fine collection of books supplied through the Library Services Act program did much to strengthen the book collection and to meet the varied needs of our readers, which ranged from the Mother Goose age to senior citizens.

Story hours, a Great Books discussion group, a Backyard Art Show, and a Christmas Open House were features of the year.

A building campaign has been launched in order to provide a new reading room to relieve the overcrowding brought about by increased use of library facilities.

GLADYS S. HELLEWELL,
Librarian



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Oak Lawn Public Library

The Oak Lawn Public Library had a record month for large circulation during August. It may seem odd that a vacation month should set the record but perhaps due to the hot, humid weather readers were content to sit still and read some good library books.

Our community still continues to have many new families and many seek the library soon after arrival.

The selling of discarded books for a very small amount was suggested by our trustees. These books were placed on shelves in the entry and readers, especially boys and girls, have bought them to the amount of about fifty dollars. This solves our problem to a certain extent of disposing of volumes which are in shabby condition and those which are either outdated or have circulated only a few times. Our crowded shelves necessitate a careful selection and a thorough weeding frequently.

The Providence Athenaeum

Miss Clara B. Mowry, Assistant Librarian, who completed fifty years of devoted service to the Library on September 7th was honored by the Directors at the annual meeting of the Corporation held on September 28.

In September, Mrs. Christine Wallace joined the staff as Cataloguer and Mrs. Frances Kilham was appointed an assistant at the circulation desk.

The number of children's books circulated during the past year was the largest ever recorded.

Providence-Barrington Bible College

We are pleased to report two new full-time staff members this fall. Miss

Eleanor Wilson completed residence work for her M.S. degree in Library Science at Simmons College this summer. She will serve in the Bible College as Assistant Librarian. Mrs. Beth Jones, a recent graduate of the College, will be an assistant in technical services.

Two unique acquisitions this summer may be of interest to other libraries in the area. One was the Talking Book, a set of records containing the entire Bible for the use of the blind, produced by the American Bible Society. These recordings are available to any blind people in this area. Also from the American Bible Society came a set of 100 Bibles in foreign languages, which will not be circulated. Both of these items were gifts of a friend of the Library.

SELBY U. GRATON,
Librarian

Public Library Services In Rural Areas

Public Library Services occupied its new headquarters in the Roger Williams Building (formerly R.I.C.E.), provided by its administrative authority, the Secretary of State on July 1st. Comprising a large floor area which measures 36 by 72 feet, it is equipped with wall shelving and with double, movable bookcases which define certain areas—a browsing area for visiting librarians and trustees, an area for workshops, a section for the book-mobile book pool and a staff area, desk space for personnel, and a processing and shipping room area. The attractive and functional office provides an ideal setting for the work in progress.

The General Assembly repeated for fiscal 1960 its 1958 and 1959 annual appropriations of \$21,500. Credit was also given Rhode Island by the Fed-

eral Government for its provision of State-owned office space. The balance in matching funds was based on appropriations for the State Library's Extension Service and State Aid to Public Libraries administered by the State Librarian.

Public libraries of Rhode Island which have been approved for the rural library program by the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare now number forty-two. A swift comparison of their statistics as reported in 1956 and 1958 show that fourteen have increased their hours of service, thirty-three have increased circulation, and twenty-two have increased local support. The growing awareness of libraries in their communities must be gratifying to their hard-working librarians.

During the short space of a year and a half, librarians and trustees from different parts of Rhode Island have been coming into Providence, to the headquarters of rural libraries, for a total of 385 visits. The interest and effort so manifested are indicative of the spirit which prompts these librarians in all that they are doing for their communities, in all that they are giving in dedicated service. May they have the recognition and appreciation that they deserve!

ELIZABETH GALLUP MYER,
Supervisor

Rhode Island Historical Society

Now on exhibition in the Society's Museum Room is an ancient printing press which played a role of the utmost importance in the history of printing in Rhode Island. Said to have been made around the year 1650, it was brought to Boston in 1717 by James Franklin. On it, part of the time with the assistance of his younger brother Benjamin, he printed the

New England Courant during his stormy years in the Massachusetts capital. James Franklin brought the press with him when he moved to Newport, Rhode Island, in 1727 and established his shop on Tillinghast's wharf. From it in that year came the two earliest known examples of Rhode Island printing and later Rhode Island's first newspaper *The Rhode Island Gazette*. A large proportion of the Society's outstanding collection of eighteenth century imprints was produced on this press by Franklin and his successors. It is now on extended loan from the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association in Boston.

The summer exhibition of the Rhode Island Historical Society at John Brown House, which will continue to the end of October, consists of pewter by Rhode Island makers from the collections of Dr. Madelaine R. Brown and J. K. Ott. The pieces on view represent the work of eighteen pewterers active between 1711 and 1856; a number of unexpected forms and some hitherto unrecorded marks add to the interest of the display. An illustrated catalogue with descriptions and notes on the pieces by Mr. Ott is available.

The Society welcomes groups who wish to visit the library or John Brown House, the headquarters of the Society. Arrangements should be made in advance by telephoning DEXter 1-8575.

Rhode Island School of Design

A survey made during the academic year revealed that 515 of the 778 students enrolled in the degree program were regular library borrowers. This count does not include students whose use of library resources was within the building.

It is gratifying to report that two new book sections, with a combined shelving capacity of 700 books, have been added to the Main Reading Room. These are made of teakwood to harmonize with the existing shelving and are a handsome as well as useful and much needed addition to the room. During the summer the book collection on the main floor was reorganized to take advantage of this expansion in shelving.

Mrs. Brenda P. Myers, a graduate of Hamerton College, Cambridge, England, joined the staff September 15, 1959. She will share all duties in the Department of Slides and Photographs. Mrs. Myers formerly taught art in the secondary schools of Manchester, England.

St. Joseph's Hospital

A new crop of interns, all Spanish-speaking, who arrived on July 1st brought us our usual opportunity for orientation, teaching the use of library tools, and winning friends, all complicated by language difficulties. With the help of our newly acquired *English for Foreigners* linguaphone records, plus exposure to American slang on all sides, it is hoped that the language hurdle can soon be overcome.

Invaluable in this respect is our new assistant, Dora E. Puigdevall, who speaks both English and Spanish fluently. She is from Argentina where she worked in the library of the Argentine Antarctic Institute for two and one-half years before coming with her doctor-husband to the United States.

ANNE MAXVILLE,
Librarian

The Health Library Rhode Island Department of Health

Rounding out two decades of service for the Staff of the Rhode Island Department of Health, the Health Library, established in 1939, now comprises 7,150 volumes dealing with public health and preventive medicine. Over 130 medical journals, including those of allied professions, are received and routed to the personnel of the Divisions.

Any person seriously interested in public health matters is assisted in research or referred to the proper Consultant or Division Chief. Loans are made when material is available and proper credentials are presented.

As the Library functions primarily for the Staff of the Rhode Island Department of Health, it is recommended that queries should be telephoned in advance to assure that the specific material is at hand. Visitors are always welcome.

HETTIE PALMER SELBY,
Librarian

Rhode Island State Library

Two additional libraries for DEEP FREEZE V at Antarctica were requested by the Construction Battalion at Davisville from the Rhode Island State Library's *Book Pool for the Armed Forces*. A library had already been prepared for DEEP FREEZE I at the South Pole. The *Book Pool for the Armed Forces*, a function of the State Library, is soon to enter its nineteenth year of highly specialized book services at home and overseas.

Since the Naval Station at Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands was first activated by the United States Navy, the Library has had this sign over its entrance: GRACE SHERWOOD LIBRARY.

In response to the notice that the State Library had at its disposal a large number of donated books in good condition which could be had for transportation, twelve libraries have selected 1,163 books. Many remain for anyone to claim who may be interested .

The State Library Extension Service has serviced five schools with approximately 276 books.

GRACE M. SHERWOOD,
State Librarian

**Thornton Community
Free Public Library**

A new electrical lighting system was installed in the Library during the summer months.

A magazine section has been added to the library as of September 1st. Six

popular magazines comprise the initial subscription which will be increased as the library budget permits.

ARMANDO DI VINCENZO,
Librarian

U. S. Naval Air Station Library

Much activity has been going on at Quonset Point. The late summer kept our newly established Juvenile Section busy as it was too cold for swimming in June and July. Many new Juvenile books were purchased or received as donations, and the section was used to its fullest extent.

With the change of command in August, we are all looking forward to meeting the Commanding Officer, Captain James. Our former Commanding Officer, Captain Thomas Payne was transferred to Washington.

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GAspee 1-7649

We have been able to reopen the Hospital Library, which is being staffed by Mrs. Bettie Staniunas. This service is greatly appreciated by the patients in all three wards and the Bachelor Officers Quarters. Assistance is given by a Red Cross Volunteer who visits the wards twice weekly.

During the months of June and July we were fortunate to have the loan of a collection of paintings by Lt. Dan Sekellick. They were most favorably received by all who visited the Library.

HELEN D. PRITCHARD,
Librarian

University of Rhode Island

The University of Rhode Island has added three new staff members. Mr. William Turnbull, a graduate of the University of Rhode Island in the class of 1957, has returned to us after two years at the Rutgers University Library School, as Head of our Circulation Department. Mrs. Marion Green has come to us in Cataloging Department from Brandeis University.

Plans have been completed for the rehabilitation of the first floor of Green Hall for Library purposes and

blueprints have been approved by the Board of Trustees. They are now in the State House in Providence where it is assumed that they will go out for bid within the next few weeks.

The University has a freshman class of over 1,000 so we anticipate a very busy year.

F. P. ALLEN,
Librarian

Bulletin Board Trouble?

A school librarian in Cleveland has come to the aid of librarians with no art training and no flair for bulletin boards.

The authors: Robert Hein, Elementary art consultant for Cleveland Heights city school district and Esther Davis, librarian, have produced an 8½"x11" paper back book with 200 drawings and photographs of actual library and school bulletin boards. Techniques are described which make it possible to construct boards using materials which are either free, very cheap and easy to obtain. It may be obtained for \$1.50 from the author:

Mrs. Stanton L. Davis
EASY BULLETIN BOARDS
Box 103
Cleveland 21, Ohio

Rhode Island Library Association — 1959-1960

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