SPRING MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Tuesday, May 21, 1946
BARRINGTON TOWN HALL BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND
General Session
10:00 BUSINESS SESSION
10:30 THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN GERMANY
Professor Sinclair W. Armstrong, Brown University
11:00 PUBLIC RELATIONS IN LIBRARIES
Miss Ellen M. Carey, Public Relations Assistant, Providence Public Library
11:30 THE PROBLEM OF UNDERSTANDING RUSSIAN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MOVEMENTS
Professor Philip Taft, Brown University
Round Table
10:30-12:00 SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE
Conducted by Miss Elizabeth G. Myer, Librarian
Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library, Old Lyme, Conn.
12:00-2:00 LUNCH
2:00 FATIGUE IN READING (Illustrated)
President Leonard Carmichael, Tufts College
3:00 MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS IN RHODE ISLAND HISTORY
Mr. Clifford P. Monahan, Assistant Librarian, Rhode Island Historical Society
Rhode Island Historical Society Library

The library has practically recovered from the threes of moving from the Cabinet on Waterman Street. The collections are being constantly increased with an emphasis on local history, genealogy, newspapers, manuscripts, and ephemeral material. The library is concerned primarily with Rhode Islanders, and destores of weaving its shelves of some extraneous material, i.e., about seventy-five copies of Van Dyke.

Mr. Peter Davidson, who faithfully served the Society for more than twenty years, resigned in June, 1945. The staff now consists of William Greene Rooker, director and librarian; Clifford Philip Monahan, assistant librarian; Mrs. Daisy W. Scanlan, library assistant; and Miss Louise G. Huling, secretary.

A museum displaying some of the Society's collection of historical relics has been recently opened. The exhibits are changed usually at the end of the month. A rather extensive display of World War II souvenirs of Rhode Island veterans is to be held during the summer months.

The Society's membership has constantly increased. At present there are over 1200 members, taking advantage of the library, lectures, and historical museum.

Westernly Public Library

Job opportunities today was the subject of a series of lectures held in the Westernly Public Library during February and March. They were planned especially to aid the returned veteran and the displaced worker, and were sponsored by the Library and the Y. M. C. A. in cooperation with the Division of General College Extension of the Rhode Island State College.

Tristram Cady, a former president of the society, was the speaker at one of these sessions. John Rae, well known illustrator, has been showing a group of pictures at the Westernly Public Library for the last month. In addition to some local portraits, the exhibit includes studies of Carl Sandburg and Albert Einstein. Both of these men were painted from life, the original sketches of Cady having been made at Watch Hill.

Weaver Memorial Library

Miss Caroline A. Bowen has been on leave for the duration to serve in the WAVES has again taken up her work at the Weaver Memorial Library.

William H. Hall Free Library

The William H. Hall Free Library of Edgewood will celebrate this year the twenty-fifth anniversary of the movement under the William H. Hall endowment. A "Friends of the Library" group was formed in March with forty-two charter members. They hope to offer a series of programs to be given in the auditorium of the Library. The Activities Committee are presenting in May a public lecture by Robert P. Tristram Coffin which is the first of a series. The young people will give their annual Music Week program in May which consists of vocal, instrumental, and dance numbers.

U. S. Naval Training Station Library

The Library at the Training Station has been moved. After almost thirty years of use, the House that Jack built, which formerly housed the Station Library, has been closed, and the Library moved to larger quarters. The new situation, in Building No. 18, which was opened to the public on May 8, 1946, was sponsored by the Library and the displaced war worker, and has been on leave for the duration to serve in the WAVES.

Library hours are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays; 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sundays and holidays.

Brown University Library

Mr. Jack E. Brown was appointed Assistant Librarian on January 1, succeeding Mr. Edward G. Freehafer. His particular responsibility is the Order Department. Mr. Brown was formerly Assistant Librarian of the Edmonston Public Library and since 1942 had been with the New York Public Library. Mr. George R. Gourlay, a graduate of the University of Michigan Department of Library Science, was appointed Circulating Chief on January 1.

Westerly Public Library

In 1938, the present library building was sponsored by the Library and the displaced war worker, and has been on leave for the duration to serve in the WAVES. In 1943 the library contained 22,905 volumes, with a circulation of 47,870 volumes.

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Mery Elizabeth B. Cagle is in charge, assisted by Mrs. Shirley C. Lyman. Miss Elizabeth K. Thomas, formerly Assistant in Charge of the Biological Sciences Library and recently returned from service in the WACS, returned to the staff as a Cataloger on March 1.
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The first public meeting for a library organization was held at the schoolroom of Isaac F. Cady (across the road from the Town Hall) on January 1, 1806. Donations of books had been received, and a Board of Trustees elected. On the second of March the Trustees voted to transfer books and other property to the town, and, at the annual Town Meeting, April 7, 1880, the library became the property of the town, and Mr. Cady's school building was hired to house the library. Mr. Cady was the first librarian, and the library of 2000 volumes opened to the public on May 8, 1880. In 1888, upon the completion of the Town Hall, the library was transferred to the room provided for it. In 1898, the library contained 8,606 volumes and reported an annual circulation of 5,252 volumes with about 250 volumes added annually, from town and state funds.

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U.S. Naval Training Station Library

The Library at the Training Station has been moved. After almost thirty years of use, the House that Jack Built, which formerly housed the Station Library, was closed, and the Library moved to larger quarters. The new situation, in Building No. 127, which was designed entirely for Library purposes, is in a very desirable location, really in the center of Station activities.

A large circulation hall contains a writing room and store room for extra books. The main Library holds about 12,000 fine books on every subject. Reading tables and chairs, as well as leather arm-chairs and couches, make the Library inviting at all times.

Library hours are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays; 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sundays and holidays.

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

E. W. S. B. Provident Public Library

M. R. L. R. Providence Public Library

Doris Leavens Providence Public Library

Vol. 18 May, 1946 No. 1

Barrington Public Library

The Barrington Public Library is an outgrowth of the Barrington Library Society to which the Rhode Island General Assembly granted a charter February 1806; and the first election of officers, a librarian and treasurer was held on the first Monday of May, 1806. History and theology composed the body of the library, and into it were allowed no books of fiction, which the fathers believed "worketh abominations and maketh a lie." At first the library was housed in the home of Rev. Samuel Watson who acted as librarian. Later, Rev. Francis Wood held the office.

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The Rhode Island State Library

The Rhode Island State Library will be quick to receive donations of newer fiction and nonfiction for local Installations and Naval Hospitals in Rhode Island and for the libraries of the Armed Forces of Occupation in Germany and Japan. The General Assembly has recently made an additional appropriation of $5,000.00 for the Rhode Island State Library's Book Pool for the Armed Forces. Towns and cities are augmenting this fund at their financial meetings. Over $15,000.00 was spent for new books distributed from the Book Pool in 1945 to fill overseas and local requests.

The Library Extension Service offers the loan of freeeded collections to small free public libraries desiring to select material for reading purposes; also to rural schools, Girl and Boy Scout camps, lighthouses, Coast Guard Stations, and isolated communities.

The State salary check to librarians, receiving less than $500.00 annually from any other source, will be distributed by the State librarian in June before the close of the State's fiscal year, June 30, 1946.

Miss Elizabeth G. Myer, formerly of the staff of the Providence Public Library and non-relief Director of the Rhode Island State Library's WPA Library Project, who has been in the service of the United States Navy as an officer in the WAAC as a Park branch. Miss Mildred Sayward, Wheaton College and Simmons, came from the Morrell Memorial Library, Norwood, Massachusetts, to be librarian of the Smith Hill branch. Miss Barbara White, Colby College and Columbia University, has been appointed an assistant in the Art Department. Miss Edith M. Woodward, Colby College and Simmons, formerly Librarian at Duns & Broshtreet, New York, is now an assistant in the Science and Industry Department. Mrs. Ella Sherman, who was an assistant in the Information and Reference Department for many years, was retired on January first of this year.

State Federal Relations Committee

Miss Edna Thayer, President of the Rhode Island Library Association, has announced the appointment of Miss Saille E. Coy, Librarian of the Westerly Public Library, as coordinator of the Rhode Island plans for extending better library service throughout the State. This appointment is in line with the American Library Association plan to perfect an organization in each state to work with the Federal Relations Committee. In addition to Miss Coy the State Federal Relations Committee consists of Stuart R. Sherman, Providence Public Library as publicity manager, Miss Edna Thayer, president of the R. I. L. A. and Miss Grace M. Sherwood, State Librarian.

The immediate objective of this committee is to enlist support of the Hill-Douglass Public Library Demonstration bill, H.R. 394 and S. 920, now in Congress. If passed, this bill will give Rhode Island $25,000 annually for four years to be used to demonstrate adequate public library service to the people now without it, or inadequately served. It also provides for studying various methods of providing public library service primarily in rural areas, and for studying the effect of planning on an area basis upon the development of library service.

Recruiting For Librarianship

The New England School Library Association has launched a recruiting program to interest students in professional librarianship. A pamphlet "Librarianship as a Career" was prepared and distributed to vocational and stu-
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Miss Elizabeth G. Mey, formerly of the staff of the Providence Public Library and non-relief Director of the Rhode Island State Library's WPA Library Project, has been in the service of the United States Navy as an officer in the WAVV. As a result of the war and the Peace settlements, the WAVV has recently accepted a position as Librarian of the Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library, Old Lyme, Connecticut.

Oak Lawn Free Public Library

The Oak Lawn Free Public Library marked its fiftieth anniversary with a special program April 16 in Orange Hall. The Library plans to add two more to the present building on Wilbur Avenue, which was a public school before being converted into a library.

The need for more space was mentioned at the twentieth annual meeting in 1916 and has grown more pressing. For some years the collection of almost 31,000 volumes has been kept nearly stationary in size because of the difficulty of finding room to make room for new books.

The officers will try to increase subscriptions for life membership to further the building project. Last year the membership fee was lowered to increase the number of persons joining during the anniversary year. Since 1900 membership fees have been set aside to build a fund, which totalled $2599.67 at the time of the 1945 financial statement. Some years ago it became evident that an enlargement of the present structure was all that could be undertaken. The association purchased the property in 1932 from the city and did considerable repair work.

Elmwood Public Library

Circulation and reference work are increasing. The attendance at the Saturday morning story hour has averaged sixty children. The sudden and frequent changes of staff members during the year have made it exceedingly difficult to carry on the work. We were especially fortunate in finding Mrs. Muriel Dubuc, a graduate of Colby College who for the past two years was on duty with the U.S. Coast Guard, to take charge of the Circulation Department.

To be of practical help to returning veterans we have bought a set of the latest books and Occupatio nal Monographs, which we keep on special shelves with college catalogs and Civil Service publications.

The exhibitions which were much enjoyed were Music Boxes, Pictures of Old Houses of Rhode Island, Historical Coins, Handcraft of the Indians of Rhode Island, Columbia, Ship Models, Souvenirs from Germany, Famous Madonnas, Mrs. Moulton's Moppets, Early American Newspapers, Stamp Collections.

The auditorium lectures were "Highways and Byways of Current Literature," by Dr. Marguerite Appleton; a motion picture sound film, "One Republic in Soviet Russia," narrated by Quintin Reynolds; "Rhode Island's Treasure Chest," by Mr. Gordon Wadhburn, director of the Museum of Art; "Our Country, East and West," by Mrs. Charles F. Towne; "Australia" by Mr. Arthur Linder, a veteran who spent considerable time there.

Loans To Smaller Libraries

To encourage greater use of books in the smaller communities of the state, Mr. Clarence Sherman, Librarian of the Providence Public Library, has made the following proposal:

In a period of more active reading and study, it is believed that a portion of the state's reading public is not sufficiently served by the libraries of the state. The Westerly Public Library might be willing to sponsor interlibrary service to that portion of the state south of Wickford. The People's Library of Newport could serve the needs of the island; and Woonsocket, the northern part of the state as far south as Pawtucket. The request for the establishment of interlibrary relations with these libraries is being considered by the Library Extension Committee of the Rhode Island State Library.

According to the plan, any library needing a book not appropriately a part of its own collection, would first apply to the nearest regional library. If the book is unavailable there, the request would then be sent to the Providence Public Library. This Library would first check to see if the project meets with the approval of the regional libraries involved.

It should be added that reference books or volumes of rare value would not be available for interlibrary lending but would be consulted at the library possessing them.

Rhode Island Library Association, Executive Board.

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A. L. A. Membership

Dues in the American Library Association are being solicited at this time. They may be sent either to F. P. Allen, Librarian, Rhode Island State College, Kingston, Rhode Island, or directly to the American Library Association, 525 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago 11, Illinois. The scale of annual dues is as follows:

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All members receive the Bulletin. The Association will hold its annual meeting in Buffalo, June 16-22.

Library associations and groups. A large space in the central foyer of the hotel will be devoted to exhibits of library equipment, books, and services.

Registration will start after lunch on Thursday, October 17 and will continue all through the conference. The registration fee is one dollar. The first general session will occur at 8:15 on P. M. Thursday, October 17. On Friday and Saturday, the morning sessions will begin at 9:30, the afternoon meeting at 2:15 and the evening meetings at 8:15.

The New Ocean House operates on the American plan. Prices per person per day, including room and meals, are from $6.75 up. Reservations should be made direct to the hotel. Persons staying elsewhere and wishing to eat at the hotel may arrange to do so. Guests at the conference may remain through noon of Sunday, October 20.
dental advisors in schools and colleges in New England. This was accompanied by a letter stating the need for librarians and offering the services of the organization’s Speakers’ Bureau for speaking to students about librarianship. The pamphlets may be secured by writing to Miss Florence Derr, Librarian, Manchester High School Central, Manchester, N. H. Price 10c for single copies; 75c for 50.

Join the R. L. A.

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Librarians wishing to affiliate with the Children’s Library Association, a section of the American Library Association, have only to indicate that section on the membership blank. The dues for this section are included in the A. L. A. dues. Membership blanks may be secured from Virginia Fooks, Providence Public Library, Providence 3, Rhode Island.

Conference of the New England Library Association

The New England Library Association will meet at the New Ocean House at Swampscott, Massachusetts, October 17 through October 19, 1946. All librarians of New England are invited to attend. Dr. Karl T. Compton, famous physicist and president of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has accepted the invitation to speak at the final session of the conference, Saturday evening, October 19. Paul Howard, director of the A. L. A. National Relations Office in Washington, will be the speaker on Friday evening, October 18. Other speakers prominent in publishing, library, and national affairs will address the general sessions, and there will be many round tables for libraries of various sizes and groups.

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Officers, 1945-1946

PRESIDENT
Miss Edna Thayer, Providence Public Library

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Mr. Stuart C. Sheirman, Providence Public Library

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
Mrs. Grace Hvy, William H. Hall Free Library

RECORDING SECRETARY
Miss Susan E. Demery, Barrington Public Library

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
Mrs. Carolyn B. Fenley, Providence Public Library

TREASURER
Mrs. Laurence M. Shaw, Oak Lawn Public Library

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Miss Edith M. L. Carlberg, Brown University Library
Miss Annise B. Kane, Classical High School, Providence

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE STATE
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Miss Alice Coon, Westerly Public Library
Miss Dorothy G. Bell, Providence Public Library

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Miss Virginia Fooks, Providence Public Library

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Miss Mildred Wuson, Rhode Island School of Design Library
Miss Doris Chapdelaine, Harris Institute Library

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Miss Melvil Marsh, Providence Public Library
Miss Ruth Cowens, Providence Public Library
Miss Ruth Greene, Providence Public Library

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Miss Grace M. Sherwood, Rhode Island State Library, Chairman
Miss Harriet M. Brigham, Weaver Memorial Library
Mrs. Muriel C. Wyman, William H. Hall Free Library

BULLETIN COMMITTEE

Miss S. Emily Sorensen, Elmwood Public Library, Chairman
Miss Doris Leavens, Providence Public Library
Miss Martha B. Finch, Providence Public Library