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BULLETIN
of the
Rhode Island Library Association
MAY, 1949

SPRING MEETING
of the
RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1949
Henry Warner Budlong Memorial Library, Apponaug, R. I.

PROGRAM

10:00 Election of Officers and Business Meeting.

10:30 Modern Book Repair.
A demonstration by Mr. Chapman of the Demco Company.

11:15 Public Relations.
Miss Sallie E. Coy, Librarian of the Westerly Public Library, will introduce the subject and lead an exchange of ideas. What do you do?

12:00-2:00 Luncheon.

2:00 Reading and Radio.
Mr. Maurice Dolbier, Radio Editor of the Providence Journal and Evening Bulletin.

2:45 Amasa Manton: In Memoriam.
SPRING MEETING, MAY 24, 1949

The Apponaug Free Library Association will be host this year to the Rhode Island Library Association at its Spring meeting, which will be held in the Henry Warner Budlong Library. The library is in the center of Apponaug, on the Post Road, next to the Town Hall. East Greenwich buses leave Providence from the bus terminal on Fountain Street on the hour, and every twenty minutes. The trip to Apponaug takes about fifty minutes.

Luncheon will be served at the Baptist Church opposite the library. Luncheon tickets will be one dollar and a half.

The Apponaug Free Library Association
1885-1949

On the evening of February 18, 1885, citizens of Apponaug meeting in the council chamber of the Warwick Town Hall voted the Apponaug Free Library Association into existence and appointed a committee to solicit books from other library associations as well as from private citizens. The library was opened September 26, 1885, in a room adjoining Mr. Sam Marsland’s store, which had been offered to the association rent free. This room is now a part of the Gan Building on the south side of Post Road. Members of the association took turns serving as librarian for periods of one month each. In December of that year, the library was moved to the Oriental Mill Hall west of Apponaug four corners (65 Centreville Rd.).

A special report made on February 27, 1886, states that there were 819 books in the library and that the average circulation was 47. On that date it was voted to pay the librarian fifty cents for each day that the library was open.

Because of dampness which endangered the books, the library was moved in 1889 to the Bank House, south of the four corners (3316 Post Rd.), and in 1894 it was moved again for the same reason to the offices of the Town Hall now used by the Warwick School Department. The librarian’s pay had been set at $25 a year in 1889. It was increased to $50 a year in 1897. On April 15, 1899, the Dewey Decimal system was adopted. Three thousand books were catalogued at a cost of $160.00.

In January of 1903 the association was requested to move the library out of the Town Hall. A citizens meeting was called and the aid of the newspapers enlisted to find a new location. One year later the books were moved to the basement of Mr. L. K. Potter’s residence at what is now 3399 Post Road. The number of volumes had increased to 3984 and the annual circulation to 3529.

On June 10, 1905, a meeting was again held to find a more suitable place for the library because of damage to the books. Arrangements were made to secure a small building on the Post Road, east of the shopping center, belonging to Mr. Edgar E. Matteson, at a cost of $5.00 per month. The library remained at this site until the present building was completed.

In 1904 it became necessary to apply to the town for aid because of the absence of funds. A grant of $150 was made by the Town of Warwick on the following year, and this was augmented by a State allowance of $124.50. A drive for additional funds in 1906 net-
$302.88. Since its beginning, the library had been open only one afternoon and evening a week. In 1910, Mr. William Perry, a public-spirited citizen, offered to pay the librarian for keeping the library open Wednesday evenings for a trial period of three months.

In 1913 a building fund was started, and in 1922 the treasurer, in a published report, appealed to the public for assistance in building a "fireproof structure that will do credit to their taste and intelligence." In 1923 Mr. Henry Warner Budlong offered to provide the funds for a building if the association would incorporate. At a special meeting held in December, 1923, it was voted to apply for a charter and to accept Mr. Budlong's generous offer. The library was moved into the new building on April 4, 1925, and was officially opened on April 29. At Mr. Budlong's request the name of the building was changed from the Budlong Memorial to the Henry Warner Budlong Memorial.

The number of volumes now in the library is 14,328, with a circulation of 16,000 a year.

Between 1929 and 1943 the library served as the Community Center for social work. The organizations which used the library included the Family Welfare, Campfire Girls, Girl Scouts, and Christmas Cheer. In 1943 the Warwick Community Chest was organized in the library. At present time the library is the headquarters for the Warwick Branch of the Y.M.C.A.

In 1947 Mrs. Maude P. Compston, who has been librarian since 1922, established a Rhode Island Room, which now contains 500 volumes.

BARRINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Barrington Public Library offered three "library nights" this year as a free community service. All were well attended. Mr. William D. Fales, chairman of the textile and clothing division of the Rhode Island School of Design, described new synthetic fabrics and had fascinating samples on display. Mrs. Nelle W. Link, head of the costume division of the school, presented five co-eds who modeled original fashions made from the new fabrics.

In January, Mr. Henry E. Davis, of Providence and Edgewood, delighted a large audience with his beautiful kodachromes of gardens in Bermuda, Mexico and the United States. The Board of Trustees invited as special guests the members of the Barrington Garden Club, in recognition of their work in supplying the library with floral decorations throughout the year.

For the third lecture we were able to secure Mr. David Patten, managing editor of the Providence Journal-Bulletin and the "D. P." of its "In Perspective" column. Mr. Patten talked informally about Sakonnet and its people fifty years ago.

The local chapter of the Rhode Island School of Design Alumni sponsored an exhibition in the library of paintings and etchings by George Gale, well-known local marine artist.

The long-hoped-for record collection has now become a reality. Although we have started in a small way, we hope to expand this new service.

BROWN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

With the establishment of a Department of Egyptology at Brown University, the University Library has been concentrating this year on the purchase of Egyptology, chiefly of a periodical and serial nature. Professor Richard A. Parker, of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, has been appointed as Chairman of the new Department. Two courses are to be offered in September, one on Egyptian Literature in English, the other on Middle Egyptian, an introduction to Egyptian hieroglyphic writings. As the
Department develops, courses are to be offered in Coptic, Late Egyptian, Demotic, Old Egyptian, and Pyramid Texts. The resources of the University Library are being built up to meet these anticipated demands.

The University Library has also been building up its resources in Papyrology, Archaeology, and Orientalia, in connection with the establishment of a Department of the History of Mathematics. It is best equipped in the field of Assyriology, in which it has obtained all the essential periodicals and editions of texts and much important monograph material. Professor Otto Neugebauer, the Chairman of the Department, and Dr. H. B. Van Hoesen, Librarian, are working together on a study of unpublished Greek horoscopes from papyri.

Under the Farmington Plan, Brown University Library has been assigned the fields of American (U.S.) and Italian Literature published in Sweden, Switzerland, France and Italy. Shipments received so far have been small but interesting and worthwhile.

Two interesting gifts have recently been received by Brown University Library. The first consists of books and memorabilia of the late Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes, of the class of 1881. The books are a selection from Mr. Hughes' library. The memorabilia include honorary degrees, diplomas, and non-academic certificates awarded Mr. Hughes, and his academic and judicial robes. There is also a walnut cane bearing a silver plate inscribed with the information that it was made from a "rail split by Abraham Lincoln and by him presented to Hon. D. S. Walbridge in Kalamazoo in 1856, and at the request of Mrs. W. R. Beebe, granddaughter of Mr. Walbridge, presented to the Hon. Charles E. Hughes, October 18, 1916, through the Kalamazoo Hughes Fairbanks Club." These books and other items are a gift of Charles E. Hughes, Jr., of the class of 1909, and his two sisters, Mrs. Chauncey L. Waddell and Mrs. William T. Gossett.

The other gift came as the bequest of Mrs. Frederick W. Williams of New Haven, a granddaughter of President Francis Wayland. It consists of over 2,000 manuscript letters, sermons, addresses, and pamphlet publications of President Wayland, which formerly had been deposited in the library as a loan by Mrs. Williams in 1947. The correspondence includes letters written and received by President Wayland. There is also an autobiographical sketch and a biography of Mrs. Wayland. This collection when arranged and cataloged will add important source material to the Archives for the history of the University during President Wayland's administration, 1827-1855.

Two members of the Brown University Library staff will be attending library school this summer. Miss Cheryl Yungmeyer, Assistant in the Social Studies Reading Room, will be studying towards her Master's degree at the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago. Miss Carolyn A. Adams, Assistant at Pembroke Library, will be attending the Columbia University School of Library Service.

ELMWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Elmwood was very happy to be able to entertain the R. I. L. A. at its October meeting.

On June 21, 1948, Mrs. Frances Foulkes Potter was appointed Children's Librarian.

The Elmwood Library held the first meeting of its Great Books Discussion Group on February 4, 1949. Since that time the group has been meeting regularly every other Friday evening.

This spring the library, in conjunction with the World Affairs Council, held a series of Monday evening travel film programs. These were well attended — in fact so well attended that we were obliged to turn people away.
PROVIDENCE COLLEGE LIBRARY

With the completion of the Albertus Magnus Science Building on the Campus of Providence College last fall, space was released in Harkins Hall for the expansion of the College Library. This space has been used for a periodical room, stacks, and additional offices. One hundred and fifteen more seats have been added and the shelf space has been doubled.

PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Three events of major importance have occurred since the publication of the last Bulletin. The supplementary bond issue authorized by Mayor Dennis J. Roberts and the Providence City Council was approved by the Rhode Island General Assembly, and signed by Governor John O. Pastore in May. This issue will make available $450,000 in addition to the original bond issue of $1,300,000 approved by the electorate in November, 1946.

This brought to a climax nearly 27 years' effort to erect an addition to the crowded central building. Planning is now being speeded up, and it is hoped that the architect can supply completed drawings so that ground can be broken in the Fall of 1949.

The Mt. Pleasant Branch Library at 315 Academy Avenue, which will replace the old Sprague House, is expected to be ready for occupancy early in June. Construction was begun last August and proceeded through the winter months. The building is a modern, functional structure with a total book capacity of 17,000 volumes. Acoustic plaster, fluorescent lighting, sloping lower shelves and a modern, rounded charging desk, are some of the interesting features of the building. Dedication exercises will be held early in June.

On February 9th the Alfred M. Williams Memorial on Irish culture was formally dedicated at a public meeting in the School of Design Auditorium. Padraic Colum, Irish poet and lecturer, was the speaker. The Memorial was established as a tribute to Alfred M. Williams, one-time editor of the Providence Journal and Evening Bulletin, and Trustee of the library. This center of Irish study contains a valuable collection of books, periodicals and original Irish street ballads, which were left to the library by Mr. Williams.

The Memorial was established by the Providence Journal Company in cooperation with the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, the Elmwood Sons & Daughters of Eire, and the Sons of Irish Kings. Additions are constantly being made to the collection, which is expected to make Providence an important American center for the study of Irish culture.

RHODE ISLAND STATE COLLEGE LIBRARY

Mr. Francis P. Allen, Librarian, is on sabbatical leave at Columbia University during the present College term. He is accompanied by Mrs. Allen and their daughter, Betsy, and they are residing in Leonia, New Jersey.

Miss Nathalie Briggs, Miss Phyllis Joyce, and Miss Shirley Elliott represented the Library at the Spring meeting of New England College Librarians held at the new Lamont Undergraduate Library at Harvard University, April 1st and 2nd.

During the winter the Library arranged a special exhibit on atomic energy, in conjunction with the lecture series on that topic sponsored by the American Association of University Professors, and was also responsible for securing the fine exhibit of photomurals on Eighteenth Century England loaned by Life magazine.
RHODE ISLAND
STATE LIBRARY

The State Library is soliciting duplicates for the founding of a new free library, and will be happy to send its trucks to pick up any and all contributions. Book donations also are needed for the Library Extension Service to enlarge and rejuvenate its collections, for the Book Pool’s local and overseas libraries for the Armed Forces, and for the Thrift Shop of the U. S. Naval Air Station at Quonset Point.

The Library Extension Service reports a few recent examples of expansion. In cooperation with the Chairman of the School Committee of the town of Foster, children’s books will be circulated among seven elementary schools, and a high school canteen has been organized, which is to have a library loan. The Foster Civic League is cooperating in the distribution of a large Library Extension loan through seven strategic community localities. North Kingston High School in cooperation with the Social Studies Department is to have a special collection of World War II material for class work.

The State Library’s bindery is offering librarians the opportunity for instruction, by appointment, in simple book binding and repair work under skilled direction.

WILLIAM H. HALL
FREE LIBRARY

The William H. Hall Free Library of Edgewood has had a very busy winter with an increase of 4000 in circulation during the past four months. In addition to handicraft groups connected with the Saturday Story Hour and the Picture Book Story Hour which were started last year, a handicraft group of seventh and eighth grade girls meets once a week. The request for this group came from the girls themselves.

The first week in January a program was given for the Junior High School students on the Medieval Background. Miss Marion Davis of the Rhode Island School of Design gave an interesting talk illustrated with slides and pictures loaned by the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

Outstanding among this season’s exhibitions have been the originals of Paule Loring’s “Glamour Girls of the Bay” series, as well as a display of art objects decorated by him. Mrs. Peterson’s second exhibit of “Old Treasures” attracted many people. A collection of

Early in June a meeting will be held at Westerly so that the librarians may select books for their collections.

The Pawcatuck Valley Women’s Club has presented the Westerly Public Library with a slide projector which will project strip film as well as two sizes of Kodachrome slides and the standard glass slides. During the month of April the Library exhibited painted trays made by one of the hobby groups of this organization as a special museum exhibit.

The local history collection of the Westerly Public Library is providing much of the source material for the Stonington, Connecticut, Tricentennial Celebration which will take place next August.

WILDERLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Westerly Public Library has received more than a thousand books as gifts since the first of January. Many of these came as a bequest from the late Annie G. Foster and represent a fine collection of belles-lettres, travel and art books.

So many duplicates have been acquired during the past few months that the Trustees of the Library have decided to share all surplus titles with the smaller libraries in the vicinity.
twenty-seven handpainted lithographs copied from original Audubon animal paintings were shown, for the first time in Rhode Island, from April 2nd through the 14th. The Boy's and Girl's Department sponsored a wild animal drawing contest for the month.

The Friends of the Library have sponsored a lecture "Japan, land of surprises," by Kenneth MacLean, who was formerly engaged in teaching democracy to the Japanese. His talk was illustrated by slides.

**NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

On October 12th through the 15th, the New England Library Association will sponsor the 1949 American Library Association Regional Conference. The New Ocean House at Swampscott, Massachusetts, will be the headquarters. This is one of seven regional conferences being planned this year for the first time. It is expected that regional conferences will be held on alternate years instead of a large national conference.

Dr. Robert D. Leigh who planned the National Library Inquiry will be one of the main speakers, and important results of the survey will be developed by him. Other speakers and guests will include John Cory, Exec. Secretary of A.L.A.; Milton E. Lord, Vice Pres. and President-Elect of A.L.A.; Daniel Melcher; John T. Winterich; Vernon Tate; Ralph Shaw; and Miss Virginia Haviland, who will deliver the second Hewins Lecture.

It is urged that those wishing to attend make reservations now with the hotel. Most single rooms have been reserved. Further details will be released later this spring.

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The Public Libraries Division is the division to which ALL public librarians should belong; it SHOULD be the largest ALA division. We sincerely hope that you will help make it so.

**AUBREY F. ANDREWS, Chairman**
Membership Committee, Division of Public Libraries

**ELLEN D. STONE**
Rhode Island Committee Member