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AUTUMN MEETING
of the
RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1962
AUDITORIUM
RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN
Providence, Rhode Island
PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

The Auditorium of the School of Design is on Market Square at the foot of College Hill. It is within reasonable walking distance from the center of the city. If a bus is needed, take any Tunnel bus; get off at the Tunnel entrance and walk about two blocks along Canal Street.

Parking will be a major problem. Early arrival will be necessary to obtain downtown parking. Park 'n' Lock is a possibility for all-day parking and is not beyond reasonable walking distance. Taxis will be available for transportation to the Crown Hotel.

PROGRAM

9:00-10:00 A.M. Registration and Exhibits

10:00 Welcome, Dr. Albert Bush-Brown, President, Rhode Island School of Design Business Meeting

11:30 Bibliophile's Tour of Italy (with slides of the Grolier Club's Tour) Professor Francis P. Allen, Librarian, University of Rhode Island

12:00-12:30 P.M. Exhibits

1:00 Luncheon, Crown Hotel—Empire Room

2:30 Improving Library Service Statewide Mrs. T. J. Frizzell, Local (N.H.) Trustee since 1941; President, N. H. Library Trustees Association, 1961-62

3:30 Tea. Rhode Island School of Design Library, Miss Alice V. McGrath, Librarian, Hostess

Exhibits are under the direction of Mr. F. William Summers, Mr. H. W. Baxter, and Mrs. William S. Bancroft.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TEAMWORK

Back in 1956, we wrote a thesis for Wayne State University, that used rather freely the terms—communication, cooperation, and implementation. Since then we have become increasingly aware of the popularity of these words in library parlance and of their place in library activity. Time and use have not dulled their significance or message.

For us in particular who live in New England where tradition and the status quo are respected, if not revered; there approaches a time of decision, a time for change, a time for the acceptance of new ideas and new methods. It is a time for recognition of goals for good library service and for action to attain them.

The State of Rhode Island has recently experienced a series of surveys. Various reports from commissions, survey teams, and committees will be appearing within the next few months. Not all recommendations will suit all communities or all individuals. They will deserve, however, careful consideration, and should furnish a basis for what is practicable immediately and what is possible in long-term planning.

No immediate transformation will occur spontaneously as a result of publication of reports and facts on the library situation here. The climate should be favorable, however, for improvement in library standards. Presumably there is a growing awareness of the need for change in our library services, in its resources and methods.

Basic to progress is the spirit of cooperation—cooperation among friends of libraries everywhere in our State. The Rhode Island Library Association is fortunate in a membership having widely varied activities and interests. Trustees include school administrators and teachers, professors, doctors and nurses, elected government officials and State employees, craftsmen, technicians, tradespeople, service employees, lawyers, architects, businessmen, bankers, authors, and many other specialists. They have signified their interest in libraries by belonging to the State Association. They have valuable knowledge and experience to devote to the cause of better libraries.

Members of the Association, who are librarians, serve in diversified areas, in public, school, university and college, and in special libraries. The last category covers a wide range to serve banks, hospitals, research institutions, technological units, law firms; historical societies, industries, etc., ad infinitum. Special librarians bring to the Association an invaluable background in subject knowledge and specialized skills.

Recent legislation considered by Congress in the Amended Library Services Act H. R. 11823 broke several barriers. It abolished a population limit on public library aid. It included school libraries, college and university libraries, and the training of librarians through institutes as objects and objectives for federal aid.

The library world is made of diverse elements, far more so than the average citizen realizes. The Rhode Island Library Association can draw strength from the varied elements in its membership. To develop strong cooperation for implementation of standards, the Association will need to utilize effectively means of communication for better dissemination of library news and action. The telephone, meetings of Boards of Trustees, newspapers and periodicals, radio and TV can help tell the library story.
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In sharing aspirations through improved communication, by combining resources and exercising a common spirit, we can approach a pattern of library service within the geographical limits of our State that can be a model in accessibility of books and informational materials.

New England was a pioneer in the early library movement. Rhode Island can become a pioneer in library service for the space age. By stimulating communication, public interest and support for good library service, by utilizing fully the varied resources of all types of libraries and librarians in a cooperative effort, and by providing access to books and informational materials for its citizens of all ages, Rhode Island will be in a position to cope with the new era. As we see it, the Rhode Island Library Association has a mandate of serious responsibility to fulfill.

THE RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN LIBRARY

When the library of Rhode Island School of Design opened with the school in 1875, all its holdings were in one bookcase. Since then it has grown steadily through the support of an interested administration and the benefactions of many friends. It now houses within a charming 18th century reading room, a modern stack area, a slide, photograph and clipping department, and a carefully selected collection of books, periodicals, slides, photographs and color reproductions relating to all fields of fine and applied arts.

The library is unusual in that while it is organized to serve faculty, students and alumni of a design college with an expanding liberal arts program, at the same time it reflects the interests of a museum that is an integral part of the college. In many instances these interests overlap, such as in painting, sculpture, drawing, jewelry and Colonial furniture. However, the library has acquired, primarily for college interest, books on graphic design, costume, architecture, and landscape architecture, industrial design and teacher education. For the museum, it has built up its collection on pottery and porcelain, Oriental art, lace, wallpaper, Japanese prints and Colonial silver.

Periodicals are an important supplement to a book collection in any field but particularly so in the field of design. In addition to outstanding periodicals in art and design published in the United States, the library subscribes to a number of periodicals published abroad such as Gebrauchsgraphik (Graphic Design), L'Oeil, Quadrat and Cahier d'Art (Fine Art), Japanese Architecture, Casabella, Bauw en und Wohnen (Architecture), L'Officiel de la Couture (Apparel Design), Domus and Wohnen und Bauen (Architecture).

The library is fortunate in having acquired through museum exchange nearly all of the museum bulletins indexed in the Art Index, which add appreciably to its periodical holdings.

In a design college visual material is a very important part of the library. The Department of Slides, Photographs and Clippings was established in 1880 when a large gift of reproductions was received. Presently, this department houses a large collection of slides, both large and small, as well as the use of faculty and museum staff; mounted photographs which supplement portfolios of plates in the library; quality color reproductions for use in studios and workshops under faculty supervision; and over 60,000 clippings on subjects ranging from Academic Costume to Zoology.

The library welcomes the use of the library as a reference purpose but as a general rule library material may be taken out only by faculty, students, alumni, members of the school, museum staff and museum associates.

WHAT IS AN ILLUSTRATOR?

An illustrator is a communicative pictorial artist. He loves and respects humanity with all its hopes, inde­cisions and concerns. He believes that he has something creative to say either purposely, or as the result of his own ideas, or as the result of the reply of his own independent thinking.

In the report of the Visual Arts Committee, History of Fine Arts, University, 1956, there is this preface, "At no moment in history since the invention of printing has man's communication with his fellow man been so largely taken over by visual media as today." It is logical, then, that the illustrator must understand the history and tradition of his profession if he is to orient himself in time, and prepare to understand and communicate within his time. Since change is a logical outgrowth of tradition, it is important that the student illustrator understand how illustrators of the past have reflected and affected the changing social and economic structure of their times.

The object of illustration is pictorial communication. Its intention is to evoke an emotion, or communicate an idea. The result is that the illustrator must possess certain attributes which enable him to perform his art with success. The four minimum attributes are:

1. The power of observation
2. An active imagination
3. A sympathetic human understanding
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ELIZABETH G. MYER
President, R. I. L. A.

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The library is unusual in that while it is organized to serve faculty, students and alumni of a design college, it is an expanding liberal arts program, at the same time it reflects the interests of a museum that is an integral part of the college. In many instances these interests overlap, such as in painting, sculpture, drawing, jewelry and Colonial furniture. However, the library has acquired, primarily for college interest, books on graphic design, costume, architecture, and landscape architecture, industrial design and teacher education. For the museum, it has built up its collection on pottery and porcelain, Oriental art, lace, wallpaper, Japanese prints and Colonial silver.

Periodicals are an important supplement to a book collection in any field but particularly so in the field of design. In addition to outstanding periodicals in art and design published in the United States, the library subscribes to a number of periodicals published abroad such as Gebrauchsgraphik (Graphic Design), L'Oeilll, Quadrat and Cahier d'Art (Fine Arts), Japan Architect, L'Architecture d'aujourd'hui, Casabella, Bauern and Wohnen (Architecture), L'Officier de la Couture (Women's Fashion) and L'Oeil. This enormous and potentially at-least collection of books, periodicals, slides, photographs and color reproductions relating to all fields of fine and applied art, is to evoke an emotion, or communica- tion. Its intention is to evoke an emotion, or communicate an idea. The result is that the library has acquired, made more understandable, and in many instances the idea is carried further than the possibilities of the printed word. Illustration is a social phenomenon. Illustration may be defined as an attitude toward picture making. It is the illustrator's function to do more than provide a spatial and plastic pictorial accompaniment for the printed word. Through the use of contemporary communication symbols, he contributes impact, immediacy and clarity to the literary content.

While the Fine Arts are encountered by most people only at will and by a comparatively small number of people, the illustrator is very much a part of the everyday life of everyone. Encountered without effort, frequently accidentally, usually unobtrusively, the art of illustration has a tremendous effect upon the lives of men. This enormous and potentially attentive audience is a challenge to the illustrator in his double assignment, the production of pictorial elucidation and the adherence to the highest standards of pictorial art while doing it. The illustrator of children’s books wields a tremendous influence upon the minds of adults who are in the process of growing up. The illustrator who elucidates for the adult mind may well shape the character of the world of tomorrow.

To be more than just an "adorner with pictures" (a dictionary definition of the illustrator) must possess certain attributes which enable him to perform his art with success. The four minimum attributes are:

1. The power of observation
2. An active imagination
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The object of illustration is pictorial communication. Its intention is to evoke an emotion, or communicate an idea. The result is that the illustrator has acquired, made more understandable, and in many instances the idea is carried further than the possibilities of the printed word.
One of the next tasks to be accomplished is the formulation of goals for NLW. Certainly, Rhode Island librarians have a great many goals toward which we are working. Many of them so long range that it will take several years of hard work and several NLW and other campaigns to reach them. But, as President Kennedy has said, “Let us begin.”

Across the nation one of the weaknesses of NLW has been a lack of local committee action. In too many cases a librarian or librarians takes complete responsibility for the program and carries out whatever displays and special events she can. NLW is not primarily a publicity campaign. Its aim is to create a body of citizens interested in and articulate about the problems of libraries. The most effective method of doing this is to involve local citizens in the planning and executing of your local NLW program.

Now is the time to begin planning for NLW 1962. Now is the time to form your local committee. Now is the time to develop your local goals. These may be short-range and include no more than the acquisition of some new shelves; or, long-range, and contemplate increasing adult usage of your library. Ideally, your local plan will include both types of goals.

We hope to carry out an energetic and effective state-wide program which will add spark to your local efforts. Please call on me for any assistance you need.

F. William Summers
Executive Director, NLW

LIBRARY 21—A BRIEF REPORT
By Louis G. Vagianos
Brown University

On April 21, 1962 the ALA's first world fair exhibit in the U. S. A. in more than fifty years opened in Seattle. Since the main theme of the Fair was the space age, an attempt was made to key the exhibit to the possible advances of the future. A brilliant designer, Vance Johnson of Los Angeles, California, was retained to create the exhibit. His imagination produced what was easily one of the most artistic exhibits at the Fair. The designer set the exhibit inside two large circles nearly 65 feet in diameter with perimeter walls 6 feet high. Outside these walls, the entire exhibit was enclosed in pools of water about 3 inches deep, each pool provided with gentle water fountains. In the first circle were included the Univac Computer and the Ready Reference and Adult Reading areas; the Xerox theatre and the Learning Resources Area were placed within the second circle. A charming Children's World was located below the second circle.

The message of the exhibit was simple and unmistakable: In the future, machines (such as computers, language laboratories, teaching machines, microfilm reader), books, and librarians will have to work together in providing the best library service possible for the people of the U. S. A. To many professional librarians this has seemed too simple and obvious a message to justify such an enormous expenditure, but they should be reminded that the exhibit was not planned for them, though many of them profited from it. It was planned for the laymen, the average citizens, many of whom had never seen a computer in operation, or even heard of, let alone seen, a language laboratory or teaching machine; and have never been aware of the existence or use of microfilm and microprint readers. They enjoyed the exhibit. Many returned over and over again—bringing along new friends each time. More important, many took the trouble to tell the librarians who staffed the exhibit that they were leaving with a bet-
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ter understanding of libraries, librarianship, and machines.

Library 21 librarians worked very hard to cultivate and leave with each visitor an image of librarians as vital, interested, enthusiastic human beings. Since thousands (14,000 daily during July) of people, from all walks of life and with a wide variety of interests visited "the Library", much fruitful public relations work may have been effected.

This was an excellent first effort by the association. Although it had many faults which should be improved in any future enterprise of this kind, it was my feeling that this was an exhibit in which we could all take pride!

SEMINAR ON AGING

By MRS. EVA C. HINCHLIFFE
Librarian of the Clark Memorial Library, Shannock, Rhode Island

The first annual Rhode Island Seminar on Aging was held during the week, July 29 to August 3, 1962, at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, Rhode Island.

Forty participants with a staff of nineteen comprised the five day conference. The participants were representatives from all the agencies and organizations in the state who are concerned in any way with the problem of care for the aged citizens. The very notable staff included a large segment of the best minds in the country who are studying the subject: such as Dr. Carstensen, Executive Director of the National Council of Senior Citizens; Dr. Cummings, Specialist in Adult Education, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Dunn, Consultant in Mental and Physical Health, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Wilma Donohue, Lecturer on Gerontology, University of Michigan; William Fitch, Dr. Kent, Earl Klein, Dr. Basilovitch, Dr. Sowder, expert in Public Health Service; Dorothy McCammon, member of Special Committee on Aging, U. S. Senate, and many others equally well qualified to discuss with and advise the participants.

The Rhode Island Library Association and the Office of the State Librarian provided most of the materials to supplement the discussions on library services for the Aging. This year a special National Advisory Committee on Aging, U. S. Senate, and many others equally well qualified to discuss with and advise the participants.

The report deals largely with the services which our organization can render in helping older persons in the state.

In order to consider the question in its broad aspects, the interrelation of programs and services of many state-wide agencies must be understood. Roughly speaking, the discussions were divided into six broad subjects: Health, Social Welfare, Education, Housing, Employment of older persons, and Recreation. Each subject was, of course, subdivided into several categories.

Library Services

Dr. Robert Bray, Chief of Division for the Blind, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., was the expert advisor on problems relating to Library Services for the Aging. His studies have convinced him that libraries, for the most part, have already made a good start in being well equipped to aid elderly persons in selecting reading material suitable to their wants and needs. In view of the rapidly growing number of older persons; however, Dr. Bray feels that libraries will want to expand their existing services and be ready to add more as the need arises.

In long discussions on the subject with other well-versed educators and in stimulating workshop groups, the following library programs were considered not only beneficial but essential:

1. Some way to be provided for disabled or immobile older persons who wish books to be made available to them from libraries to their homes; perhaps by using Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts on a voluntary basis, or by using other retired persons who are in good health and who would enjoy being of service; or by bookmobile.
2. Open library rooms as meeting places for Golden Age groups or other similar organizations, where books and current events could be discussed informally.
3. Present occasional travelogues, with slides whenever possible, to stimulate outside interests.
4. Make book lists of desirable books that would be of interest to many types of older readers. Individuals vary greatly in their likes and dislikes; and, since an individual carries these same preferences into later years, all types of books must be made available to them. Particularly desirable for the chronically ill or disabled persons are smaller books which are lighter and easier to handle. Books with larger type also are often a necessity. In this connection, Miss Evelyn Prince, social worker, and Dr. Hayvis Woolf, member of the Rhode Island Optometric Association, reported they could give librarians information about procuring Books for Tired Eyes, and also talking books with machines to reproduce them which can be loaned and placed to advantage in nursing homes for patients who find reading difficult. There are also prism glasses for bedridden patients.

Members of the Seminar urged librarians to become friendly counselors to aid the older and often confused citizens in solving their worries by directing them to the proper sources of help, and also by suggesting books which can be read with pleasure or to further education and interests or to promote health and well-being.

In the larger libraries, a specially trained helper to assist the aging would be desirable.

Relating Library Services to Other Agencies

1. Health. Librarians should have up-to-date material on aids to health and high-level wellness. (High-level wellness is the favorite subject of the renowned Dr. Dunn whose many wise and witty suggestions were high lights of the Seminar. This delegate will never forget him.)
2. Social Welfare. Full knowledge of all sources of aid—cultural, physical and financial—should be readily available to anyone, from all walks of life.
3. Employment. It was felt that here libraries could play an important role. In such non-professional jobs as book mending, keeping stacks in order, answering requests for information, etc., many an older person, such as a retired teacher, could be used to advantage if only in part-time employment.

Of the many objectives of the Seminar which were considered at length, at the end of the week, two stood out prominently:

1. The advantage and great benefit of using the wisdom, experience, and training of our older citizens wherever and whenever practicable to augment the working force of our growing population and to increase the state and nation's productivity. Emphasis was put on the use which can be made of older citizens in helping other older citizens.
2. The necessity of making every individual, regardless of age, feel use-
ter understanding of libraries, librarianship, and machines.

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3. Employment. It was felt that here libraries could play an important role. In such non-professional jobs as, book mending, keeping stacks in order, answering requests for information, etc., many a retired citizen, such as a retired teacher, could be used to advantage if only in part-time employment.

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1. The advantage and great benefit of using the wisdom, experience, and training of our older citizens, whenever and whenever practicable to augment the working force of our growing population and to increase the state and nation’s productivity. Emphasis was put on the use which can be made of older citizens in helping other older citizens.

2. The necessity of making every individual, regardless of age, feel use-
f ul; useful in a physical capacity or just by being, as long as he lives, a person of dignity and good cheer.

The old adage has been: Strive to grow old gracefully.

Congressman Fogarty would add to this:

Strive to grow old gracefully.
Strive to grow old actively.
Strive to grow old usefully.

ANY DAY

ELIZABETH G. MYER
Supervisor, Public Library Services

(This column is meant to give the reader a keyhole view of a work day—any day in the life of an author-librarian.)

Never two days are the same, and never a one is dull. P. L. S. starts coming to life at 8 A.M., and by 8:30 all are assembled. The fragrance of fresh coffee drifts over the bookcases while an early cup fortifies those bound for the hinterlands. The supervisor accompanies the bundled figures out to the bookmobile. Jim revs the motor, requests for the day's run are disposed of, and the blue bookmobile sails out of the big parking lot, bound for the west and a rugged day to take out and in 500 plus books.

Back to headquarters around nine with the mail. Pakistan requests a copy of “Addresses Delivered at the N. E. L. A. Conference,” in 1960, published by P. L. S. The L. A. D. Recruiting Network notifies us of a potential librarian who has written A. L. A. for information and should be approached with data. The librarian of the Hope Library has immediate need for three books from its selected collection waiting at P. L. S. for cataloging. They are cataloged, given to a typist, will be moved thence to Ray for packaging.

About ten o'clock the supervisor settles down to cataloging, working on a main collection for Kingston Free Library. Union shelf-list cards have been pulled by staff, and cover approximately two thirds of the collection. Cataloging goes at a fast clip until the new titles slow it down. Searching information, determining classifications, establishing subject headings, and accessioning move at a steady pace despite interesting interruptions.

Scheduled visitors from Pascoag arrive. The librarian and her book committee take up quarters at a large committee table, then scatter to various stations to choose books of the various categories—reference, adult non-fiction and fiction, juvenile non-fiction and fiction, pre-school, early reading, the young adult section. Book trucks with enticing selections trundle towards the table where they are examined, listed, and later are figured by P. L. S. for value and stored.

Meanwhile another group appears, hopefully ready to start selecting if convenient for P. L. S. despite no appointment. Another table and nook for the enthusiastic visitors are found. Requests desired for books not at present in stock are noted by the supervisor until a phone call interrupts.

The Secretary of State notifies the supervisor that attendance at the N. E. L. A. Conference, Swampscott, is approved. The door opens, and two members of the General Assembly appear to pick up books for the Cross Mills Public Library. Ray wheels out the red truck, and a good, up-to-date encyclopedia is on its way to a busy community life. The doors open, and in comes a good friend, a book man who wants to bring us up-to-date on his firm's offerings. Again an entrance; this time for a delivery from a local jobber. Books are brought into the Processing Area and there are signed for.

Meanwhile electric typewriters hum, as master cards are typed for the rural public libraries. The secretary is occupied with some correspondence, with monthly financial statements, and cutting a stencil. Soon the copier will be in action to provide materials needed for enclosures. The mimeograph machine will start revolving on the monthly newsletter and statistics. Other staff members are busily typing book orders.

The visitors from rural libraries stop for lunch in the adjoining cafeteria. Some join the supervisor for a cup of coffee, which finishes her lunch. Phone calls continue coming on a wide variety of subjects. Between one and two P. M. staff are out for lunch, and the supervisor divides her time between cataloging and visitors.

At 2 P.M. the supervisor attends a meeting of the Legislative Commission on Libraries at the State House. Back at headquarters by three-thirty. News of the day's run is heard from Jim, and requests from readers are examined. The financial value of the day's selections by visitors is being totalled on the adding machine, and will be sent to librarians by postcard. Cataloging continues. Then it's time to check book spines lettered in the Processing Area. Meanwhile a box of completed master shelf-list cards has appeared on the supervisor's desk, to be revised before accession records are entered and the collection is packed for shipping.

Late in the afternoon a trustee stops by to ask for information on building planning. A Development Council friend drops down to verify some information through atlases. The phone rings for some voucher information, which is channelled to the secretary. The federal auditor looks in, to thank us for the copy of a record sent him, which just about completes his survey of our records for 1959-1961.

The office is being secured for the night. At four-thirty the phone ceases to ring. We sit and look at it and wonder if we are missing any calls with the switchboard closed. The

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Section 3. There shall be no dues in the Association. A registration fee, established by the Executive Board, shall be paid by all who attend a conference of the Association.

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Section 1. There shall be a Council composed of representatives from each State Association and each Section of the New England Library Association.

The dues structure is based upon one's annual salary. The base is broken into two sections: (1) Members of a state library association or the American Library Association; and (2) non-members. There is also provision for Sustaining, Contributing, Honorary, Trustees, and Lay members; a section for Institutional members, Life Members, and other organizations.

THE GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

A Graduate Library School will be established at the University of Rhode Island in the next academic year, according to action by the Board of Trustees of State Colleges at its monthly meeting in Providence on October 5. Students will be enrolled for the Fall Term beginning in September, 1963.

The library school will be open to students from all the other New England states under the New England Board of Higher Education Compact.

President Francis H. Horn has been authorized by the Trustees to look for a Dean, with the understanding that no commitment or formal recommendation for appointment would be made until after the Governor has submitted the Budget Recommendations to the General Assembly.

The school will offer only a Master's Degree program with basic training for librarianship at the graduate level.

The Committee recommending the school included Miss Dorothy W. Budlong, Elmwood Library, then President of the R.I.A.; Mr. David Jonah, Librarian, Brown University; Mr. Stuart Sherman, Librarian, Providence Public Library; and Prof. Francis P. Allen, Librarian of the University of Rhode Island, who was Chairman of the Committee.

Persons interested in enrolling in the school should write to Dr. Ernest Hartung, Vice-President of the University, who is also Dean of the Graduate School.

An Advisory Committee has been appointed to make recommendations to the President for a Dean, and we are hopeful that one will be selected early in the Winter.

R. I. SCHOOL LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION

The Rhode Island School Library Association will hold its fall meeting late in November; the time and place will soon be announced to its membership.

The meeting will be largely devoted to business, with special attention paid to a report by Miss Sarah Epstein on the American Association of School Librarians meetings at the A.L.A. Conference in June, 1962.

There will also be considered a report on school library standards by Mrs. Emily Roberts.

Mrs. David Charnack, president, hopes to give a final report of the work of the Library Advisory Committee to the State Board of Education.

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THE NEW STATE LIBRARIAN REPORTS

On the State level, the important news does not emanate from the State Library. Rather, it revolves around the work of the Legislative Commission on Libraries. This body, according to Res. 72 of the Acts and Resolves, 1962, is to recommend, "legislation pertaining to libraries in the State of Rhode Island."

As the commission interprets this, it means a complete revision of Rhode Island's archaic library laws and a reorganization of state library services. Obviously, the work of this group will affect every librarian, trustee and library user in the state.

So far, the commission has held six meetings. Although results have not been announced, progress has been steady. The commission hopes to introduce legislation to implement, at least, a portion of the program early in the next session of the General Assembly.

Comments and suggestions by librarians would, I am sure, be more than welcome. After all, the idea is to create a library code and a state library organization which will assist librarians in carrying out their duties.

When it comes to implementation of the program, your help will be vital. You, your trustees, and your library patrons must convince your local legislators that a modern library system is absolutely necessary in the community and in the State.

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