P R O C E E D I N G S

Fifty-Third Annual Meeting

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

GENERAL SESSIONS

Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut
June 22-27, 1931

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MONDAY EVENING SESSION

June 22, 1931

The first General Session of the Fifty-third Annual Meeting of the American Library Association convened in Woolsey Hall, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, at eight forty-five o'clock, Mr. Adam Strohm, Public Library, Detroit, Michigan, President of the Association, presiding.

PRESIDENT STROHM: In accordance with the Constitution and By-laws, the Chairman herewith declares the Fifty-third convention of the American Library Association in session.

We are meeting in a city famous for its learning and scholarship, but perhaps even more so we are meeting in a city of youth. If I understand the spirit of the host, we are to live here this week and enjoy the privilege of being here in that spirit, beyond the beauty, the glory, the fine traditions and the hospitality of the city itself and the winsomeness of New England and especially of New Haven.

It is a matter of regret that we are not going to have the distinguished President of the University address us. Those of us who attended the dedication of the Library will treasure forever the remarks, the refinement of the dignity and gratitude in which the building was accepted by President Angell. However, it gives us perhaps an opportunity as a compensation to pay our homage to a man who has established

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himself among the classics and still is very active in the American Library Association.

Beautiful as the building is, convenient as it is, intelligent in all its appointments and temptations, we all realize that that alone would not establish the Library. It does require the individual genius of directing. That individual genius is still more to be honored because of the rare modesty which controls it. I shall give way with high regards and pleasure to the representative and spokesman, for the University, for the President, who chose to have the University Librarian, Mr. Keogh, greet us. (Applause)

MR. ANDREW KEOGH: Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: It was President Angell's intention to welcome you tonight to Yale, but he had to sail for Europe two days ago and he asked me to greet you in his stead.

It gives me great pleasure to carry out his request. Yale welcomes the American Library Association because it believes in the Association, and has had a share in its formation and in its growth. When the first library conference was held in New York in 1853, one of the moving spirits was William Frederick Poole, who had graduated from Yale four years before, and who had compiled and published, while still an undergraduate, an alphabetical index to the periodicals in the library of one of the societies here. Another was Daniel Coit Gilman, then librarian of our Linonian

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Library, and afterwards librarian of Yale.

In 1876, when the American Library Association was founded, Poole was one of the six survivors of the 1853 conference present at the Philadelphia meeting, among the others being John Edmands, Librarian of the Mercantile Library of Philadelphia, and Addison Van Name, Librarian of Yale. Like Poole, Edmands had been undergraduate librarian of Brothers in Unity, and had prepared, a year ahead of Poole, a list of "subjects for debate, with references to the authorities." Poole was the second President of the Association, taking charge of the conferences at Milwaukee and at Thousand Islands. In 1926 Mr. Dewey called Poole the Nestor of the profession, having, he said, started many libraries and encouraged many librarians, and in his day being easily the leader.

One of Yale's most cherished traditions is that the college was founded by a gift of books. That tradition, with its corollary that the library is the heart of the institution, has been a great stimulus in the upbuilding of our collections of books and manuscripts, and in the increase of our endowment. The greatest of these endowments is the Sterling Memorial Library, an efficient and alluring instrument of learning, and a dignified and beautiful symbol of that inward and scholarly life which is the University.

To the Sterling Library, to the libraries of the Schools and Departments, and to all that Yale has, I bid

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you welcome. (Applause)

PRESIDENT STROHM: We are being welcomed not only by this ancient corporation of Yale University, but also by the municipality and its outstanding citizen. It is a particular pleasure to be taken notice of and greeted by the President of the local Library Board of Trustees. The President of the local Board is one of these precious citizens who serves out of a sense of loyalty, a sense of duty, and in addition to giving his time to the library management, he has served as one on the Board of Directors of Connecticut, as State President, and also as Vice President of the Lower House Association.

It is with great pleasure that I introduce and salute the President of the Public Library Board, the sort of public service that I have grown to honor with every year I spend in that service. (Applause)

MR. EDWIN P. ROOT: President Strohm, and the new President of the American Library Association who is secreted somewhere in the audience, ladies and gentlemen: The New Haven Free Public Library is located on the corner of Elm and Temple Streets. It was given to the City of New Haven by Mary Ellen Ayer. Your host for this occasion is the great University; that is, we had supposed it was wholly the host, but as the University funds became lower, we began to recognize that the city was co-host with the University, so I

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speak tonight, if I may, as co-host with the University on this occasion.

You have a generous and wonderful host in the University and they have made great preparations for an interesting time for you. The Free Public Library will be open all this week from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and every second of that time is yours that you wish to spend in that way. The branch libraries will be open on Wednesday all day, contrary to the usual custom, if you wish to see them. On Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. there will be cars, trolley cars, at the corner of Elm and Church Streets to take you to Pine Orchard, one of our best shore clubs, where there will be music and refreshments, light refreshments. (Laughter)

The authorities have told us that we were to prepare for fifteen hundred. We have prepared for fifteen hundred. If fifteen hundred and one come, if she or he is not too stout, we can take her or him, but we shall especially welcome on that occasion all those who have transportation of their own. It is only twenty minutes ride from New Haven and I am sure you will have a good time.

There are some differences, many differences, between the great Sterling Library and our New Haven Library. The greatest difference is one of millions. Another difference is that they have no Children's Library over there, and we have. We have a small, select group of children's books

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that I think you will be interested in, and they are valuable.

They have a very fine collection of original copies and old books that I know, of course, you will be interested in, but in our library we have a collection of old books which you will see at once as you enter. (Laughter) We have in our library, in the corners and in the crannies, collections of other things that you won't find in the new-swept and garnished Sterling Library. (Laughter) We offer you safety at our library. You can come and go without fear of being lost.

The President of the University, at the dedication of the Sterling Library said this: A few months ago, when it was opened informally, three people went in and they had never been heard from since. We can offer you at our library, service. We can offer you a promise that we will get you the book you want within the year. I doubt if they can do that at the Sterling Library.

But there is one thing that both libraries are thoroughly in accordance with and that is, we are a unit in being glad that you are here. We are a unit in being glad to welcome you here, and every day and hour of this coming week we will devote ourselves to you and hope some of you, especially the ladies, will become devoted to us. You are all very welcome. (Applause)

PRESIDENT STROHM: The cordiality and geniality

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of President Root confirm my assumption that we are welcome.

In addition to contact with one of the distinguished universities in America, located in New Haven, the city has other sources of responsibility, other destinies to fulfill, and no one could exemplify that better than the chief executive of the city, who himself is a distinguished graduate of Yale University, Mayor Thomas A. Tully. (Applause)

HON. THOMAS A. TULLY: Mr. President, Mr. Keogh, Mr. Root, Ladies and Gentlemen: One of the very pleasant duties that falls to the lot of the Mayor of New Haven is the opportunity to extend a word of greeting to distinguished visitors like yourselves who come here, and I can assure you that there is no group of people who could possibly come to New Haven to whom we extend a more hearty and cordial welcome than we do to the members of the American Library Association.

We naturally feel very proud of New Haven and feel there are a great many points of interest here for visitors to see, and we hope that you will take advantage of your visit here to see the city in addition to seeing Yale. Of course, Yale is such a large and outstanding factor in the central part of New Haven that sometimes visitors fail to get beyond the original nine squares, and don't quite realize what a wonderful city we have apart from Yale.

I think the city is extremely fortunate in being the site selected for this convention just at this time

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because I believe that there is an ever-growing appreciation in the minds of the public of the importance of public libraries. Everybody has always understood and realized that a university library is an integral part of a university, but I don't think there has been until recently a true appreciation of the importance of public libraries. We have gradually developed our industrial system so that people are working shorter hours. At first that was simply a fine thing to let people work less, but we are gradually coming to realize that letting people work less is not of much importance and may be a real menace unless those leisure hours are properly taken care of, and it seems to me that in that direction is the great service of the public library.

I hope so far as we are concerned here in New Haven, the coming of this convention, the visiting in this city of this large number of people devoting their lives to library service, whether it be university, school, or public library service, is going to create in the minds of our citizens an appreciation greater than it already has of the value of libraries.

We are delighted to have you here with us and we hope that your stay here will be not only enjoyable, but will be helpful to you in your chosen profession.

The coming together of meetings of this sort is, of course, invaluable from the professional standpoint and

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in addition, of course, it is enjoyable for the person from a social standpoint.

I know there is a tradition of the giving of the keys of the city to visitors. Here in New Haven that is impossible. We have a local tradition here (it is based on history) that when the Colonists started the American Revolution in 1775, the local militia wanted to start to Boston, and the civil authorities refused to give them ammunition, and they marched upon the city hall and with force and violence demanded the keys to the local powder house. The Governor's Footguards repeat that ceremony each spring, and at that time the Mayor is forced to give the keys to the city to the Footguards and they never bring them back.

This tradition of giving keys, you know, was abandoned some years ago, prior to certain changes in the Constitution of the United States, because it was discovered that those people to whom keys were given, who then received the proper form of hospitality, never could use the keys afterwards, so that was an additional reason for dropping the custom and there are no keys to New Haven to be presented, but you need no keys here. New Haven is open to you, our hearts and our institutions, everything about our city is at your disposal, and if you find any place that you want to get into that you have any difficulty in getting into, see Mr. Keogh. He owns the town for this week. (Applause)

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PRESIDENT STROHM: School is out! We are all undergraduates. There are no restrictions and the midnight hour is the beginning of things worth while!

In addition to the Mayor's cordial greetings from the local community, and from the University, and the Library, we also have received expressions of good will from friends within our own national library circle as well as from abroad. With your permission, the Chairman will read them.

This one is from the British Library Association, addressed to the Secretary:

> "Would you please convey to the members of your Association at their annual convention, to be held at Yale University June 22d, the cordial greetings of the Library Association, and at the same time extend to any who may be able to be present a warm invitation to attend the forthcoming conference of this Association. This is to be held at Cheltham, Gloucestershire, during the week commencing August 31st. An attendance of close to one thousand delegates is anticipated. We shall be very pleased to welcome any members of the American Library Association who may be in England at that time.
>
> "Yours sincerely,
>
> "Guy W. Kelly, Sec'y."

(Applause)

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Here is another greeting, from the World Association of Adult Education, from the President:

"I should like to send fraternal greetings to your Fifty-third Annual Conference. The program which I have seen is most illuminating. I wish I could venture to offer myself as a visitor in person but that is impossible.

"With best wishes for the continued and increasing success of the library work of the United States, and special personal messages to my many friends among the librarians,

"Yours sincerely,

"Alfred Mansfield." (Applause)

Here is a cablegram from one of our staunchest standard bearers in France:

"Regrets that conditions strictly preclude our participation in Fifty-third conference. Best wishes for success.

"R. R. Bowker." (Applause)

And here is a telegram:

"California Library Association sends greetings and best wishes for a happy and successful conference.

"Hazel Gibson Leeper, Sec'y."

(Applause)

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The President cannot help but feel the weight of the moment in addressing the librarians in America, meeting as we do in one of the oldest institutions for learning and service, for mental nourishment and old tradition, feel it the more because the President has a great deal to learn about the American life. Without apology, but with that statement, I beg leave to address you.

... President Strohm presented his Address: "Intellectual Freedom and Integrity" ... (Applause)

PRESIDENT STROHM: And the best is left to the last. Mr. Keogh, the librarian, will tell us some secrets and facts about the Sterling Memorial Library. (Applause)

MR. ANDREW KEOGH: No secrets, because you can't hide the Sterling Library, but there are one or two announcements that seem necessary at this time, although it is too bad to come down from the heights of Olympus to listen to such cheap stuff.

First of all, Connecticut does not believe in daylight saving time. It runs on Eastern Standard Time, and the program that you are following is on daylight time so that you have to go through an abstruse mental calculation every time you want to know where you can go and at what time to go there. Technically, I suppose that anyone who takes out his watch on the street and looks at it is liable to arrest if it does not show Standard Time, but the Mayor told me, after

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coming in here tonight, when he saw what a large and refined audience it is, that he would instruct the Chief of Police tomorrow to pay no attention to people who came from outside the state if their watches do not show the right time.

Coming down here tonight a man asked me at what time I was going to speak, and I said, "At half-past eight."

He said, "I am going on Standard Time and by that it will be too late to hear you, and, having obeyed the law and satisfied my conscience and not being able to hear you, I shall go to the movies and console myself for the rest of the evening."

That may be worth remembering during the week if there is something you want to avoid.

The second thing is that we are serving tea in the Court of the Sterling Library every afternoon from four to five-thirty, daylight. It is good tea. (I am an expert.) And if you don't like tea, there are ices, but it is a nice court and you get a very fine view of the Tower from the court, so I advise you to come and try it.

In this hall, on Thursday at 8:29 p.m., mind you, not 8:30, Professor Jepson, the organist, will give a recital on this organ. This is one of the finest organs in the country. It is the custom at Yale, when an organ recital is given, to close the doors at 8:30, if that is the hour that is set, and not to open them until the first piece has been

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played. We thought we would avoid that this time by stating the hour at 8:29. If anyone comes at 8:30, he must not be surprised if he finds the door closed. It is not our fault. It is worth hearing that music.

There are some people who want to dance and we have arranged to dance in the lounge of the Law Building, which is near the Sterling Library, on Thursday, from ten to twelve, and I won't say "daylight," because there is none at that time, but according to the daylight schedule, if there were one, and, being in the Law School, it is going to be a law-abiding dance.

On Wednesday and on Friday the Elizabethan Club will be open to visitors. As a rule only members of the club can go in there, but the students have all gone, and the faculty have gone after them, or have gone away before them, and as there is nobody looking, I will let you in. It is a very small place. There are never more than fifty members at a time, and we make the clubhouse fit the clientele, so don't come by the thousands and expect to be able to get into the club, but if you do come, you will see some remarkable books and we will be very glad to see you and tell you something about the club. An account of the club will be given by Mr. Gilbert Troxell at the Bibliographical Society's meeting on Thursday, and if you go and hear that on Thursday, you can go to the club on Friday and see it, or, better still, go on

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Wednesday to see the club and then go to hear him on Thursday.

I am down on the program to give you a paper about the Sterling Library. I am going to do nothing of the sort. I have written so much about that Sterling Library, I think you must be tired to death about it. It is much better to go and see the Library than to read about it, and so we have arranged for guides beginning at nine o'clock daily and going through until six o'clock daily, every half-hour to take people through the building. After six o'clock only the rooms on the first floor will be open, but those who would like to see the stacks will come before six o'clock. It is very well worth a visit.

We get out at Yale a quarterly Gazette, the Yale Library Gazette. The April number was devoted entirely to a description in words and in pictures of the Sterling Library. A copy of that may be had by payment in the library, if you want it, but the latter half, the second half, of that Gazette, which was devoted entirely to a description of the decoration and ornaments and symbolism in the building, was reprinted with a special title and cover and was put in the envelope that you got today at headquarters, and that you might use as a guide if you have an hour to spend in wandering around. If you have that, it is not necessary to buy the Gazette unless you want additional information of a mechanical or architectural character and more pictures than you will find

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in the Decoration Handbook. If there is anyone who did not get one of these decoration pamphlets, one will be given on application to the Library, without charge.

Last, I hope that you will all come over to the Library now. It is put down in the program as a reception. A reception at Yale is a very formal and forbidding thing and so, while it is called a reception, we are not going to have one at all. There will be no line, nobody to receive you. You just walk in and see what the library looks like when it is lighted up at night, and I hope you will all come.

PRESIDENT STROHM: These privileges so casually announced by Mr. Keogh are, nevertheless, I believe, not very often extended to outsiders, and I feel that we are favored in a very unusual degree.

The meeting is adjourned for the informal reception.

... The meeting adjourned at ten o'clock ...

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TUESDAY MORNING SESSION

June 23, 1931

The Second General Session convened at ten-ten o'clock, President Strohm presiding.

PRESIDENT STROHM: Out of consideration for our speakers this morning, we will defer the business meeting until after the addresses have been delivered. We have a rare opportunity of being addressed along the lines of cooperation between the world of letters and the world of art, by a man who has given his energy, skill, and understanding to these spheres from day to day.

Mr. Frederic A. Whiting, President of the American Federation of Arts, has been Director of the Museum of John Herron Institute in Indianapolis, and since 1913 he has held the position of Director of Cleveland Museum of Art. He has been Vice President and President of the American Association of Museums. It is a great pleasure to welcome him here and introduce him at a general session of the American Library Association. Mr. Whiting! (Applause)

MR. FREDERIC A. WHITING: Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: It is a particular pleasure to me to be asked to speak at this session of the American Library Association and to bring to you a message from the American Federation of Arts of which I am now President, and to extend to the librarians of the country and the libraries of the country our

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invitation to hearty cooperation in coordinated programs to bring an understanding of art to the people of America.

I am going to read my paper in order that I may keep within the limits of my time and I am going to precede it with a text which came to my attention after the paper was written. I picked up Saturday morning on my desk the publication of one of the large colleges in which the Director of the Department of Art had given this quotation from Bernhard Berenson, the great art critic and authority. The quotation is as follows, headed:

"The Contrast of Historic and
Esthetic Interests in the Study of Art

"I must make my meaning clear lest I be identified with those scholars who seem to think that the whole function of the student of art and letters is to trace the evolution of one artist from another. The development of types, forms and motifs is an interesting study. It is interesting also to see in what way a great artist is influenced by or reacts against the general evolution of types and motifs going on in his day, but though such research, even when scrupulously scientific (which it seldom is), may to some extent help us to understand the mettle of the man back of the artist, it is, in so far as the appreciation of the work of art is concerned, going north when we should be going south, and it is high time to protest and insist that the chief interest of the student of art is in the enjoyment of the work

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of art and not in its furnishing his glasses for him whose concern is evolution, psychology, history, or anything else."

The quotation goes on further, but that covers the point.

...Mr. Whiting presented his prepared paper ... (Applause)

PRESIDENT STROHM: The courtesy extended by the University in giving us the freedom of the premises will be gratefully remembered for many a day, but the additional consideration that is extended to us by having a member of the faculty stay over and speak to us is so very rarely offered that it will be treasured long after the professional atmosphere has evaporated. We feel it the more deeply because Professor Phelps, out of consideration and generosity, has remained in New Haven to extend his greetings and his message. He had other engagements, both professional and social, as well as recreational, and he has foregone those to greet the delegates to the annual meeting.

Professor Phelps stands for something more than a merely eminent academic figure. Not only has he been stimulating as a critic, as an interpreter, but also he has given to all of us an additional source of desire and strength to go on because his grip of things, his own reaction, is that of feeling just a little bit refreshed from touching the world of letters and associating with minds who leave a message

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worth while.

I shall honor our own modesty to be competent to distribute books and letters and also show our high regard for our speaker by introducing him without any details whatsoever. Professor William Lyon Phelps! (Applause)

PROFESSOR WILLIAM LYON PHELPS: Without attempting in any way to interrupt the course of events, let me remind you that you are here for some play as well as work, and it just so happens that Yale and Harvard will play the final game for the baseball championship of Yale, Harvard, and Princeton in New Haven this afternoon at half-past three, Daylight Saving Time. (Applause) You can get tickets or pay admission right at the field. Unless the weather is absolutely terrible, they will play this game, for it is the last game and I want to inform you that Yale and Harvard have not played a third and final game in New Haven after commencement, as on their schedule, for many years, and this is done as a special privilege to librarians. (Laughter)

I hope, too, that you will all see the various objects of interest in Yale University architecture while you are here and the various places in New Haven. I heard two very pretty librarians whom unfortunately I did not know personally, talking yesterday as they looked over a program on the street and one of them said to the other, "Well, anyhow, I want to see all the fraternity houses." Well, you can see

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them all except the three very secret senior societies, Bones, and Keys, and Wolf's Head. They won't let you in, but I was born in New Haven and taught here forty years and I haven't got in yet, so they won't let you into those three. You can see all the others.

This really, speaking to you, is the greatest opportunity of my life. I have never had anywhere an audience where each person represented so much as every individual does in this audience, and I think it is a great honor to New Haven and to Yale that a national meeting is held here, for at this moment we happen to have the most beautiful library building in the whole world.

A good reply was made by an undergraduate to a stranger here some months ago. The stranger said, "How much did that library cost?"

The boy answered, "About seven millions."

"Terrible," said the stranger, "terrible, to waste seven million dollars on one library building!"

"Why, it isn't much," said the student, "It's only one quarter the cost of an ephemeral battleship."

That was a good reply. (Applause)

At the head of our library we have Mr. Andrew Keogh, and while there may be some other librarians as good as he, there is none better that I know of. (Applause) He is an Englishman. He can't help it now (laughter), and he made a

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most wonderful retort one day to an American. The American said to Mr. Keogh, shortly after he had arrived in this country from his home in Newcastle-on-Tyne, "Mr. Keogh, why is it that the English have no sense of humor?"

Mr. Keogh said, "I was not aware of their deficiency in that respect," whereupon the American told him an absolutely side-splitting story, to which Mr. Keogh listened with an indifferent countenance, and then the American said, "Buck up, you will laugh at that next summer."

"No, I think not," said Mr. Keogh.

"Why not?"

"Because," he said, "I laughed at that last summer." (Laughter)

All of you people today represent the modern idea of the librarian. The ancient idea was that the librarian was the keeper of a safe deposit, he was a watchdog, and I remember reading of the European librarian many years ago who regarded himself as almost but not quite perfect. He was to become perfect before sundown. He said, "Every single book in this library except one is now on the shelves, and I know where that one is and I am going to get it this afternoon." (Laughter)

That was the old theory. The modern theory is that the librarian is a middle man who keeps the books constantly flowing to the consumer, and my own personal

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relation to you and to all librarians is that of a diagnostician to a surgeon. I am all the time making out prescriptions for people. They come to me with their troubles. I give them a list of reading. I send them to you and you operate. In that way we work together.

I never consider any lecture that I have given on new books, and I have given several million, even a partial success unless the public library is raided the next day, and that is where you and I hunt in couples. We work hand in hand for the salvation of souls. No library building can possibly be too beautiful.

As you go all over the United States in many small towns full of ramshackle shanties, decaying buildings, brokendown cottages and new buildings that are an insult to the eye, you will sometimes see only two good buildings; one is the high school and the other is the public library.

There is no doubt whatever that many of the happy hours that those of us who are scholars have spent in the Bodleian Library at Oxford in England were made happier by the loveliness, the incomparable loveliness of the surroundings of that old building. As you sit in one of the alcoves and look out on Exeter Garden, you inhale the atmosphere of centuries.

I want to read to you a short extract that I brought in the original folio to give flavor to the tone of the

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book. Here was a little essay on libraries written over three hundred years ago by William Drummond, of Hawthorndale, a Scotchman, and the next time you go to Edinburgh, please go just two or three miles out south of Edinburgh, and visit Hawthorndale, where this William Drummond had his castle and his library, and where, under a great tree that still stands, he sat down in 1619 and had a memorable conversation with Ben Jonson. Drummond lived in his library.

"As we find republics to have flourished in power and glory, so do we find them to have been eminent and come to the height in knowledge and letters, and, as they builded arsenals and storehouses for arms to serve in time of war, so did they libraries, furnished with books for peace and war, which, however pregnant and great, without books are but as valiant soldiers without arms and artisans destitute of tools.

"Our academies in former times were much beholden to their founders and benefactors for many goodly books. To such a worthy work all the lovers of learning should conspire and contribute, and of small beginnings who is ignorant what great effects may follow. Libraries are as forests in which not only tall cedars and oaks are to be found, but bushes, too, and dwarfish shrubs, and as in apothecaries' shops all sorts of drugs are permitted to be, so may all sorts of books be in a library, and as there, the vipers and scorpions

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and poisoning vegetables extract often wholesome medicaments for the life of mankind, so out of whatsoever book, good instructions and examples may be acquired.

"In sundry parts of the earth there were but seven wonders dispersed. In one noble library many more worthy of greater admiration and of greater excellency are together to be found. As good husbandmen plant trees in their time of which the after age may reap the benefit, so should we, and what antiquity has done for us, do for posterity, that letters and learning do not decay but ever flourish to the honor of God, the public utility, and the conservation of human society."

You see, that gentleman three hundred years ago pointed out the necessity of libraries for the public welfare. He praised all libraries that had small beginnings. There is a room in the Yale University Library where you will see the original of the great library.

He praised all those people who contributed to founding libraries. He looked forward more than two centuries and he saw Andrew Carnegie, and Widener, and Sterling, and he said that they were the benefactors of mankind; and he said also in this piece that we should never have too narrow a censorship, some books, of course, must be kept from the hands of the public, but not many.

I can remember how when a certain library in

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Massachusetts refused to circulate the works of Mark Twain because of their supposedly damaging effect on society, Mark, instead of enjoying it as I thought he would, was very angry and he said, "It is abominable to shut up my books and leave an open Bible around where anybody can get it."

There is a librarian in Brookline who, at the time when Oscar Wilde was condemned and sent to prison, refused to take off from the shelves and from circulation the works of Oscar Wilde. Many public libraries in the country did that. Plays that were then running in New York by this man were withdrawn, and this librarian in Brookline came in for very hard attacks from public sentiment, but he said, "The business of the librarian is not to inquire into the private life of the authors of the books in his building. The business of a librarian is to determine what books should circulate regardless of their authors' personal history." That librarian at that moment was a light shining in the darkness, because that was in the Nineteenth Century.

I know of no better instance of the librarian's opportunity than what happened to me when I was a boy of eleven years in Hartford. I read an enormous amount of trash and I will say that I am glad I did. I have seen many librarians troubled and worried because the boys and girls come to the library shelves and take out cheap and ridiculous melodramatic stories. Don't worry about that. It is a great

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deal better for small boys and girls to read trash than not to read anything. The only value that the works of Oliver Optic (on which I am an expert) and Horatio Alger, Jr., and Harry Castleman, and the author of "Jack Harkaway Among Indians," "Macon Moor, the Detective," "Old Sleuth," "Sixteen-String Jack," and all the rest of them, have is that they open the way. What did those ridiculous writers do for me? They opened the gateway to the garden of literature.

I found that with a book in my hand I could travel into space much more easily than in an airplane or in an expensive automobile, that I could forget my surroundings. I found that a book was a gateway to the magic land, and by beginning with trash and finding out how diverting, how miraculous was its effect, I was able later, you see, to pass to something better, but boys and girls who don't read at all may never acquire the habit.

Still I want to show how a word spoken in season affected my whole life. I had read enough trash in all conscience, and at the age of eleven I went down to the library in Hartford and there stood behind the desk a young man, still living I am happy to say, still active, named Frank Gay, and I said, "I want to take out the complete Outwardbound Series of Oliver Optic." I can remember now Lieutenant Shuffles and all those fellows.

He said, "Why do you read that stuff?"

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I said, "Because it is interesting."

He said, "Why don't you read Shakespeare?"

I became suspicious at once. I was afraid he wanted to give me something that was good for me, and you know today the only survival of Puritanism in many places is just that people are afraid of things that are interesting and charming and they think things that are dull and dirty must be intellectually more respectable. Then he made a bargain. He said, "I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll give you one play of Shakespeare's, and if you will read that and don't like it, I will then supply you regularly with every new work by Oliver Optic."

He didn't give me the play that Gene Tunney began with, "Winter's Tale," a very archaic and difficult play. Tunney had to read it ten times before he understood it, which I think is a great tribute to him - I don't mean to Shakespeare, but to Tunney. Frank Gay gave me "Julius Caesar," one of the most interesting stories in the world. I came back for more and inside of a year I had read, without understanding them, but with pleasure, the complete works of William Shakespeare.

That is what I mean by the librarian's opportunity. The librarian cannot preach to everyone who comes. You can't make yourself the guardian of the souls of boys and girls, but just a hint, just a word.

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I was talking the other day with President Kelley, the very able president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, and I offered him a cigar and he said, "Thank you, I don't smoke."

I said, "Haven't you ever smoked?"

"Well," he said, "when I was a little boy at school, I had been smoking and I got pneumonia, and the pneumonia was not, of course, brought on by smoking, but after I got well, I started to smoke, and there was a woman there who didn't tell me not to smoke. She didn't say that nicotine was bad or that smoking was wicked. She said, 'You have just had pneumonia, haven't you?' I admitted it. She said, 'Well, if I were you, I wouldn't smoke just now for a little while.'"

He hasn't smoked since. I don't mention that as an act of virtue. I mention it merely to show the prodigious effect of a hint, of a suggestion, and librarians do that every day.

You and I are quite unlike nurses and surgeons in one respect. They see the results of their labors. You and I sow and we don't reap, but it is our business to do what we can and leave the results to Providence.

There was another thing that happened because of this remark made to me by Mr. Gay. I began, even though a small boy to read books that were somewhat beyond me,

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somewhat over my head, and just as it is a good thing for a tennis player to play with a man who is better than he, so that he can elevate his game in contact with a man who can beat him, so it is well for most of us when we can to associate with those who are our intellectual superiors or who at any rate have more intellectual maturity.

Thus, in one of these books that I started reading, I kept seeing mentioned a writer whose name was spelled G-o-e-t-h-e. I was in doubt as to the correct pronunciation. I knew it was either Go-ē-thee or Go-eth', but I wasn't sure which was right. I read a great many things he said and I used to see him quoted so constantly that I said, "This man must have made a tremendous stir in the world." I used to hear and read about a work that he wrote called "Faust," and again I went down to this Watkinson Library in Hartford and got out Bayard Taylor's Translation of the First Part of Goethe's 'Faust.' It took me several afternoons to read it through. I didn't understand it, by any means, altogether, but I got visions of tremendous altitude as through the fog you see the Matterhorn. I wouldn't have been without that experience for anything. It introduced me to a world of mind and thought and spirit.

So, in the handling of children, in the suggestions as to what children should read, if we can, I think it is well to keep them away more or less from books that are

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carefully prepared for their immaturity (applause), which often means an insult to their intelligence, and give them the books that were not written for children at all, the Bible, Gulliver's Travels, Robinson Crusoe, Shakespeare, and the great works of the world, because just as a speaker speaking to children, who treats them with a condescending grin, ought to be murdered, so should an author in the same vein be treated. Whenever a speaker addresses children and says, "How sweet it is to look into your eager, upturned faces," every child who hasn't got tuberculosis wants to murder him.

In the same way one must be careful of books that are prepared, predigested, and so forth. It is well to remember Benjamin Franklin who started a public library in Philadelphia, who started some good things. He started a printing press on High Street here, only a few yards away from this place, and then one day he got a letter from a person in the town of Franklin, Massachusetts. You all know that every state in the Union has a town named after Benjamin Franklin, just as Paris has named a street after him. The people in Franklin, Massachusetts, wrote him a letter and said, "We have named our town after you and we should like a donation of a sum of money from you in order that we may put a bell in the church steeple."

He wrote back and said, "I am very much honored, very glad indeed to send you a sum of money, only don't buy a

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bell with it. Buy a public library, because I have always preferred sense to sound."

I wrote to the librarian at Franklin, Massachusetts, some years ago and she wrote back that this donation came from Franklin in 1786. With the money that he gave them they bought one hundred and sixteen books, so that he must have been very generous indeed, and she said of those one hundred and sixteen books, eighty-six still remained in that library.

That was only a half hour in his busy life, but who can tell the range of that influence?

Here is a paragraph that was written about librarians, that is, about you, by the late Thomas Sergeant Perry, of Boston. There are two people that I miss, oh, I miss them terribly whenever I enter the public library in Copley Square! One of them is Thomas Sargent Perry, who died well over eighty and who was in the library every day; the other is Frank Chase, a scholarly and devoted librarian. Now some of you may not like this, but I hope you will at any rate not mind very much. Perry wrote me this in a private letter. Of course, it applies to women as well as to men. This audience I see is just like church or a symphony orchestra concert, or an art museum, or any good thing, for the women always outnumber the men. I have never been able to see why people should complain because there are more women than men in church. The proportion is still higher at a symphony

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concert or an art gallery, whereas, at a dog fight there are hardly any women at all. So, this applies to both:

"A librarian is sure to be a good man. No librarian ever killed a man, or robbed a church, or stole an automobile. No one of them was ever suspected of a violent crime. They move gently. They don't bump into you. They don't slam doors. They are never offensively profane. No one has ever found a librarian leading or even taking part in lynching."

You notice he used the word "offensively." He didn't say they weren't profane, but they weren't offensively profane. (Laughter) Of course we all know that many women, however mild in exterior, their soliloquies are unprintable. (Laughter and applause) The women have submitted to convention and decorum and routine for many centuries, but they don't like it, and I always tell men to remember that and beware of it. They don't like routine; they like adventure, excitement, even more than boys.

What he meant by that is perfectly clear. He meant that they belong to the small section, I mean all librarians, men and women, of humanity that is truly civilized. In the first place, librarians live professionally in an atmosphere of calm.

The admirable address of your President last night spoke of the curse of noise and this exciting age.

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Innumerable people today are trying to get something with what they call a "kick" in it. Indeed, they need a kick, but not that kind, whereas really what they ought to seek is something that has in it the element of repose, of tranquility, something healing. People need healing right now more than they need noise, and, to turn from the horrible noises of the street, from a noisy and turbulent street and come within the doors of the library, it is like port after stormy seas. It is like a harbor. It is, as I shall show you in a few moments, like heaven.

Just remember that John Wesley in the Eighteenth Century preached to twenty thousand people in the open air, because London then at three o'clock in the afternoon was more quiet than today is Wallingford at three o'clock in the morning; but in these days when the nerves are harassed all the time by noises on the ground, in the air, I won't say that the library is an insane retreat, but it is a retreat from insanity, and the fact that librarians live in that atmosphere of calm has much to do, I think, with their civilization.

Then we know, too, that civilized people love agreeable, and cultivated, and intellectual society, and when you remember that every library building contains within it the most cultivated minds not only of today but also of the entire history of the earth, and that every library clerk, every person in the library who is doing any work, is living

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every day in association with the greatest minds of the past, that in itself makes for civilization. It is refreshing and it is stimulating at the same time, but not only do the librarians receive this themselves from that atmosphere, but what a delight it is to a librarian to see a boy or girl, or a man or woman, with intellectual hunger and to know that you can satisfy that hunger!

I have often wondered why it is that women can endure to see men eat. A woman seems to look on with pleasure while a man devours food and I never could think how that could possibly be until I remembered suddenly that I love to see dogs eat. (Laughter) I really do. It is a delight to me to see a dog, a cat, or a horse eat. Do you suppose it is that way with women? Isn't that the reason they love to see men eat?

When you see a schoolboy coming in with shining, morning face and eager for the next volume in that history or biography or work that he is reading, and you know that you can satisfy that hunger, remember that seizing the opportunity is the chief virtue in religion and in morality, just as missing it is the unpardonable sin.

One of the reasons why some librarians don't like that passage that I read, which says that librarians are good is that many people think that to be good is to be dull, but remember that the founder of Christianity taught us all

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again and again something that should never be forgotten, that sin does not consist primarily in doing evil, bad as that may be; sin consists in not doing good. Virtue is not the abstention from evil; virtue is the performance of positive good. It is unmistakable. It is a pity that so many people have missed it, but all through the New Testament it is emphasized again and again so that it is unmistakable.

In that terrible passage where the sheep are separated from the goats, the good people said, "What have we ever done that was good?"

He said, "When I was sick and in prison you visited me," and so forth.

And they said, "But we never saw you that way."

And he said, "Whenever you did it to anyone, you did it to me."

And to the other people he said, "Depart, I don't know you. I don't know who you are. I don't recognize you."

There is nothing more terrible than that, "I don't know you."

They said, "What have we ever done that was wrong?"

And he said, "I was sick and hungry and you did nothing."

That is the whole thing. The very essence of

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religion is to seize the opportunity and when it isn't there, to make it, and the very essence of evil is to miss the opportunity.

Without any flattery at all, I think you people in this room are the most useful class of citizens in America. I think you do more good, can do more good because you come daily into contact not only with great books, but with those who need them. Literature is the immortal part of history. Every public library, no matter how small the town in which it stands, every public library contains more wealth than the United States Mint, wealth more infinitely precious than gold and far more enduring and you, instead of keeping it, you circulate it.

A number of years ago I heard one of the most famous publishers in New York say that he thought the automobile had done a great deal to injure the habit of reading, and he was afraid that ultimately people would not buy books. Ah, but that was before the radio! That was before the talkies, and now we have against the habit of reading, the automobile, the radio, the movies, and many other diversions, and yet, isn't it interesting and isn't it encouraging, there never was a time in the history of the world when there were more readers than now, when people were more eager to read, and more eager to read good books.

How do you account for the enormous sale of

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popular works on philosophy, on biography, on history, on science except by a positive hunger and thirst for knowledge, not merely for the pleasure of reading, but for the permanent advantage that comes from it. You never could have lived at a better time. This is the accepted time, June 1931. It is thus far for readers and for people who love books, the high water mark in the world's history.

I think it is a good thing when you want to get them to read poetry, which isn't read as much as prose, to let them begin with narrative poetry, Scott, Macaulay, Longfellow, and later they will get to lyric poetry. You know the difference, of course, between narrative and lyric poetry. It was never better expressed than in a conversation I had with that wonderful Irishman, George W. Russell, who signs himself AE. He said, "Narrative poetry is always second rate, always, because it is on one plane, and the greatest poetry is always the poetry of transfiguration. The poet, instead of describing something or narrating something, as you do in a story, mixes his imagination with a humble fact of earth, like a flower or like a child or like a sunset, and he transfigures that by his imagination." As he put it most perfectly, "It takes two currents to make the electric light. When you get the two currents together, the fusion is a flame. So when you put the poet's imagination with the fact, the result is transfiguration."

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As you can get them interested in rhythm and beauty of sound by giving them a story in verse, so later you can lead them up to the heights of lyric poetry.

Remember, too, that you are concerned with the only part of the city or of the university that is permanent. The library is the central heating plant of the intellectual life. In a university the students come and go every four years; the members of the faculty migrate, or retire, or die; the entire administrative force of the university disappears and even the buildings crumble and vanish into dust; but the library, the heart of the university, is permanent. It is always there, so that those who contribute books or contribute funds for their maintenance are literally building for eternity.

I said a moment ago that a public library is like heaven. Now see how perfectly the description of heaven, the New Jerusalem in the Apocalypse applies to the library where all of us go and of which you are in charge: "The gates shall not be shut at all by day and they shall bring a glory and honor of the nations into it."

I congratulate you. I love to be with you. It is a great honor which I appreciate, to have this opportunity. I look up to you because I believe without exaggeration that in speaking to you I am speaking to the soul of America. (Prolonged applause)

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PRESIDENT STROHM: We will postpone our business meeting until Thursday morning. We are adjourned.

... The meeting adjourned at eleven forty-five o'clock ...

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THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

June 25, 1931

The Third General Session convened at ten-fifteen o'clock, President Strohm presiding.

PRESIDENT STROHM: The Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions will present a resolution. May the Chairman request the audience to accept that resolution standing?

... The audience arose ...

MR. WILLIAM F. YUST: "The members of the American Library Association have learned with profound sorrow of the bereavement that has come to President Angell in the sudden death of his wife. We join his world of friends in extending to him and to his family our heartfelt sympathy. In this hour of shadow we invoke upon him and them the blessing of a faith that is soothing and sustaining and triumphant."

PRESIDENT STROHM: We will have a business session preceding the addresses this morning. The first item on the business docket is the presentation by our A. L. A. Secretary, Mr. Milam, of Committee Reports.

SECRETARY MILAM: Mr. President and Members of the Association: It is my duty to present by title the Annual Reports of all Committees for your acceptance.

... It was regularly moved and seconded that the Annual Reports of all Committees be accepted...

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PRESIDENT STROHM: If there is no objection, it will be so recorded.

The Executive Board has a statement to be submitted at this session relative to the special Membership Campaign. The Chairman invites Mr. Lydenberg to present such a statement.

MR. HARRY M. LYDENBERG: Mr. President and Fellow Workers: The Executive Board submits the following statement:

... Mr. Lydenberg presented his prepared statement, beginning, "We believe that during the past six months," which statement he gave to Secretary Milam ...

MR. LYDENBERG: It is my duty to call attention to the fact that these figures need revision and I am glad to say that this time the revision is much more pleasant than is usual with revisions of budgets and figures. Since the date of the report until the date it was given to me, the amounts have been increased in gratifying fashion. We have now increased the amount of $550,000 as it stood on the first of January, to $934,000. That means a total of 14,167 members on June 1, with a balance needed in annual dues of $3300, $3300 as contrasted with the $7500 as stated in the formal report. (Applause)

DR. M. LLEWELLYN RANEY: I don't believe this audience of two or three thousand people is going to be quite

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satisfied to let $3300 stand between us and one million.

PRESIDENT STROHM: Dr. Raney, it is such a breathless moment, won't you please step up here on the platform? (Applause)

DR. RANEY: If there was ever a time when the American Library Association could feel a profound pride, but humility mingled with it, it is this morning in the hearing of this amazing report which vouchsafes to us in such fine fashion the evidence of public trust in a time of world-wide distress. How many organizations can we name that would in this year of 1931 venture upon the courageous course that has characterized our Executive Board, and with what marvelous success have we come to this meeting!

At Yale, in the shadow of the Sterling Memorial Library, is this group going to be content to proceed with the morning's program having to announce to the world that the small sum of $3300, under the touch of Carnegie financing rising to the sum of $6600, stands between us and a triumphant announcement of the attainment of our million-dollar goal, especially since in the attainment of that second million within six years' time, we have every reason to hope that that will be the incentive toward the quick falling into our reserves of a third million?

So firm is my conviction that the American Library Association at this hour stands at the edge of a fine

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memory for the future and a great success, that although the University of Chicago has already been glad to place itself on the subscription list as a sustaining member, I want to assume in the beginning of this little roll call that I hope will be swift and final, the responsibility in ways I now do not see, of being responsible for one other sustaining membership, and if there should by any possibility be any lagging in the voices that will be, I think, coming quickly from the floor, I am willing to go further still.

I, for one, am not satisfied that this day shall adjourn without seeing this as the great news to go forth to an appreciative world from the American Library Association platform.

No. 1 Sustaining Membership, M. L. Raney, in behalf of the University of Chicago. (Applause)

Let others follow!

PRESIDENT STROHM: It seems only fitting and courteous, after having listened to the brave and generous attitude given by Dr. Raney, that the development of this emotion, the practical development of it, should be in the hands of the Chairman of the Committee on Special Membership to whom we are very deeply indebted for the distance covered so far. The Chairman is very pleased to retire and turn the matter over to Mr. Utley.

... Mr. George B. Utley took the Chair ...

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(Applause)

CHAIRMAN UTLEY: Mr. President, it is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Sumner.

MR. CLARENCE W. SUMNER: I want to be the second. I don't know where this $100 is coming from. I haven't the slightest idea about that, but I know that it is going to be raised. I should like to see this ball pushed over the line. Let's give our Publicity Committee some hot news to send home, to stimulate all those librarians who aren't here and weren't able to come. I should like to be the second to subscribe another sustaining membership from the City of Youngstown. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN UTLEY: Mrs. Dickson, the Executive Secretary of this work, will take these down. We will keep her busy.

MR. F. L. D. GOODRICH: Mr. Sumner said he didn't know where his hundred dollars was coming from. I have the notion where mine may come from. I am going to put it up to the College and Reference Section to take out a sustaining membership in the name of the Section. This is news to them. If the Section won't act as a unit, I may have to go out and arrange to help myself out of my difficulty, but I am reasonably sure our Section will go on record as a sustaining member, and I rather hope that this may apply to the other Sections. We hope it is a suggestion from us and that you will take it as

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such.

MR. SAMUEL H. RANCK: Mr. Chairman and Fellow Members: I am speaking for the Trustees Section, who have made up $100 in cash as their first subscription and as sustaining members of the American Library Association. It was done yesterday. (Applause)

MR. T. W. KOCH: The members of the American Library Institute, $100. (Applause)

MR. JOHN T. VANCE: In order to get money from others, the rule is give it yourself. Being a librarian, I find it hard to get money myself; therefore, I will subscribe one sustaining membership. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN UTLEY: That comes from Mr. John T. Vance, law librarian of the Library of Congress. (Applause)

MISS ISABELLA K. RHODES: At its meeting the Association of American Library Schools decided to take a sustaining membership. (Applause)

MR. GEORGE F. BOWERMAN: I have pleasure on behalf of a gentleman who has told me he would have to go away before this session, Mr. Edward L. Tilton, in subscribing on his behalf as a sustaining member. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN UTLEY: The night before last the Special Membership Committee sent some telegrams to some of our friends. We are already beginning to receive some replies, and I want to report a few of them.

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Mr. Percy S. Straus, New York, says:

Delighted to become a sustaining member of the American Library Association in order to help it to qualify for gift of a million dollars for educational foundation.

(Applause)

That is a hundred dollar subscription.

Mr. Templeton Croker, San Francisco banker, wires:

One hundred dollars in the mail for one sustaining membership. (Applause)

Pierson and Wilson, the architects, of Washington, telegraph:

Will subscribe one hundred dollars, sustaining membership American Library Association. (Applause)

Miss Katherine P. Loring, for many years a member of the A. L. A., says:

I will give one hundred dollars. (Applause)

Mr. Oscar Houston, of New York City, says he will take a sustaining membership at $100. (Applause)

Mr. Ralph Adams Cram, the architect, of Boston, says:

Glad to take one sustaining membership. (Applause)

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Who is next?

MR. F. W. FAXON: I have become enthusiastic and got religion and I will contribute one hundred dollars in the name of the F. W. Faxon Company. (Applause)

MR. THEODORE W. KOCH: Not to be outdone by our neighbor on the South Side of Chicago, Northwestern University will be responsible for one. (Applause)

MR. ANGUS MacDONALD: This cause is too good to fail. It ought not drag any longer. On behalf of Snead and Company, I will guarantee four memberships if they are matched here on the floor today. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN UTLEY: Of course they will be matched. Who is next?

I take pleasure in saying the Newberry Library Association will be responsible for one of these. (Applause)

PRESIDENT STROHM: The Detroit Public Library will be responsible for one. (Applause)

MRS. EDGAR MARTIN: Mrs. Edgar Martin, of Chicago, will give one. (Applause)

MR. LYDENBERG: On behalf of Miss Martha Wilson, of Lincoln Library, Springfield, Illinois, I am authorized to register one more sustaining membership. (Applause)

MR. MacDONALD: I want to say these four memberships will not come from library circles, but from where they should come, outside.

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CHAIRMAN UTLEY: I have word here that Mrs. Percy Coates Reed, of Chicago, who is the donor of the very beautiful new library opened up a few weeks ago at Lake Forest, has become a sustaining member at one hundred dollars a year. (Applause)

President Strohm authorizes me to report a membership of $100 a year for the University of Detroit. (Applause) I don't know whether that is a branch of the Detroit Public Library or not.

PRESIDENT STROHM: The University of Detroit is older than Detroit Public Library.

CHAIRMAN UTLEY: Who is next?

MR. JOSEPH L. WHEELER: Enoch Pratt Free Library will take a sustaining membership. (Applause)

MISS INEZ M. BAYLIS: The Hospital Library of Montreal. (Applause)

MISS LEAVITT: I will match three people for $25 in contributing memberships which will make a sustaining membership. (Applause)

MR. FAXSON: I pledge the Massachusetts Library Club. (Applause)

DR. RANEY: I am requested to announce that the Shreve Memorial Library, of Shreveport, Louisiana, wishes to take a sustaining membership. (Applause)

MEMBER: Minnesota School Librarian will make

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another contributing membership. (Applause)

MEMBER: University of Maryland, another contributing membership, College Park, Maryland. (Applause)

MISS MARGARET JACKSON (Kingston, Pa.): A contributing membership according to Miss Leavitt's idea. (Applause)

MEMBER: College of St. Paul, St. Paul, Minnesota, a contributing membership. (Applause)

MR. WALTER L. BROWN: One sustaining membership. (Applause)

MISS PARHAM: I am sure I can get the Withers Public Library, of Wilmington, Illinois, to give $50. (Applause)

MR. LYDENBERG: Without the slightest authorization and with full realization of what it means, I am going to pledge the present members of the Executive Board for $50. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN UTLEY: Contributing memberships have been received, one from the Utica Public Library, and one from the Utica Public Library Staff. This information was wired to Miss Eastman since she has been here at the conference. (Applause)

Mrs. W. H. Worth, of Gary, Indiana, sends a contributing membership through Orpha Maud Peters. (Applause)

The Library Efficiency Corporation, one of the exhibitors at the conference, has also become a contributing member. (Applause)

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Who else? Mrs. Dickson, what is the score?

MRS. DICKSON: We are one contributing membership over the top. (Applause)

MEMBER: I want to pledge one contributing membership from the office of R. R. Bowker & Company, for the Publisher's Weekly. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN UTLEY: That carries us just to the million mark in membership dues, but we will not stop here.

MISS SABRA VOUGHT: One sustaining membership from the Library Staff of the Federal Office of Education. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN UTLEY: I am sure we want to go a little over for good measure. I am sure, fellow members, that we have reason to congratulate each other and our library profession on the fact that we this morning have completed our goal and are now available for the million dollars which we are quite sure is to come to us from a friendly foundation, in addition to the million dollars which we have just raised through these incomes. (Prolonged applause)

... President Strohm resumed the Chair ...

MR. WHEELER: The Membership Committee, Mr. President, has been working a long time and I should like to move that a rising vote of thanks be given to the Chairman, our friend, Mr. Utley, who has worked so hard, and the rest of his Committee.

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... The members arose and applauded ...

PRESIDENT STROHM: It would be a little superfluous if the Chairman endeavored to say anything more after that demonstration of appreciation. I do feel we are indebted to the color sergeant of the shock troops this morning who came to the platform. We began in very Raney weather, but we found a pot of gold at the foot of the rainbow.

Mr. Milam, our Secretary, will present a report.

SECRETARY MILAM: Mr. President and Members of the Association: The Publicity Committee and the Membership Committee have asked that the By-laws be amended. The matter was brought to the attention of the Executive Board and the Executive Board voted that the Association take action on that recommendation at this time.

The recommendation is that Section 1 of the By-laws be amended to provide for $3 dues instead of $2.

Mr. Ulveling, Chairman of the Publicity Committee, wishes to speak on this.

MR. ULVELING: Mr. President and Members of the Association: After so glorious a meeting as we have just had, I feel I can speak only very briefly, though the subject is a very important one.

The Publicity Committee, as you know, is charged with the responsibility of charting the course of the Bulletin. I should now like to lay before you just a few facts concerning

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that publication. The Bulletin was established as a necessary medium of communication between the members in the field and their elected or appointed representatives at a time when the Association was comparatively small and its activities were relatively limited. With the growth of the Association to more than fourteen thousand members and with the increasing of its activities, it is more important than ever that the Bulletin be made an effective organ.

Since 1922 the time of issue of the Bulletin has increased from four to ten per year. Despite this enlargement, the limited pages do not permit of the inclusion of more than a sketchy account of the most important undertakings of the Asscociation and we are compelled to eliminate completely all others.

In the second place, so long as the editor must devote a substantial part of her time to general publicity work, we cannot have a medium or a publication which measures up in standards of attractiveness to that which we have a right to expect and which we should have for this organization. A study of costs of the publication has been made, and after including a fair proportion of the editor's time, incidental costs and printing charges, it was found that the cost of the Bulletin going to each member of the Association is $2.14 a year. Immediately you can see that the $2 members are not carrying their full share of the service that is being rendered

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to them, and since the Bulletin is a direct service to the members, it seems only proper that they should carry this cost.

A comparison has been made with other Associations in the field of similar size where membership carries a magazine with it. In the main, the cost of these range from $5 to $15 a year, hence you will see that under the proposed amendment which will raise the $2 members to $3, and the $4 members to $5, the cost of our professional affiliation is still comparatively small. The effect on the membership of this move should be carefully considered. To this end, through the columns of the Bulletin expressions of opinion from members in the field were sought. Quite largely, people were favorably inclined to this change. I realize, however, that any mere abstract statement regarding improvements can scarcely be assuring to you, so let me point out very briefly a few of the contemplated changes.

First, more space will be provided. This will be done so all general sessions papers which are of interest to the entire Association, whether they attend the Conference or not, may be made available to them. At present this is not true with the $2 members. Such other reports of length as Mr. Brigham's National Pensions Report, will be included, and articles on how libraries have raised salaries. There will be a page of personal items, positions wanted and

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positions available; and last, and perhaps most important of all, one page will be devoted to communications from people in the field.

In an organization of the size and extent of this one, it seems highly important that there be some organized channel for recording these opinions. Without it we cannot have the organization welded together firmly.

I might read in detail some of the studies which have been made in regard to this, but time prohibits it. The matter now rests in your hands. Your Publicity Committee has unanimously approved the amendment. If you wish to have a better Bulletin, vote yes when the amendment comes up. If you do not, vote no.

Thank you!

PRESIDENT STROHM: The last action of the business session this morning will be a vote on the amendment bearing upon the membership dues. The Chair would like to entertain a motion.

MISS COUNTRYMAN: I should like to make a motion that the dues be changed to $3, and I want to speak rather earnestly in approval of this. When the Activities Committee made their report at the midwinter meeting, one of our recommendations was that the Bulletin should be very much improved. It turned out that the Bulletin already cost $2.14 per member, although our dues were only $2. I believe that every serious,

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self-respecting member of the A. L. A. wants to pay for at least as much as he receives and in addition wants to do something for his professional organization. Three dollars seems to me a very small amount when we receive in return for it not only a Bulletin much improved, but an attendance register at headquarters and many other professional returns.

I not only make this motion, but also I make a strong plea that we vote in the affirmative.

MR. SEVERANCE: I second that motion.

MR. GEORGE H. TRIPP (?): Before that motion is put before the House, I should like to inquire whether there is any purpose or if there will be a probable effect of our organ's acting in any way in competition with the regular Library Journal that has so enthusiastically for many years upheld the traditions and the work of the American Library Association. Personally I have no objection to increasing the Bulletin, but I should be very sorry if it had any effect of acting as a competitior to the Library Journal which, as I say, has helped to sustain the interests of this Association for many years. I should like to have some expression of opinion as to whether there is any danger of that possible competition with our recognized Library Journal.

MR. ULVELING: Nobody more than I would regret anything in the way of competition with the Library Journal. The intention of the Bulletin is to confine itself to the

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Association. There is still a large field of professional activities that would be covered by the Journal; to mention one, the Library Journal, as you know, has had a number devoted to buildings, one to furniture and equipment, and similar things. All independent studies made by librarians would go to those organs and the Bulletin would be closed to those, it being an association journal only.

MR. SAMUEL H. RANCK: As a matter of clarification, so we will know what we are voting on, Mr. Milam said that the amendment was to raise the $2 dues to $3, and Mr. Ulveling in his report said that the $4 would be raised to $5. Is it one or both?

SECRETARY MILAM: The By-laws provide that the dues paid by those receiving the handbook and proceedings are fixed by the Executive Board so that that part of the Publicity Committee's report will be made to the Executive Board rather than to the whole Association, in accordance with the By-laws. The amendment that is submitted to this body for vote changes the word "two" to "three" in the first Section of the By-laws. That is all we are voting on.

MR. CHARLES H. COMPTON: I should like to offer an amendment to that resolution, that is, that instead of raising the dues to $3 from $2, and including the initiation fee, the dues be made $3 and the initiation fee be abolished. It seems to me that would be a decided advantage.. In that

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way all the new members would pay exactly the same amount the second year as the first. I think that the initiation fee is rather unusual. I have a list of six or eight similar associations and in all cases except one there is no initiation fee. I think you would find much less lapse in your membership if you went on that basis and your income would be practically the same. I offer that, Mr. President, as an amendment.

... The amendment was seconded ...

MR. ULVELING: I think Mr. Compton's suggestion is an excellent one and I should like to see it incorporated. I second the motion.

MR. RANCK: I rise to a point of order. If the Committee accepts this amendment unanimously, it can come before us without a vote.

PRESIDENT STROHM: The Chairman is anxious in any way, orderly or disorderly, to cut through with this. Are you ready for the original motion as presented by Miss Countryman?

SECRETARY MILAM: In view of the amendment perhaps we should repeat the motion.

PRESIDENT STROHM: The motion is to amend Section 1 of the By-laws to provide for a $3 annual dues for those who receive the Bulletin other than the proceedings and the handbook, and for the elimination of the initiation fee.

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... The motion was put to a vote and was carried ...

PRESIDENT STROHM: I apologize to the speakers and thank them for their patience.

... Two-minute recess ...

PRESIDENT STROHM: It seems very fitting that after the happy event this morning when so much good will and optimism was voiced, we should have as the first number on our program an address on the subject of Hospital Library Service, where, in addition to scientific management of the service, also the elements of good will and unselfishness enter.

Nobody could be more welcome and more competent than the present speaker, who could give us a real experience, an inside glimpse and view of that particular service than our speaker. I have great pleasure in introducing Miss Elizabeth Pomeroy, Supervisor of Hospital Libraries Medical Service, and Chief, Library Section, U. S. Veterans' Bureau. Miss Pomeroy! (Applause)

... Miss Pomeroy read her paper ... (Applause)

MR. TRIPPER (?): A wallpaper hanger who was taken into one of the Columbus, Ohio, hospitals formed the reading habit while there and carried it on through the reference department and the law department and from there to the night school of the Y.M.C.A., and then he carried it on into the Ohio State University, from which he graduated, and

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today he is one of the most prominent lawyers in Ohio. A racketeer, a bootlegger, or even a hospital nurse is safe if he is acting as counsel.

PRESIDENT STROHM: We are grateful for the compliment extended by the gentleman from Ohio. Indeed, there are none of us here who would like to forego the opportunity of hearing the clear and noble-spirited note from a service field where a very deserving minority is being ministered unto. We also welcome the opportunity of paying our respects to Miss Pomeroy for her determined effort of being with us to give her message. (Applause)

No gathering of the American Library Association would be complete if we did not hear a voice from our colleagues up north and from other English-speaking countries. Today we have the additional satisfaction of having a Canadian colleague here who still communes with voices and friends in the British Isles, the land of his birth. I have very great pleasure in introducing Mr. E. Cockburn Kyte, the librarian of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. (Applause)

MR. E. COCKBURN KYTE: Mr. President and Members of the American Library Association: There is no need to speak of my pleasure in being allowed to give this paper, and no time to interest you in the historical development of the library movement in Britain. I want your attention fixed on the present and the immediate future. I want you to

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think of a nation that has always written, made, bought, and possessed books, but that owing to failures in the means of distribution and to a still more tragic failure in the distribution of means, has not always in all sections been able to read books, and is not yet.

I want you also to think of a band of men devoted to the cause - and the British Library Association is still predominantly masculine - a band of men, I repeat, devoted to the cause of librarianship, usually without the help of authority and often under its handicap.

I have no time to speak of minor developments in England, of the importance that the commercial and technical libraries of the country have acquired, of clippings files which, at Manchester, number at least one hundred and sixty, and probably nearer two hundred thousand topical recent clippings upon all subjects, of radio groups increasingly coming to the front, being organized in libraries, with large numbers gathering under the leadership of a conductor to listen to talks upon certain subjects which are put upon the air for them, especially for these groups, by the British Broadcasting Company.

I say I have no time to deal with these minor events, but I will concentrate on the real coordination of librarianship with the British public. I have confidence in asking you to hear me because an audience of librarians is

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potentially the most enlightened audience on earth. For such an audience a brief address on the consolidation of British librarianship may have its interest. Let me first deal with the subject from the viewpoint of the librarian. I shall then hope to consider how the public is affected.

... Mr. Kyte presented his prepared paper ... (Applause)

PRESIDENT STROHM: One can't behold the library map and the canvas presented by Mr. Kyte without feeling the heartening as well as the sobering reaction from the very orderly, modest, and yet mighty work that is going on in the mother country of English-speaking people. The circle is closing and we are most grateful for having a transatlantic picture of what is going on.

The Secretary has an announcement to make bearing upon the next speaker.

... Secretary Milam made announcements about railroad tickets ...

SECRETARY MILAM: Vice President Wilson, who is next on the program, insists that he will not read his paper in full.

PRESIDENT STROHM: During the past winter we received word from the British Library Association, through Colonel Mitchell, that the Association would welcome a representative of the American Library Association at the

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annual meeting in England next fall. The choice and the acceptance on the part of the Executive Board, and the acceptance given was by the speaker now to address you, Dr. Wilson, a leading figure in the academic world of libraries. If I may be permitted to say so, I look upon him as such, because he has given unsparingly of his time and his skill to interests outside the university campus. He has served his Commonwealth, the State of North Carolina, in many ways and is doing so to this day, and he is serving equally ably, fruitfully, the profession of which we are all members.

It is not courteous not to give consideration to the desires of a speaker and a well known, modest gentleman like Dr. Wilson. If not as Chairman, I personally and as a librarian, object and deeply regret that we can't have the full paper. Dr. Wilson! (Applause)

DR. LOUIS R. WILSON: Mr. President and Friends: My happiness as an officer of the Association in what has happened here this morning is so great that I am unwilling to introduce any element into that which might give it a different flavor. I know your happiness is such that now that the hour for adjournment has already been reached, you, in turn, prefer to go away with a record of a perfect morning; therefore, I shall present my paper merely by title and with the very briefest comment.

The title may seem a little unusual. I have

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given the paper the title "The Emergence of the College Library."

I suppose those of us who have been connected with college libraries for some time think that it emerged some time ago, and it did, but I think that the last two years have probably been the most significant years in the history of the American College Library, and for two reasons. The first is that a number of college librarians and representatives of library schools and investigators have definitely turned their eye upon the college library and have undertaken to see it as it should be, to think of it in terms of a teaching agency upon the campus, and we have as a result publications such as those by Dr. Brown, of Iowa, Rosenau, the College and Reference Section Year Books, the Hilton List for the Junior College, the Hester List which is soon to be published, the Shaw List which brings information to college president, and dean, and instructor, with regard to books that should back each course of instruction offered on the college campus. That is the first and very significant point that I would make.

The second is that on the campus itself, in the administrative office, something has been going on in these last two years to a degree that has never gone on before. I have reference particularly to the work which college presidents, deans, heads of departments, and librarians have been engaged

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in answering the questionnaire of the Cornelia Corporation for grants and aid to college libraries. That questionnaire brings home to the directors of the college campus the question, What are you doing with your library by way of integrating it with your general educational scheme? In that respect that questionnaire has been somewhat as the author of the Book of Hebrews said the Mosaic law had been to the Hebrews. It has become a schoolmaster to the schoolmasters, and when those of us who have visited colleges here and there, particularly as Dr. Randall has, and have asked college executives what they are doing about the library, the time has come, I think, when their answer will cease to be, "It is something about which we are just going to do something."

I think that is the most significant thing that has happened so far as the small college library is concerned, that we have yet known in this country, because it has been brought home to the official administrative group that the library is an agency of instruction which every instructor, which every department, which every dean, which every college president, together with the library staff should utilize to the fullest in turning out graduates who go out into life enriched and inspired and with a fine comprehension of what personal education is; therefore, I say, in those respects the college library during these past two years has begun to emerge from an uncertain position. It is beginning to take its stand

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upon a more certain basis and we can look into the future for an instrument which will not be considered an adjunct, just another department, but an instrument which is an integral part of the vital thing that is going on in the American college. (Applause)

PRESIDENT STROHM: It is a very happy thing that we have had this message about the college library before we leave the campus of Yale University. I think we all realize the fact that great work is being done in that field and we can see that greater things are coming.

The American Library Association will be very ably represented in Great Britain next fall and we wish Dr. Wilson a very happy experience.

Even librarians can't live on A. L. A. addresses alone; we need fresh air and hot dogs. Let's go! (Laughter and applause)

... The meeting adjourned at twelve-twenty-five o'clock ...

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SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

June 27, 1931

The Fourth General Session convened at two forty-five o'clock, President Strohm presiding.

PRESIDENT STROHM: The American Library Association has received many expressions of courtesy and kindly attention from distinguished men of the University, distinguished citizens of New Haven, but this afternoon we have the very rare privilege of being honored by the Commonwealth itself. We have with us a distinguished son of Yale, a man of letters, a scholar, the First Citizen of the State. I have great pleasure in introducing to you the Governor of the State of Connecticut, the Hon. Wilbur L. Cross, the Governor. (Applause)

HON. WILBUR L. CROSS: Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: I was quite sorry that I was unable to be present to greet you at the opening of the sessions at the beginning of the week, but I can now speed the parting guest, not that I am in any hurry, however, for you to go.

I hope that you have been interested in our library, the great library of the University and other libraries which you have seen, such as the State Library at Hartford, and that you have also become interested in other institutions of the state. The Chief Justice has spoken to you about the beauties of the state. Naturally, the Governor

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ought to think that Connecticut is the finest state in the Union. You have seen what there is along these shores, these beautiful shores, fine white sand, the hillsides, the view of the city from East Rock, where it seems to be submerged in foliage, and you may go to Hartford and view the City of Hartford from the dome of the Capitol, and you will see very much the same thing.

As a student I used to wander all about this part of the state. I spent endless afternoons boating in the harbor and along the shores, and wandering among the hills, and when I got tired of the scenery here, all I had to do was go farther up into the state among the hills and the valleys.

Keat's line applies: "Where is the face that one would meet in every place?" Yes, a great change in scenery!

I ought not quote that line, however, as I look at these faces here, for I should like to see you all again. It seems hardly possible that there are so many librarians in the United States as I see here this afternoon and yet you are only a few of them.

As the reader of books, I have sometimes wondered about the lives of people at the time when there were no printed books. Sometimes my mind goes back to the time among races when there was no alphabet and, of course, as far back as you go, you find stories that were handed down by

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tradition, oral tradition, genealogy and oral tradition, and some of these very old stories, it happens, are among the best that we still have. No novels, exactly, there, because as Kipling says, you don't get a novel until a woman is introduced, with all the complications that follow, but it is interesting, however, to observe that some of the great stories, like those of the Knights of the Round Table, go back to a time before printing, and when only a comparatively small part of the population, consisting of scholars and a few literary men, were able to read at all; and yet, they got on in a way because you can do a lot with the ear if you don't have the eye.

Take the great civilization of the Greeks - everybody could see the bard as he recited Homer and hear him. They could go out to the theatres and see those great tragedies and those great comedies, probably surpassing anything that has yet been produced and then, of course, the student could meet with the philosophers like Plato, Aristotle, and Socrates, and get directly from them their knowledge. But knowledge obtained in this way affects only a small part of the population of any state. The great masses remain in ignorance and, of course, the epoch-making incident in modern history is when Caxton set up his type for his first book and I remember when I was a young fellow I read the conclusion that he wrote to that book, in which he said in substance that

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it was not written out with pen and ink the same as other books, but that it was printed so that every man might have a copy at the same time. That incident, of course, eventually meant the great libraries such as we have today.

Those first books were large books, expensive books, probably expensive for those years. Only gentlemen and scholars could own them and the libraries of those days, but then people wanted to read and then came the cheap books, the chapbooks and the pamphlets such as London was swarmed with during the Elizabethan period. Then came the newspapers of the Eighteenth Century, some few in the Seventeenth Century before them, and it was through the newspapers that the people at large learned to read.

As we come down now into the Nineteenth Century and the time when I was a boy, there were very few public libraries anywhere of any consequence. There were, of course, private libraries, open under certain restrictions to the public, but the masses rarely took books from them.

Forty years ago I was living in a large city. There was no public library there whatever. I don't remember just when the New York public library was organized, but it is within fifty years, and this has been the situation everywhere. The great public library belongs to the Twentieth Century.

Professor Phelps, I understand, said something

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to you about the noble work in which you are engaged in bringing the public and books together. I remember a conversation that I had once with Professor Lounsbury, one of Yale's great scholars and men of letters, in his last years. We were talking over the success of teaching and he said, "I think that I have succeeded only in so far as men under my influence have learned to read literature." I have thought of that a good many times and I think that he was absolutely correct.

A few years ago a professor at Harvard published an essay in which he said that he couldn't expect any greater success than to get his boys up to the point where they would be able to read and understand the Yale Review, of which I happen to be the editor. The other view of that is: I saw a woman once reading the Yale Review and her husband came along and he said to her (he didn't know I was about), "Can't you find anything more interesting than that?"

Of course, that Harvard professor meant this, that you encounter in our best magazines essays on government, public questions, science, literary essays, book reviews, and so forth, and the number of men and women who can read all that is contained in the best magazines of the present time do require something of an education.

I remember when I started the Yale Review, I was talking with a group of men of letters down in New York who had read a few numbers, and wanted to know how many

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people there were in the United States who could read that and would be willing to read it, and I told them about twenty-five thousand, and one man said, "You are very optimistic. There are no more than ten thousand educated women and men here in the United States."

"But," I said, "there are a good many hundred thousand graduates of colleges."

"Yes, but there are only about ten thousand who are really educated."

The college professor and the librarian do come together in this respect. The college professor in English aims to get his students up to the point where they are able to read the best literature that has been produced in our own and other countries, the professor in science that their men may read scientific articles and understand them, and so on through the entire category, and, of course, you, in a larger way, are dealing with a great public and what you are trying to do is to get the public to read the best books and to keep them reading them. Yes, as Professor Phelps said, it is a great and noble profession that you are engaged upon, and I congratulate you.

If I hadn't become a college professor, it is very likely that I should have become a librarian, for there was one time in my early career when I was on the point of taking over a public library which has since become one of the

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great, flourishing libraries of the United States and, later on, of course, I thought of the private libraries, but here I am still, not exactly a college professor, but I am editing a magazine and at the same time I am trying to bring before the people of Connecticut right views on economics and the social sciences, such as we find in the great books that are being published now and have been published in the past. (Applause)

I have the great pleasure of introducing to you Mr. Stuart Chase, who is a man after my own heart, although I am unacquainted with him personally. And why is he a man after my own heart? It is because in treating economic and social questions he brings them down to the present. There is the background of the past, but there is the interpretation from present day phenomena and, in this machine age, as he has called it, and in this age of waste - there is always waste in civilization, but there never was as great a waste as there has been during the last quarter century which culminated in the World War.

I have the honor and privilege of introducing to you Mr. Stuart Chase. (Applause)

MR. STUART CHASE: Mr. President and Friends: The topic assigned to me this afternoon is "Leisure in the Machine Age." I am sure that it is quite obvious from one point of view that to discuss the problem of leisure with

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devoted librarians is a task of supererogation. There is, however, a problem amongst those who give their time to less relentless professions.

In the last generation there has been a decrease in the average working day of about three hours. This decrease ~~It~~ promises to grow, for a number of reasons. One reason particularly is ~~that~~ due to what we economize sts ~~is~~ called technological unemployment; whereby the machine, the time-study man, the great merger, are moving down upon the industrial structure and displacing working men and women at an unprecedented rate.

It is quite obvious that the only long swing solution for a situation like this, whereby we can produce the necessary food, shelter, and clothing, in less and less time, is that the hours of labor should also follow the curve of the technical arts and that men, as machines become more efficient, ~~may~~ should work less time. So, this question of leisure becomes increasingly important. ¶ It ~~so~~ happens that I ~~have~~ spent the last five months in the year 1930 down south of the Rio Grande in Mexico. I have been absorbed in studying the handicraft civilization of Mexico and comparing it with the machine age here in the United States. It makes a fascinating contrast.

Take such a book as "Middletown," by Robert and Helen Lynd, in which they studied a typical community in the Middle West, and if you lay "Middletown" down upon

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Robert Redfield's "Tepoztlan," where he made an equally intensive study of a Mexican free village, you have as exciting a series of parallel columns as one could wish.

In "Tepoztlan" and in many of the free villages of Mexico which I visited, refined in this handicraft culture, there are something in the order of one hundred holy days a year, one hundred days out of the three hundred and sixty-five when the men, women, and children of that community are celebrating a major or minor fiesta. The fiesta is the great celebration, the great channel through which that particular handicraft culture employs its leisure time, and I couldn~~it~~ not find any problem in the fiesta. It came as naturally and spontaneously out of that community as does the~~ir~~ cultivation of their cornfields, ~~of~~ the erection of their charming little houses, ~~of~~ or the beautiful handicraft work which they make. It comes right out of the inner emotions, the inner life of those villages, and there is no problem there whatsoever.

We will remember, too, that in ~~the~~ Thirteenth Century Europe there were something in the order of one hundred holy days a year.

My friend, Benton Mackaye, in his book, "The New Exploration," has drawn us a little picture of ~~the~~ boyhood in a New England village where problems of leisure time were at a minimum. ~~and doubtless Governor Cross can remember much of what Mr. Mackaye tells us.~~ His book, by the way, I believe you

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gave the honor of classing as one of the forty best books of the year in 1928. Says Mackay, commenting on play in this New England village not very many miles from here:

"There was the swimming hole in the millstream and the flooding of the meadow for skating around the evening bonfire. There was the after-haying picnic in the river and the vale, and double-runner coasting parties by February moonlight. There was baseball and shining trout fishing and tracking rabbits. There was the illustrated lecture on the stars or on the Norman conquest. There was "Evangeline" read aloud on a long solstice evening, maybaskets on twilight doorsteps, Drop the Handkerchief on the common. There was a grand masquerade in the January thaw (a sort of cultural lag from the fiesta, I think) and quadrilles and reels and slides. The church bells rang out on the night before the Fourth as the sleighbells rang out on the night before Christmas."

Now let's jump ahead a generation, perhaps not quite to today, but to a summer Sunday in the year 1929 when the great bull market was drawing to its dramatic close. On a summer Sunday in America people also play. Some forty millions of them are being carried by a machine at forty miles an hour past Goodrich Tire signs and Come-on Inns ~~(laughter),~~ and anon creeping in single line at one mile an hour to the escarpments of bridges, ferries, tunnels, and bottle-necked highways, in a steamy sweat of oil and dust. Many millions

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are eating the inevitable steak and chicken dinner at the inevitable blowsy roadhouses.

While the gin gurgles into the Canada Dry and the radio drowns the engulfing of the canned tomato soup, ten millions are seated in the dark watching a personable young woman alternately mislay and recover her virtue, for six thick rolls of celluloid.

For some hours of the day practically the entire population of the Republic disappears under something in the nature of sixty thousand tons of woodpulp to the accompaniment of a noisy if not positively sanguinary struggle between Susie and Junior as to which has prior right to Mutt and Jeff.

Along the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Great Lakes stretch ten thousand miles of fine, hard beaches deserted save for the sandpiper, the sea gull, and the crab, but from point to point between these lonely stretches, more millions on our summer Sunday congregate, each with his bottle of pop, his banana, and his cheese sandwich. Running and leaping is frequently impossible in such mass formations, but phonographs embellished with a little sand, are always welcome. When the pop bottle and the banana peel have been duly deposited to add their quota to the litter-all, there is more play to be had immediately to the rear. Here rise fantastic towers of lath and plaster. Here tramloads of shrieking shop girls rush down frightful declivities. Here one

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meets one's self with a resounding thwack in the mirror mazes, is deftly bereft of equilibrium by spinning, heaving floors, loses hat and modesty by jets of compressed air, and here a five-dollar bill melts like the snows of April.

Fifty thousand are roaring as the home run king lifts a horsehide pellet over an Arrow Collar signboard. Hot, disquieted matrons are reading confession magazines in stuffy parlors. Far into the reeking night thin men in shirtsleeves sit bowed over pieces of cardboard and round, brightly colored disks, while throughout the day five hundred thousand ampler men alternately strike and curse at a small white ball ~~(laughter)~~, magnetically attracted to pits of sand, or, failing sand, to pools of water. Another million of both sexes are putting through a breech in a toy lighthouse and trying to ricochet No. 7 in one stroke and get another round free gratis. ~~(Laughter)~~

Possibly Mr. Mackaye put his best foot forward and idealized his picture a little. Certainly I put my best foot forward and idealized my summer Sunday a little, but I think the essential contrast is there. No problem in the one, and the ~~latter~~ other bristling with problems.

Recreation has been defined by splitting the word and calling it re-creation, something compensating in our leisure time for the stresses and strains generated in our daily work, work which becomes for many of us here in the United States

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increasingly mechanized and monotonous; whereas de-creation has been called compounding the stresses and strains of our daily work in leisure hours and I submit that a good deal of that summer Sunday picture falls under the head of de-creation rather than re-creation. We see so much of it devoted not to firsthand participation in forms of recreation and play, but in secondhand, in thirdhand participation, in watching, in listening, in letting somebody else drive us around. The Lynds, in "Middletown," concluded that most people over thirty get their recreation sitting down.

A recent study has been made by Messrs. Layman and Witte, of thirteen thousand schoolchildren in Kansas, children both rural and urban. They included boys and girls from ten to sixteen years of age. All together some two hundred forms of play and recreation were listed. The children engaged in over two hundred different sorts of things, but among the twelve most frequent were: reading the funny papers, motoring (which at that age, of course, means somebody else drive you around), going to the movies, watching sports, listening to the radio, playing the phonograph. Six of the twelve most frequent forms were mechanized, had to do with machines, were impossible to engage in without machines.

Nothing in Mr. Mackaye's New England scene had to do with a machine. And, my friends, I call this particularly to your attention, the most frequent form for both boys and

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girls at all ages was reading the funny papers.

We have here in the whole country something in the order of thirty million radio listeners a night. Fifty million people pass weekly through the gaudy doors of our moving picture palaces. Thirty-five million copies of tabloids and newspapers are distributed every day, and fifteen million copies of the popular magazines make their rounds every month.

Our pleasure motoring bill, excluding the automobile as a commercial or business vehicle, runs to the astounding total of five million dollars a year and indeed our whole bill for recreation and play and leisure time activities very broadly defined, I have calculated at twenty-one billion dollars, which is about one-quarter of our national income.

What does that mean? That means a huge industry; it means a huge investment. About half of the total has to do with mechanized forms. It means that there are many thousands of businessmen furnishing us with leisure time goods. Some two hundred million dollars has gone, in the past year, into Tom Thumb golf courses alone, and these businessmen are up against the same problems of overhead expense, of overhead production, of speeding up turnover, of breaking down sales resistance, that we find in other industries furnishing us with essentials. Indeed, there is a vast competition between all our industries, including those furnishing play; a vast

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competition for that strangely limited dollar of the consumer.

Our economic structure, you know, does not throw off purchasing power as fast as we can create the economic structure to turn out goods, and as a result of this competition, we find that the play industry, particularly and specifically the automobile, has invaded with its high pressure salesmanship, its posters, its annual models, its compulsion to keep up with the Joneses, its new gadgets and new dashboards, has cut into the essential industries.

In "Middletown" we find, for instance, that many families are giving up essential housing space, are giving up needed clothing, for their children, and are even giving up food, milk, if you please, in order to buy gasoline. So well has this branch of the leisure time industry done its ~~branch~~ share of high pressure work!

From the point of the businessmen in that industry, and you cannot blame them as businessmen, the expansion of leisure time is important solely that we, the consumer, may consume more leisure time goods, and it is evident, I think, that the two great differences and the two great difficulties which mark off this leisure time activity today from that of Mexico, of Mr. Mackaye's New England village, of Europe a few centuries ago, are; first, mechanization, and, secondly, commercialization. In other words, my friends, the battle is on between rewarding uses of leisure and pulling the

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levers out of jumping-jacks, between people like yourselves and myself, who know something about the essential values of life, and the high pressure fraternity who want to pack our leisure full of jumping jacks; and the faster they wear out, the better, and the more fads, the merrier; on one side, participating forms, firsthand participation, - mountain climbing, camping, gardening, naturalizing, sun bathing, swimming, amateur acting, and books, good books, and you notice that the rate of turnover, the rate of profitable advance, in those particular activities that I have mentioned is meagre. How are you going to collect money, for instance, from a sun bather? He is usually 'way off in the wilds and very difficult to steer through a turnstile.

And on the other side, second and thirdhand forms; collecting turnstiles, Roman stairing, burning up the roads, Hollywood, jazz, gin, Coney Island, dollar-a-hole golf, comic strips, woodpulp confessions and books, bad books, compounding the stresses and strains of our day-by-day work to a very large extent.

It would be totally unfair and I should be giving a very erroneous impression if I left the subject there without saying that it seems to me that in this era of commercial goods and of mechanized goods, there are a number of very amusing and interesting things to do. I like to motor sometimes. ~~I didn't like it so well today when I had to get down here from~~

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~~New London in an hour and a quarter, but ordinarily on a spring morning it is fun to drive through the open country.~~ I could even stand going to the movies or listening to the radio, occasionally, and I know you can, occasionally. It isn't not the idea of abolishing this whole twenty-one billions of turnover; it is simply a case of selection, of proper balance, of not letting the high pressure fraternity rush us, force us, too hard, ~~or~~ of picking and choosing those things which we can digest and throwing the accent at the same time on these other firsthand participating activities for our leisure time.

If you will permit me to digress for just one moment and make a little personal confession, I wound up that last flight of rhetoric with the word "books," good books. I was an average youngster in a New England city. I shall never quite forgive my teachers in primary school and high school for making it impossible for me, probably as long as I live, ever to read and enjoy Shakespeare. They killed the Bard for me once and for all. They thrust me away from a number of classics, but somehow I made a connection, and in trying to analyze it, it seems to me that it came in this way: Being thrust back from the classics, I read the comic strips of those days, the detective stories. I read the dime novels. I read the bad books, but somehow I stumbled into Kipling and I stumbled into Stevenson, and they formed a bridge. They told rattling good stories. They had a plot that I followed with

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breathless interest, and yet at the same time, in the background there were ideas, there was a mind functioning, there was a philosophy, and they knew how to write.

Pretty soon I bumped into Galsworthy, and pretty soon I encountered H. G. Wells, also men who told good stories, but who had a philosophy and who knew how to write, and presently, as the years went by, I had been, as it were, led around through the back door into what seemed to me at least to be the path of good books.

~~You might possibly be interested in knowing~~ that I have a little shelf at home on which I keep about a dozen volumes and nearly every year reread them, and would you like to know what they are? "Of Human Bondage," "The Way of All Flesh," "Tono Bungay," the Antarctic Diaries of Captain Scott, Deirdre of the Sorrows, "The Education of Henry Adams," "The Forsyte Saga," the Jacob Stahl Trilogy, "Passage to India," "The Man Who Would be King," "Growth of the Soil," "Huck Finn," and I am thinking of putting "Middletown" on that shelf.

I think I am just enough of an optimist to believe that we are going to win out in this struggle for genuine leisure. I think that our human nature is in due time to be surfeited with jumping jacks.

As I saw good old homo sapiens in the raw in the Mexican fiesta, I realized that we here in the United States are like children with new toys, having to go through a

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period of picking them to pieces, of examining them, of admiring them, of trying them, ~~but~~ in the end we are coming out on the right side, but it is going to be a long struggle. We are up against twenty-one billions of dollars devoted to commercializing and mechanizing our leisure time.

No group in the whole community is more strategically located to ~~and can~~ do more valiant service in this unremitting warfare for genuine leisure versus jumping jacks, than you, librarians, ~~my friends.~~

Thank you! (Applause)

PRESIDENT STROHM: After having heard from our youthful speaker that the whole world is a show and it is very tempting to be there, we shall have to return to our own family affairs.

There have been a good many questions or questioners coming into the headquarters inquiring as to the latest data and results of the Special Membership Campaign. It seems fitting to gratify that curiosity prompted by good will, and it seems even more fitting that we should have a word from those who have given so much of their time, their ingenuity, during the past months.

Unfortunately our old captain of the shock troops, Mr. Utley, has left, but we are fortunate and very glad to have with us Mrs. Dickson, who has done more than a man's work. Mrs. Dickson! (Applause)

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MRS. DICKSON: It is my great privilege to announce to you that the subscriptions which have come in through the mail and by telegraph during the conference, together with the pledges which were made on the floor of the General Session last Thursday have more than completed the endowment fund. (Applause) Thirty-three sustaining memberships were needed; thirty-eight have been received. It should perhaps be said in this connection, however, that twenty more sustaining memberships will be needed before the end of the year to meet the budgets for this year. The income from this new endowment is not to be used for expansion purposes. It is to take the place of funds which have formerly been received from other sources and which will not be forthcoming from those sources in the future.

I am sure that all of those present will join with the Special Membership Committee in rejoicing over this successful accomplishment and in feeling with us deeply grateful to all of those who have made it possible.

Thank you! (Applause)

PRESIDENT STROHM: We will now be glad to hear the report of the Committee on Resolutions, Mr. Yust.

MR. WILLIAM F. YUST: Mr. President and Members: "The American Library Association at the close of its fifty-third annual conference presents the following resolutions:

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"THAT this conference record its sincere appreciation of the welcome extended to it by the Governor of the State of Connecticut and the Connecticut Hospitality Committee, by the Mayor and the City of New Haven and the Chamber of Commerce, by the President and the Board of Trustees of the New Haven Public Library, by the hotels and clubs of the City and the University, and by the service bureaus of the University, which have joined in making this meeting notable in attendance, opportunity and achievement.

"THAT this conference express its gratitude to the President of Yale University, to the members of the Corporation and to the other officers of the University for the very generous provisions made for the comfort and enjoyment of the conference. Among these should be noted buildings for headquarters, numerous assembly halls for meetings, large and small, the use of the dormitories and the very excellent dining hall service.

"THAT special thanks are due to Mr. Andrew Keogh and members of the staff of Yale University Library, to Mr. Lindsey Brown and the staff members of the Free Public Library of New Haven, and to the other members of the Local Committees whose foresight and thoughtfulness provided for our every need in advance. We have especially enjoyed the continuous hospitality of the Sterling Memorial Library.

"THAT this conference record its sincere

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appreciation of the publicity generously extended to it in advance by the Library Journal of New York and by Libraries of Chicago and that extended during its sessions by the Associated Press, the International News Service, and the United Press, by the New Haven Journal-Courier, the Register, and the Times, by various New York and Boston papers, especially the New York Times and the Herald Tribune, the Boston Globe, the Transcript, and the Christian Science Monitor.

"THAT we extend congratulations to the Chairman and the members of the Endowment Fund Committee and to the Association as a whole upon the successful completion of that appeal, upon the attainment of our goal of an amount equal to the income on a million dollar endowment. We wish to express thanks also to those many friends whose generous contributions in the form of Sustaining and Contributing memberships in the American Library Association have made possible this outstanding achievement.

"That the Association repeat its expression of thanks to donors whose gifts to the American Library Association and to library work in general have made possible progress in the library work and in library training. Special recognition is made of grants made by the Carnegie Corporation, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, The Rockefeller Foundation, General Education Board, The Rosenwald Fund, and The Barker Foundation;

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"THAT we pay our tribute of respect to the distinguished visitors who have honored us with their presence and made valuable contributions to our program;

"THAT we express appreciation of the enthusiastic and efficient services rendered here and throughout the year to our members, to our organization, and to the library cause by the office force at A. L. A. headquarters;

"THAT we express appreciation to the exhibitors who have contributed much to our information and instruction;

"THAT we record our deep regret at the passing of Mr. Clement W. Andrews, Mr. William E. Foster, Mr. William Coolidge Lane, and of eighty-four other members whose death has been reported since the last conference.

"The present economic depression with its accompanying unemployment has stimulated the demand for library service, increased the circulation of books, and enlarged the contribution which libraries make in the preparation for new types of employment, in the profitable use of leisure time and in the maintenance of public morale. We call these facts to the attention of the governors and legislatures of the various states and to all public officials of counties, cities, and towns, and urge them to allow no reduction of appropriation for books and service, but to maintain the libraries of the country in their full efficiency in this period of special need.

"Respectfully submitted,
"Edward A. Henry,
"Edna M. Sanderson,
"William F. Yust, Chairman."

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PRESIDENT STROHM: The Committee on Elections is ready to report and the findings will be presented by Miss Keith.

MISS KEITH: The Committee on Elections presents the following report, officers elected for the term 1931 to 1932:

President.....	Josephine A. Rathbone
First Vice President.	Charles E. Rush
Second " " .	Beatrice Winser
Treasurer	Matthew S. Dudgeon
Trustee of Endowment Funds....	George Woodruff
Members of the Executive Board ...	Sydney B. Mitchell Gratia A. Countryman
Members of the Council	Henry B. Van Hoesen Anne M. Boyd Luther L. Dickerson James T. Gerould Adah F. Whitcomb

(Applause)

1580 votes were recorded in favor of and 2651 votes were recorded against the proposal for holding biennial instead of annual conferences.

Respectfully submitted by the Committee on Elections,

Marshall T. Carqueville,
Chairman.

PRESIDENT STROHM: The Chairman begs to apologize

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for omitting to invite the formal acceptance of the interesting and complete report on Resolutions.

MR. YUST: The Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions apologizes to the President for not moving the adoption of the report, but does so now. I move the adoption of the Report of the Committee on Resolutions. May I say, Mr. President, that the last resolution has already been submitted to and approved and adopted by the Council.

MR. SEVERANCE: I support the motion.

... The motion was put to a vote and was carried ...

PRESIDENT STROHM: May I ask Miss Eastman, as ex-President of the American Library Association, to escort the President-elect to the platform?

... Miss Eastman escorted Miss Rathbone to the platform amid applause ...

PRESIDENT STROHM: Miss Josephine Rathbone, the American Library Association has invited you to step out from the ranks of your associates and assume the leadership of our advance. This is the highest honor within the giving of our profession. Proud of the roster of distinguished leaders of the past, this tribute to you extended today is a recognition of your outstanding success in bringing to others entering our ranks the same loyalty, understanding, and intelligent conception of the ideals of our profession which have always

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characterized your own loyalty to high standards as the Director of Pratt Institute Library School.

The able support of the National Headquarters, the cordial good will of the library world, will be with you. I feel very much privileged in saluting you as our new chief, and wish you a very successful year.

... President Rathbone took the Chair and the audience arose and applauded ...

PRESIDENT RATHBONE: Mr. President and Friends, as I know you all are: I am sure it is only friends who stay until the end of this very hot afternoon to give me this very cordial welcome. I assure you that I do appreciate this honor that you have conferred upon me. No librarian, and especially no woman librarian, can fail to appreciate it, and I feel both proud and humble to be standing in the position that Mrs. Elmendorf, and Miss Plummer, and Miss Tyler, and Miss Eastman have occupied before me. They have set high standards that will be very hard to live up to, but I feel myself very fortunate, if the Presidency of the American Library Association were to come my way, that it has come this particular year.

The American Library Association has been growing very rapidly of late years, as you all know, and that development has not been wholly unaccompanied by growing pains. We have gone through a period of self-examination and

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self-criticism. We have investigated the activities of the American Library Association. We have reëvaluated and redefined its committees. We have given everyone who disagreed with its policies a chance to air their views, and the opportunity was not neglected, and produced a very divergent set of opinions, some constructive ideas, and at least gave the rank and file a chance to get into touch directly with the organization such as it has not had since the good old days of small membership and free and active discussion.

Then, too, we have gone through this past year a period of financial strain and stress and anxiety, now happily relieved, as you have just been told, thanks to the wisely directed efforts of the officers, the Committees of Membership, the headquarters staff, and to the generous support of the entire membership, so that I feel now we are free to step forward, to come forward, to meet the problems and demands of that new world and to go with those creative forces making for a fairer world, social, economic, and esthetic forces in which I was glad to hear Mr. Chase did not wholly disbelieve, I think, that are ready to go forward with them confident of having a great part to play and assured of our will and ability to play that part gratefully. (Applause)

PAST PRESIDENT STROHM: Well, here's to happy days, all! We are adjourned.

... The final session of the Fifty-Third

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Annual Meeting of the American Library Association adjourned at three forty-five o'clock ...

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