

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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92nd Annual Conference American Library Association Las Vegas June 24 - 30, 1973 Convention Center Tel: 734-6843 and 6844

For release: Friday, June 29, 1973

Jesse H. Shera, Dean and Professor Emeritus at the School of Library Science, at Case Western Reserve University, has been given the 1973 Joseph W. Lippincott Award for distinguished service to the library profession. It was presented at the final general session of the American Library Association's 1973 Annual Conference in Las Vegas.

The citation reads:

Jesse H. Shera has served the library community indefatigably since his days as a graduate student in the GLS under Louis Round Wilson and Pierce Butler. He has inspired and led professional activities at the local, state, national, and international levels, and he has labored assiduously and spoken eloquently for librarianship on four continents.

A bibliography of Dr. Shera's published writings during the two score years between 1931 and 1972 totals 372 items, and his book Foundations of Education for Librarianship, published in the latter year, constitutes a fitting capstone to his monumental scholarship. Dr. Shera has been in the vanguard of library leadership throughout his long and fruitful career. He has served effectively as practitioner, as teacher, as scholar, as education administrator, as documentalist, and as bibliothecal philosopher-at-large.

Librarianship owes a great debt to Jesse Shera, and in token recognition of that debt it tenders to him the Joseph W. Lippincott Award for 1973.

Dr. Shera was born in Oxford, Ohio, and earned his A. B. degree with honors in English from Miami University; and an M.A. degree from Yale University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.

2. Joseph W. Lippincott Award

In September, 1940, he became chief of the Census-Library Project at the Library of Congress to develop the collection in population and demography at the library. He was appointed deputy chief of the Central Information Division of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) in 1941, and in the winter of 1944, resigned to become Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago. In 1947, he joined the faculty of the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago, where he remained until 1952, when he was appointed dean of the School of Library Science at Western Reserve University, now Case Western Reserve University, a position which he held until September 1970. In September of that year, he was granted a leave to become visiting professor of the Graduate Library School of the University of Texas, at Austin. In June 1971 he returned to Case Western Reserve as a professor, and in June 1972 was made Dean and Professor Emeritus of that University. During the summer of 1945, he was a visiting professor at the library school of the University of Minnesota.

At the present time he is engaged in lecturing and writing. His <u>Foundations</u>

Of Education for Librarianship, a study done under a grant from the Carnegie

Corporation of New York, has just been published by John Wiley and he is now at work on a collection of his essays to be published by Libraries Unlimited of Littleton,

Colorado.

He has served as president of the Ohio Library Association, the Chicago Library Club, Beta Phi Mu, the Association of American Library Schools and the Information Science and Automation Division of ALA.

He has received ALA's Melvil Dewey Medal, the Librarian of the Year Award from the Ohio Library Association, the Ohioana Award from the Ohioanna Foundation, and the distinguished Achievement Award from Drexel University. He has also served on the President's Committee for Employment of the Handicapped.