

VERTICAL FILE

A. L. A. Conference

1883

LIBRARY OF THE  
AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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1883



Souvenir of  
A. L. A. CONFERENCE  
at Buffalo, N. Y.  
August 14-17, 1883.

The first Conference at which the idea of  
a School of Library Economy was proposed  
and discussed.

From Library Journal files of thirty years  
ago, and other sources.

Compiled by  
Mrs. Henry J. Carr.



August 16, 1883.

Mr. Dewey read an outline of a plan in regard to a proposed "School of Library Economy" to be established at Columbia College, and gave good reasons for the necessity of trained librarians.

The instruction proposed was as follows:

1 Practical Bibliography: To teach what author and treatise is wanted.

2 Book: To teach what edition is best to buy or borrow, whenever there is a choice of editions.

3 Reading: To teach how to get from the book what is wanted, and no more, most quickly and easily.

4 "Literary Methods" (for want of a better name): To teach how to remember, record, classify, arrange, index, and in every way make most available for future use, what has been gotten from the books.

In the discussion that followed, Messrs. Smith, Mann, Cutter, Merrill, Carr, Green, and Crunden, spoke in favor.

Messrs. Poole, Chamberlain, and Billings, emphatically against.

Dr. Billings offered a motion for the appointment of a "Committee to draft a resolution expressing the feelings of the Association in regard to the proposed school for librarians at Columbia College".

President Winsor appointed Messrs. Cutter, Chamberlain, Mann, Carr, and Merrill.

August 17, 1883.

That Committee reported as follows:

Resolved,—That this Association desires to express its gratification that the trustees of Columbia College are considering the propriety of giving instruction in library work, and hopes that the experiment may be tried.

Signed by Cutter, Mann, Carr, Merrill.

Minority report by Judge Chamberlain:

Resolved,—That this matter be referred to a committee to report more definitely at the next meeting of the Association.

Majority report adopted.

On motion of Mr. Bowker, seconded by Mr. Dewey, the president was directed to appoint a committee to take into consideration during the year all projects and schemes for the education of librarians, and to report in detail at our next meeting.

#### Speakers on Program at Buffalo Conference:

President Winsor, S. B. Noyes, James L. Whitney, W: F: Poole, Dr. J: S. Billings, John Edmands, H: A. Homes, C: A. Cutter, Mellen Chamberlain, Miss Mary A. Bean, Miss Theresa H. West, S: S. Green, W: E. Foster, Guy A. Brown, R. R. Bowker, John Edmands.

# List of Persons Present, 1883:

\*Have been A. L. A. Presidents.

A. L. A. accession number immediately after each name.

Harriet A. Adams, 256; d. March 20, 1901.  
 Jessie Allan, 534; d. Sep. 12, 1895.  
 James Bain, Jr., 462; d. May 22, 1908.  
 E. M. Barton, 33; Worcester.  
 Emma J. Bean, 288; Brookline.  
 Mary A. Bean, 87; d. Sep. 4, 1893.  
 I. L. Beardsley, 386; d. Nov. 2, 1901.  
 Daniel Beckwith, 139; Providence.  
 \*Dr. J. S. Billings, 404; d. March 11, 1913.  
 W. S. Biscoe, 80; Albany.  
 Guy A. Brown, d. Oct. 27, 1889.  
 Martha A. Bullard, 56; Auburn.  
 R. R. Bowker, 52; New York.  
 \*Henry J. Carr, 215; Scranton.  
 Mellen Chamberlain, 335; d. June 25, 1900.  
 F. W. Christern, 86; d. April 24, 1891.  
 Emily A. Clark, dead.  
 Emery Cleaves, 352; d. Dec. 30, 1900.  
 \*F: M. Crunden, 129; d. Oct. 28, 1911.  
 \*C: A. Cutter, 20; d. Sept. 8, 1903.  
 \*Melvil Dewey, 1; Lake Placid Club.  
 Mrs. Melvil Dewey, 29; Lake Placid Club.  
 Sarah F. Earle, 291;  
 John Edmands, 13; Philadelphia.  
 \*W: I. Fletcher, 184; Amherst.  
 W: E. Foster, 22; Providence.

\*Samuel Swett Green, 30; Worcester.  
 Reuben A. Guild, 138; d. May 13, 1899.  
 John Hallam, dead.  
 Mary C. Harbaugh, 49; Los Angeles.  
 G: W: Harris, 399; Ithaca.  
 \*Frank P. Hill, 459; Brooklyn.  
 W. J. Hills, 460; Bridgeport.  
 H: A. Homes, 84; d. Nov. 3, 1887.  
 W. Hutchinson.  
 William Ives, 189; Buffalo.  
 Frederick Jackson, 23; d. Oct. 11, 1886.  
 H. J. Keeling.  
 A. G. Kimberley, 456;  
 \*J. N. Larned, 51; Buffalo.  
 K. A. Linderfelt, 398; d. March 18, 1900.  
 G: T. Little, 467; Brunswick.  
 B. Pickman Mann, 200; Washington.  
 Grace Mason.  
 Chester W. Merrill, 401; Cincinnati.  
 Louise Moore, Buffalo.  
 Ezekiel W. Mundy, 1243; Syracuse.  
 C: Alex. Nelson, 83; New York.  
 Dr. E. J. Nolan, 6; Philadelphia.  
 A. L. Peck, 466; d. Oct. 9, 1911.  
 Rev. Bradford K. Pierce, 44; d. April 19, 1889.  
 W: T. Peoples, 3; New York.  
 \*W: F: Poole, 45; d. March 1, 1894.  
 Mrs. W: F: Poole, 640; d. Jan. 19, 1904.  
 Mary Poole.  
 \*E. C. Richardson, 395; Princeton.  
 N. S. Rosenau, dead.



Mary E. Sargent, 260; d. Dec. 20, 1909.  
J: C. Sickley, 468; Poughkeepsie.  
Medora J. Simpson, 396; Chelsea.  
Eva Smith.  
Lloyd P. Smith, 188; d. July 2, 1886.  
Mrs. Lloyd P. Smith.  
Fred J. Soldan, 412; d. Nov. 5, 1891.  
C: C. Soule, 216; d. Jan. 7, 1913.  
Lucy Stevens, 16; d. 1911.  
G. N. Stowits, dead.  
Edith Wallbridge, 448; (Mrs. Carr) Scranton.  
James W. Ward, 14; d. June 28, 1897.  
\*Theresa H. West, 417; (Mrs. Elmendorf) Buffalo.  
James L. Whitney, 59; d. Sep. 25, 1910.  
\*Justin Winsor, 46; d. Oct. 22, 1897.  
R. C. Woodward, 414; d. July 24, 1896.

### May 5, 1884.

Trustees of Columbia College passed resolutions establishing Columbia College School of Library Economy.

The school opened at Columbia Jan. 5, 1887, and had forty-four students during its connection with that college.

Of the eleven graduated in 1888, seven are members of the A. L. A.:

G: Watson Cole, 500; Annie B. Jackson, 787; Ada Alice Jones, 770; Frank C. Patten, 543; Mary W. Plummer, 602; May Seymour, 777; and Florence Woodworth, 783.

And of the thirteen graduated in 1889, eight are on the membership list:

Elizabeth G. Baldwin, 828; Nina E. Browne, 716; Edith E. Clarke, 711; Mary Medlicott, 780; Harriet B. Prescott, 733; Caroline M. Underhill, 712. Ama H. Ward, 1277; George E. Wire, 608.

April 1, 1889, school transferred to Albany and made state school under name New York state library school.

May 8, 1889, Library school committee made standing committee of A. L. A.







