



## AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

50 East Huron Street  
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From: Peggy Barber, Director  
Public Information Office

For release: July 12, 1974

93rd Annual Conference  
American Library Association  
New York City  
July 7 - 13, 1974

Press Room: Hilton Hotel  
3rd Floor Promenade  
Telephone: AC212-765-9302 and 03

Robert B. Downs, Dean of Library Administration at the University of Illinois, at the time of his retirement in 1971, was awarded the 1974 Melvil Dewey Award for creative professional achievement of a high order, at the final General Session of the American Library Association's Annual Conference in New York City, the week of July 7 - 13, 1974.

Mr. Downs was born in the Blue Ridge Mountains region of North Carolina and attended a one-room school through the elementary grades. While working as a student assistant in University Library at the University of North Carolina, he decided to make a lifetime career of librarianship. For professional training he entered Columbia University Library School where he obtained two degrees. He was Director of Libraries at New York University; and also served as Librarian at the University of North Carolina and as Director of Libraries and as Director of Libraries and the Library School at the University of Illinois. He has had a number of foreign assignments, including serving as Special Consultant to Tokyo, Japan; and organizing a new library school at the University of Ankara, Turkey. Other professional activities include president of the Association of College and Research Libraries, ALA; president of the Illinois Library Association; and president of the American Library Association. Among his publications are Books That Changed America; Bibliography: Current State

# NEWS

## AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

40 East Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
Telephone: (312) 831-4100

### and Future Trends; and Molders of the Mind.

From: Peggy Barber, Director  
Public Information Office

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For release: July 12, 1974

53rd Annual Conference  
American Library Association  
New York City  
July 7 - 13, 1974

Press Room: Hilton Hotel  
3rd Floor - mezzanine  
Telephone: AC212-765-9302 and 03

Robert B. Doms, Dean of Library Administration at the University of Illinois, at the time of his retirement in 1971, was awarded the 1974 Melvil Dewey Award for creative professional achievement of a high order, at the final General Session of the American Library Association's Annual Conference in New York City, the week of July 7 - 13, 1974.

Mr. Doms was born in the Blue Ridge Mountains region of North Carolina and attended a one-room school through the elementary grades. While working as a student assistant in university library at the University of North Carolina, he decided to make a lifetime career of librarianship. For professional training he entered Columbia University Library School where he obtained two degrees. He was Director of Libraries at New York University; and also served as Librarian at the University of North Carolina and as Director of Libraries and as Director of Libraries and the Library School at the University of Illinois. He has had a number of foreign assignments, including serving as Special Consultant to Tokyo, Japan; and organizing a new library school at the University of Ankara, Turkey. Other professional activities include president of the Association of College and Research Libraries, ACRL; president of the Illinois Library Association; and president of the American Library Association. Among his publications are Books That Changed America; Bibliography; Current State