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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY SCHOOL

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS LETTER

#1

April 10, 1923

Dear friends:

Only a comparatively few days and again some of us will be gathering at Hot Springs, Arkansas. Thursday evening, April 26, is the time scheduled on the A. L. A. program for the Library School reunions. Last year at Detroit there were one hundred twenty-six of us Illinoisans at the banquet which was followed by the business meeting. Those of us who were privileged to be there felt a renewed interest in our Alma Mater and the bond of fellowship was strengthened. As the roll was called by classes it was indeed interesting to see who and how many would respond. Almost without exception each class was represented. I believe it was one of the largest reunions we have ever had.

There are between seven and eight hundred of us who have gone out from Illinois either with a library degree or with some library school training. May we not have a larger attendance at our reunion this year than ever before? If any of you have any suggestions of anything that we can do for our Alma Mater bring them.

Last year some one suggested that it would be a good idea to have an Illinois Library School song. Won't some of you set your wits to working and compose some verses set to a familiar and popular air which we can use at our meetings? Possibly some of the students now in the library school may have an inspiration. It seems to me a song suitable for use either in the library school club meetings or at our reunions would have its influence in deepening our loyalty to our school. I have been told that Miss Ethel Bond of the faculty is planning to be at A. L. A. Send your songs to her either at the University of Illinois before April 21, 1923, or Hot Springs, Arkansas, care of the Eastman Hotel, before April 26th. I hope we may have several songs submitted.

All of you who are at Hot Springs, watch the bulletin board at the A. L. A. headquarters in the Eastman Hotel for further announcements. Come prepared to give as well as receive inspiration. To those of you who cannot be with us, we shall be sorry that you cannot and we would gladly welcome any message from you.

Very sincerely yours,

Kansas State Agricultural College
Manhattan, Kansas

GRACE E. DERBY
President

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS, 1922-1923

President.....	GRACE DERBY, Kansas State Agricultural College Library Manhattan, Kansas	
1st Vice President.....		MRS. ERNEST REECE White Plains, New York
2d Vice President.....	MARGUERITE MITCHELL, Wilmington College Library Wilmington, Ohio	
Secretary-Treasurer.....	JOSIE B. HOUCHENS, University of Illinois Library Urbana, Illinois	

FINANCIAL REPORT, 1922-23

1 April, 1293

Balance brought forward.....	\$578.72	Receipts.....	\$756.68
138 membership dues.....	138.00	Expenditures.....	8.00
1 member dues 5 years.....	5.00		
Interest.....	20.59	<i>Balance</i>	\$748.68
From Sharp Memorial Fund.....	14.27	Loan to student.....	300.00
	\$756.68	TOTAL ASSETS	\$1048.68
TOTAL			

The attention of the alumni is called to the fact that out of a possible 400 engaged in active library work only 139 are members of the Association and it is urged that each member appoint herself a committee of one to secure new members.

If it is the intention of the Association to establish a Scholarship some steps must be taken to increase the fund more rapidly. A membership drive would be one way of accomplishing this purpose without hardship to anyone. Another way would be to establish a *Life Membership*. This membership could be for \$25.00 or \$50 payable in five years. It is possible that many members would like to be relieved of the task of paying yearly dues and be glad to make this contribution to a definite Scholarship Fund, only the interest on which would be used.

The fact that this School is on a graduate basis rather increases the need for scholarships, for we must compete with other departments that have scholarships at their disposal and it is possible that a very promising student considering a Library course would finally decide on some other department because of the offer of a scholarship.

That there is a real need for such a Scholarship has been shown by the continuous use of most of the available money in Loans. Six students have borrowed sums ranging from \$100.00 to \$400.00 and the money has always been repaid promptly. It may be of interest to know that the recipients of these Loans are all engaged in unusually successful Library work.

Miss Simpson has a number of copies of the reproduction of the Katharine L. Sharp memorial tablet which she will be glad to send to any former students or graduates of the School who will write for them. A copy was sent last year to every subscriber to the Fund, so far as addresses were available. If anyone has failed to receive a copy kindly inform Miss Simpson at the Library School Office.

JOSIE B. HOUCHENS

Secretary-Treasurer

NEW LIBRARY BUILDING

At last the Library building has reached the first place in the proposed building program of the University and it is hoped that the Legislature will grant enough money to build the first unit. The Board of Trustees has asked for \$750,000 for this purpose. Holabird and Roche in Chicago are working on plans. The building will be located on the South Campus across from the old Horticultural grounds and will be Georgian in architecture to conform with the general plan for the South Campus.

President Kinley is urging this and other items in the appropriation bill with great force and any former student living in Illinois can help by saying a good word for the University to members of the Legislature and the Governor.

LIBRARY SCHOOL NOTES

The number of students who have enrolled this year is 49, four of whom are men, which is a rather smaller proportion than usual. We must, however, add to this number the students who enroll in the eight weeks' Summer Session courses, for the entrance requirements and the individual courses are the same as for the regular session. Last summer there were 24 of these students representing a wide geographical distribution. Some of them were holding positions and had obtained leave to take the work, others were just from college. This course was begun in 1919 and several students have attended two sessions, while others have returned and entered the regular Session in order to finish their course.

During the month of February the Seniors who had not already completed their month of field work were assigned to the following libraries: Ethel K. Millar, Evanston Public Library; Laura A. Peck, University of Chicago Library; Jessie A. Reid, Newberry Library, Chicago; Gertrude Wulfekoetter, Indianapolis Public Library. Several of the seniors who are working on the staff had the opportunity of doing their field work during the past summer.

The School made its biennial visit to Chicago the week of April 2-7. The party was in charge of Miss Anne M. Boyd and Mr. J. S. Cleavinger, and made inspection visits to libraries, bookstores, binderies, and printing establishments.

The social activities of the students in the Library School may seem to be fewer than with some of the Schools situated in a different environment, but the University offers such a variety of social life and so many opportunities for attending interesting lectures or dramatic performances that the average hard working "Lib" has to make a choice of what to attend. However, in addition, the Library Club has put on several most delightful programs featuring plays given by the junior and senior classes, and there have been a number of less formal entertainments.

There have been no changes in the Faculty this year and all the courses announced in the circular have been given. The following members of the Staff have also given courses: Miss Willia K. Garver, '03, Order Librarian, Advanced order work; Miss Alice S. Johnson, '07, Reference Librarian, State, City, and Foreign Government documents; Miss Josie B. Houchens, '05, Binding Librarian, Binding and Mending; Miss Ruth E. Sankee, '21, University High School Librarian, High School Library Administration; and Miss Elisabeth Knapp of the Detroit Public Library will give the course in Children's work during April.

The School has been fortunate in having the following visiting lecturers during the year: Prof. A. S. Root, Oberlin College; Mr. J. Christian Bay, Medical reference librarian of the John Crerar Library; Mr. George B. Utley, Librarian of the Newberry Library, Chicago, and President of the A. L. A.; Mr. H. H. B. Meyer, Chief Bibliographer of the Library of Congress; Dr. Edwin Wiley, Librarian, Peoria Public Library; and Miss Della Frances Northey, '11, Acting Secretary of the Indiana Public Library Commission.

The Faculty for the Summer School has just been appointed. Mr. J. S. Cleavinger, '10; Miss Jessie B. Weston, '16, of the Milwaukee Public Library; Miss Adah Whitcomb of the Chicago Public Library; and Miss Mary Morrison, '20, of the East Cleveland Public Library, will be the principal instructors. Attention is called to the fact that the School has two entirely separate summer courses; the Six weeks course is open to High School graduates who have a position or who are under definite appointment; no credit is given for this work. In the Eight weeks session courses of the two-year Library School curriculum are offered to college graduates and are accepted for credit towards the B.L.S. degree.

Alumni Record. The School office greatly desires the prompt return of the enclosed blue slip so that the records may be up to date. This information is used

only in tabulations and other impersonal ways. The officials of several National organizations have recently asked for information which can only be supplied from such records.

ALUMNI GOSSIP

Several interesting changes of positions have occurred rather recently. Mary E. Baker, ex '08, has resigned the headship of the Catalog Department at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh to accept the Librarianship at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Miss Baker will be followed in Pittsburgh by Roxana G. Johnson, '09, who has lately completed her work for a M.A. at the University of California, and still more recently has been connected with the State Library at Salem, Oregon. Ola M. Wyeth, '06, now boasts the title of "Chief, Library Sub-Section, Hospital Sub-Division, U. S. Veterans' Bureau." Some title!

If any of you were fortunate enough to attend the Rhode Island State Library meeting, you were no doubt present at the second performance of a real Library play, "Exit Miss Lizzie Cox," by Anne M. Boyd, '18. This was first presented by the Illinois Library School faculty before the Library Club several years ago, and is a most entertaining take-off on books and readers.

F. K. W. Drury, '05, recently published in the Brown University Daily Herald a new bibliographical game. He has arranged a number of the more standard novels into three teams, All-American, All-British, and All-Continental; these teams play on the field of the Appreciation of literature. The opponents are the prevalent forms of distractions and counter attractions such as poor Books, trashy Magazines, Movies, Joy-riding, and Idleness. The offensive is to make headway against these; the defense is to resist their onslaughts and hold them back from the goal line. It is a very interesting and entertaining game and capable of much variety.

Once in a while a Library student seeks a new form of summer recreation and Isabella H. Smith, '24, is going to try her luck selling books in Colorado. She gives as an excuse that it is a reference book and that by "getting a book across" she is living up to her library ideals.

"Read 'em and dry your eyes," says Arthur R. Curry, '21, of his Reference room rules published in the University of Oklahoma magazine. The following are a few extracts that will be appreciated by many long suffering reference librarians:

1. "The books in the reference rooms of the Library are not worth much as a rule; otherwise they wouldn't be there. So treat 'em rough. Jam them into the standards and ends of the book shelves so that the leaves are all crumpled up; this is one of the best ways known of doing them permanent damage.

2. This is your library (remember that) bought and paid for by your father's taxes; use it accordingly. If you see anything you want in a book or magazine copy it. It may not be worth anything to anybody else, you know. If you take one volume of a set, especially the index volume, please take the whole set (if it isn't too heavy); that will save us embarrassing apologies for the missing volume.

3. Talk as loud as you like in the halls, in the reading rooms, and outside under the windows. It does not bother anyone."

Library School dinner and meeting. The annual reunion will be held at the Conference Hotel the evening of April 26th. J. S. Cleavinger, '10, and Miss Jim P. Mathews will have charge of the dinner.