

A Library Hall of Fame

FOR THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, in this issue, is taking a backward look over the past 75 years of library history as a prelude to joining in the American Library Association's Anniversary emphasis on "The Heritage of the U. S. A. in Times of Crisis."

Seventy-five years is not a long span. At the great 50th Anniversary Convention in Philadelphia, two of A.L.A.'s founders, Mr. Dewey and Mr. Bowker, were the speakers. As with all chronicles, whether of nations or of groups, the values are best appreciated by recalling the individuals who gave direction and color to the record.

To bring the names of the leaders forward as pleasant memories to many, and as inspiration to the leaders of the next quarter century, LIBRARY JOURNAL has ventured to make a list of the names of outstanding librarians of the past with a brief paragraph placing these men and women in the library world while suggesting the character of their special contributions.

That this list of names should be as nearly acceptable to all as possible, the

JOURNAL, after canvassing past library records, made a tentative list. This tentative list was sent to 20 librarians known to be familiar with and interested in library history. These 20 were asked to cross off and add to the list. These replies, with their very helpful comments, provided a vote by which to decide on the inclusions.

As further aid to the right listings, the A.L.A., at Midwinter meetings, asked its History Round Table to represent them, and Wayne Shirley, dean of the library school at Pratt Institute accepted the responsibility.

It had been agreed that this present list should not include the living, however obvious and significant had been their contribution. The list, with such additions, would promptly be doubled.

It was further understood that only librarians should be included, though the publishers of LIBRARY JOURNAL have not failed to be pleased that there have been so many suggestions that the name of R. R. Bowker belonged on any such list.

40 LEADERS OF THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT

Ahern, Mary Eileen 1865?-1938

Founder of *Public Libraries* (later *Libraries*) 1895-1931, edited especially to meet the needs of library workers in the Middle-West. Effective friend of new libraries and young librarians.

Indiana State Library, 1893-95; organizer and secretary, Indiana Library Association, 1889-96; Library Bureau as editor.

Anderson, Edwin H. 1861-1947

Developed the personnel of The New York Public Library to notable level. Directed growth of the Reference and Circulation Divisions of the library and introduced new services: readers advisory, theater, photostat, municipal reference library, traveling book wagons.

Organizer-director, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, 1895-1904; established a school for children's librarians. Director, The New York State Library and Library School in succession to Melvil Dewey, 1906-08; assistant director and director, The New York Public Library, 1909-34. President, A.L.A., 1913-14.

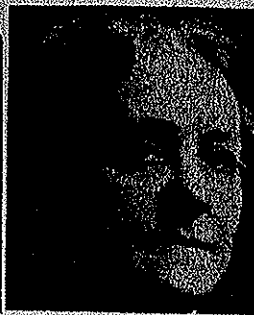
Askew, Sarah B. 1863-1942

Organized the New Jersey Public Library Commission, established libraries in small communities. Pioneered for county libraries. Developed interlibrary loans. Her personality made deep impression on public audiences everywhere.

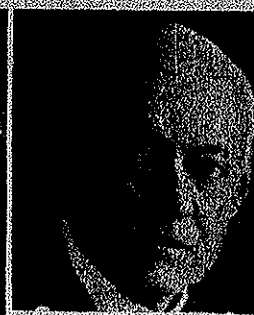
Assistant, Cleveland Public Library, 1903; organizer, librarian, secretary, New Jersey Pub-



Dana



Plummer



Bostwick



Larned

lic Library Commission, 1905-42. Library war service under A.L.A., 1917-19.

Billings, John Shaw 1839-1913

Army surgeon who turned to librarianship; the first director of the consolidated New York Public Library. Obtained Carnegie interest to establish its great system of branch libraries. Planned the central building with its reference collections.

Librarian, Surgeon-General's Office. Editor, *Index Medicus*. First director, The New York Public Library, 1895-1913. Author of numerous books and articles on medicine. President, A.L.A., 1901-02.

Bogle, Sarah C. N. -1932

Developed library work with children at Pittsburgh. Fine efforts to raise the professional standards and guide library schools made her nationally influential. Showed in Paris what an international library school could mean to the profession.

Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, 1911-17; principal, Carnegie Library School, 1911-20; secretary, A.L.A. Board of Education for Librarianship, 1924-32; director, Paris Library School under A.L.A., 1924-29.

Bostwick, Arthur E. 1860-1942

As chief of circulation in New York, made the foreign population feel at home in the library. Introduced children's libraries and cooperation with schools. At the invitation of the Chinese National Association for the Advancement of Education surveyed Chinese libraries. Superb public-relations officer for the library profession.

Editor, 1886-94; librarian, Brooklyn Public Library, 1899-1901; chief, Circulation, New York Public Library, 1901-09; librarian, St. Louis Public Library, 1909-38. Author, *The American Public Library* (1910). President, A.L.A., 1907-08.

Brett, William Howard 1846-1918

His *Cumulative Index* (1896) later became the *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature*, indispensable in reference work today. Elevated Cleveland to a leadership among city libraries. Established the open shelf and a department for the young, with a story-telling hour in 1903. Did conspicuous work at Newport News, Va., under the A.L.A., in World War I.

Bookstore clerk, 1874-84; librarian, Cleveland Public Library, 1884-1918; organizer and dean, Western Reserve University Library School, 1903-18. President, A.L.A., 1896-97.

Crunden, Frederick M. 1847-1911

Advanced libraries as a leading educational agency. Secured passage of Missouri library law, in 1893, divorcing the library from school administration. Particularly interested in the relations of school and libraries and contributed to a closer understanding between the N.E.A. and the A.L.A.

St. Louis Public School and Public Library, 1877-1903. President, A.L.A., 1889-90.

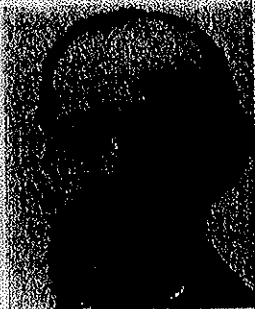
Cutter, Charles A. 1837-1903

A founding member of A.L.A. His pioneering *Rules for a Printed Dictionary Catalogue* (1876) is still in use in American and foreign libraries.

Assistant, Harvard College Library, 1860-68; librarian, Boston Athenaeum, 1869-93; bibliographical editor, *Library Journal*, 1876-81; general editor, 1882-93. President, A.L.A., 1887-89.

Dana, John Cotton 1856-1929

At the Denver Public Library introduced open shelves and department for children. Museum work begun at Springfield expanded in Newark as a Museum of Art, Science and Industry in 1909. Newark business library, housed in a special building in 1927, became the largest library collection on business in the



Cutter



Bogle



Winsor



Hazeltine

country. Excelled as interpreter of the library movement to the world.

Denver Public Library, 1889-97; Springfield (Mass.) City Library, 1898-1902; Newark, 1902-29; director, Newark Museum, 1909-29. Author. President, A.L.A., 1895-96.

Dewey, Melvil 1851-1931

Signed as secretary the call for the 1876 library meeting at Philadelphia and served as secretary for 15 years. First editor of *LIBRARY JOURNAL* (1876); founded the Decimal Classification (1876) and the first library school in the country, at Columbia University (1887); a prime mover in the organization of the New York Library Club (1885), the New York State Library Association (1890) and the American Library Institute (1905). He established the Library Bureau (1882) of which he was president for twenty-five years.

Acting librarian, Amherst College, 1874-76; editor, *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, 1876-81; librarian, Columbia University, 1883-88; director, New York State Library, 1889-1906 and the State library school until 1906; president, A.L.A., 1890-July 1891, 1892-93.

Eames, Wilberforce 1855-1937

Noted bibliographer who specialized in American history and general ethnology. Edited volumes 15-20 of Sabin's *Dictionary of Books Relating to America* (1885-92), continued in 1927-29, and contributed to the Indian bibliographies of the late James C. Pilling.

Lenox librarian, 1892, until its consolidation into The New York Public Library, 1895; librarian, Bibliographical Society of America from its inception to 1909.

Elmendorf, Theresa 1855-1932

Stressed the benefits of public school and public library cooperation. An exceptional knowledge of books and confidence in the value of library service popularized her name and work in the professional world.

Young Men's Association, Milwaukee, assist-

ant librarian and city librarian, 1892-96; vice-librarian, Buffalo Public Library, 1906-26. Editor for selection of A.L.A.'s *Catalogue of Books for Small Libraries* (1904). First woman president, A.L.A., 1911-12.

Evans, Charles 1850-1935

Author of *American Bibliography*, a chronological dictionary of all books, pamphlets and periodical publications printed in United States of America from 1639 to 1820, of which twelve quarto volumes, bringing the record down to 1799, were issued before his death.

Organizer, Indianapolis Public Library, 1872-80, 1889-92; Enoch Pratt Free Library, 1884-87, and other libraries. Classified Newberry Library, Chicago, 1892-95. Associate editor, *Library Journal* in early years. Founding member of A.L.A.

Fairchild, Salome C. 1855-1921

An authority on book selection and evaluation, an inspiring lecturer and a pioneer in work for the blind.

Cataloger, Columbia University, 1884; vice-director, instructor, New York State Library School, 1889-1905; organizer, New York State Library for the Blind, 1899. Author. Vice-president, A.L.A., 1894-95, 1900-01.

Fletcher, William I. 1844-1917

Renowned as indexer, collaborated with William Poole in the enlarged edition of the *Index to Periodical Literature* (1882) and edited *Co-operative Index to Periodicals* (1883), *A.L.A. Index to General Literature* (1893).

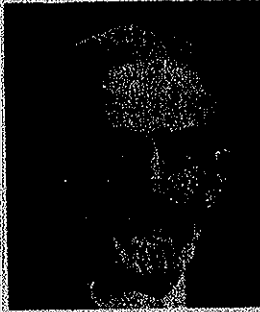
Amherst College, 1883-1911; teacher, library economy, Amherst Summer School, 1891-1905. Author, *Public Libraries in America* (1894). President, A.L.A., 1891-92.

Flexner, Jennie 1882-1944

With rare ability to bring books and people together, did pioneer work as readers' advisor of The New York Public Library. Her studies



Flexner



Fletcher



Spofford



Jewett

for the A.L.A. led to her *Circulation Work in Public Libraries* (1927).

Head, Circulation Department and instructor in the training class; Louisville, Free Public Library. Readers' advisor, the New York Public Library, 1928-44; chairman, Library Committee, Council on Books in Wartime. Author, *Making Books Work* (1943).

Foster, William E. 1851-1930

Influential in moulding course of A.L.A. One of first to develop contacts with schools; establish an art, industrial and foreign department, and a business branch. Originator of modern form of subject departments and compiler of valuable reference lists. Built his library to notable stature during his more than half century administration.

Hyde Park (Mass.) Public Library, 1873-76; Providence Public Library, 1878-1930. A founding member of A.L.A. and its vice-president, 1904-05.

Gillis, James L. 1857-1917

As state librarian of California directed the development of model county library system, 1909. He extended the usefulness of the state library, previously of value only to the legislators, to all parts of the state. The California State Library School was established in 1913 at his suggestion.

Railway and government service; state librarian, 1899-1917.

Green, Samuel Swett 1837-1918

His was the first large New England library to open on Sunday. Encouraged factory workers to visit the library. In 1890 was appointed to new State Library Commission, the first of its kind in America, and served for nineteen years.

Worcester Free Public Library, 1871-1909. Author, *The Public Library Movement in the United States, 1853-1893*, (1913). President, A.L.A., July-Nov. 1891.

Hanson, J. C. M. 1864-1943

Established the I.C. card and was chief compiler of A.L.A. *Cataloging Rules* (1908).

Cataloger, Newberry Library, Chicago, under apprenticeship of Dr. Poole, 1890-93; chief cataloger, University of Wisconsin Library, 1893-97; chief, Catalog Division of Library of Congress, 1897-1910; associate director, University of Chicago Libraries, 1910-27; Graduate School, University of Chicago, 1928-34; lecturer, School of Library Service, Columbia, 1930-34. Participated in reorganization of the Vatican Library.

Hazeltine, Mary E. 1868-1949

Long head of the Wisconsin Library School, she was noted for the independence of thinking and for the competency of her students who have filled important library posts.

Bibliographer-librarian, Prendergast Free Library, Jamestown, N.Y., 1893-1906; organizer-principal, Wisconsin Library School, 1906-38; associate professor of bibliography, 1924-38. Author, *Anniversaries and Holidays* (1928) and other writings.

Hewins, Caroline M. 1846-1926

Crusader for library service to children. Hartford established a children's department in 1904. Pioneer figure in the developing interest in children's work.

Library training at Boston Athenaeum under Dr. Poole; Hartford Library Association, 1875-92; Hartford Public Library, 1892-1926. Author, *Books for the Young* (1882) and others. Vice-president, A.L.A., 1891.

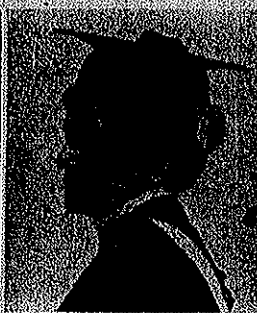
Jennings, Judson T. 1872-1948

In the Pacific Northwest in the early 20th century, he promoted adult education by employing a skilled staff which had had its training in all parts of the country. Liberal state aid largely due to his efforts. At the New York State Library gave young men the feeling that librarianship was not exclusively a woman's job.

New York State Library, 1889-1903, 1906-



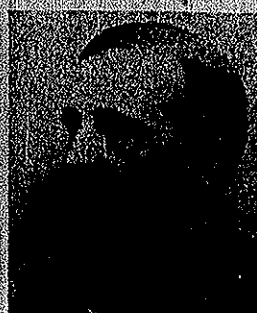
Utley



Hewins



Billings



Poole

07; Carnegie Free Library, Duquesne, Pa., 1903-06; Seattle Public Library, 1907-42. Organizer, camp library service at home and in Germany, World War I. President, A.L.A., 1923-24.

Jewett, Charles C. 1816-1868

Presided at the 1853 conference of librarians in New York. His *Notices of Public Libraries in the United States of America* (1851) was the first extended collection of statistics and facts on American libraries. Inaugurated in Boston easy access to the library's books, then unusual. Catalogs prepared under his direction at Brown, Smithsonian and Boston Public met with praise at home and abroad.

Brown University, 1841-43; professor of Modern Languages and Literature at Brown, 1843-48; Smithsonian Institution, 1848-58; first librarian, Boston Public Library, 1858-68.

Kroeger, Alice B. -1909

Administrator who exerted wide influence to give the library profession greater distinction. Author of *Guide to the Study and Use of Reference Books* (1902) and *Aids in Book Selection* (1908).

Librarian, Drexel Institute, and director of its library school from its establishment, 1892.

Lane, William C. 1859-1931

While president of the A.L.A., 1893-99, instrumental in securing President McKinley's approval of the appointment of Herbert Putnam as Librarian of Congress. First chairman of A.L.A. Publishing Board where he organized its publishing activities and developed *Portrait Index*.

Assistant librarian, Harvard College, 1887-93; librarian, in succession to Justin Winsor, 1898-1928; Boston Athenaeum, 1893-98.

Larned, Josephus N. 1836-1913

His was the first library to be completely classified under the Dewey Decimal system.

Planned and established one of the first children's rooms in the country, started a school room in the library and an open-shelf room.

Editorial staff, *Buffalo Express*, 1859-72; superintendent, Buffalo Young Men's Association, reorganized by him into the Buffalo Library. Historian, also editor, *History for Ready Reference* (7 vols., 1895-1910). President, A.L.A., 1893-94.

Locke, George H. 1870-1937

Leader in Canadian public library developments. Personified a coordinated relationship between the libraries of Canada and the United States. Participated in the development of the A.L.A.

Teacher of history, education, philosophy, universities of Chicago, Harvard, McGill, 1893-1908; chief librarian, City of Toronto, Canada, 1908-37. Author. President, A.L.A., 1926-27.

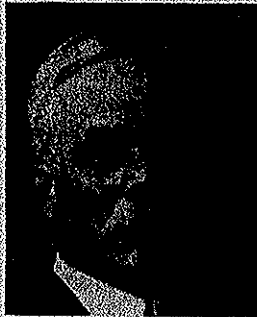
Martel, Charles 1860-1945

His L.C. classification schedules and cataloging records have been adopted by the nation's libraries

Newberry Library, Chicago, under apprenticeship of Dr. Poole, 1892-97; chief classifier, Library of Congress, 1897-1912; chief, Cataloging Division, 1912-30; consultant in cataloging, classification and bibliography, Library of Congress, 1930-45; member of commission that planned the modern Vatican Library catalog, 1926.

Plummer, Mary W. 1856-1916

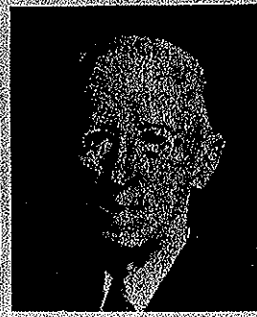
Fostered special training for work for children. As delegate to the International Congress of Libraries at Paris, 1900, aroused much interest in libraries in field of education. Included a children's room, the first of its kind in the planning of Pratt's new building, 1896, and art-reference collection for general use. Her warm personality was an inspiration to her students. Graduate of the first class of the library school, at Columbia, 1888.



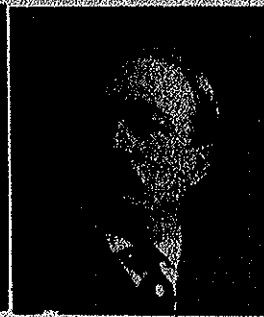
Brett



Aherb



Eames



Gills

Cataloger, St. Louis Public Library, 1888-90; assistant director, Pratt Institute Free Library, 1890-94; director, 1896-1904; Library School, 1896-1911; organizer, Library School, The New York Public Library, 1911. Author. President, A.L.A., 1915-16.

Poole, William F. 1821-1894

As librarian of Brothers in Unity at Yale, he maintained on slips an index to material in books and magazines useful to students, the forerunner of his indispensable *Index to Periodical Literature*. Contributions to the theory and principles of library administration still an important part of modern practice. Trained in the front rank of librarianship.

Boston Athenaeum, 1856-69; Cincinnati Public Library, 1869-73; Chicago Public Library, 1873-87; Newberry Library, 1887-94. Associate editor, *Library Journal*. Author. President, A.L.A., 1885-87.

Rathbone, Josephine 1864-1941

Outstanding teacher who developed her school along the lines of current social and intellectual requirements and taught her students professional integrity and practical vision.

Chief instructor, Pratt Institute School of Library Science, 1895-1911; vice-director, 1911-38. Author. President, A.L.A., 1931-32.

Richardson, Ernest C. 1860-1939

Bibliographer who wrote ably on many library subjects.

First assistant librarian, Amherst College, 1879-80; librarian, Hartford Theological Seminary, 1884-90; Princeton University, 1890-1920; director, 1920-23; research professor of bibliography, 1923-25; consultant in bibliography and research, Library of Congress, 1925-39. President, A.L.A., 1904-05.

Spofford, Ainsworth 1825-1908

Industry, an extraordinary memory and a great success in his book purchases on a very

limited appropriation of not more than \$10,000 a year enabled him to increase the collections he administered at the Library of Congress from 60,000 items in 1861 to more than a million in 1897 and to lay the foundations for the great national library he insisted the L.C. should be. The new building, completed in 1897, was the result of twenty years of his striving for this recognition by Congress.

Associate editor, *Cincinnati Commercial*, 1861; chief assistant to Dr. John Stephenson, Librarian of Congress; Librarian of Congress, 1864-97. Founded European agency for collection of government documents for L.C. Author.

Stearns, Lutie E. 1866-1943

A field worker for libraries of extraordinary devotion and effectiveness. Responsible for establishing traveling libraries in Wisconsin and for advancing library work with children.

Head, Circulation Department, Milwaukee Public Library, 1890-97; Wisconsin Free Library Commission, 1897-1914; lecturer on libraries in library schools throughout the country. Author, *Essentials in Library Administration* (1922).

Thwaites, Reuben G. 1853-1913

As secretary of the Wisconsin Historical Society, he expanded its serviceability by building up its manuscript collection and making it available to the scholars of the University of Wisconsin. His *Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents* (73 vols., 1896-1901) with its fine annotations and translations established his reputation as one of the best historical editors of his day.

Managing editor, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 1876-86; superintendent-secretary, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1887-1913. President, A.L.A., 1899-1900.

Tyler, Alice S. 1859-1944

Pioneered in state library expansion as secretary of the Iowa State Library Commission.

Library school director of exceptional influence. Catalog librarian, Cleveland Public Library, 1895-1900; secretary, Iowa State Library Commission, 1900-13; dean, School of Library Science, Western Reserve University, 1913-29; President, A.L.A., 1920-21.

Utley, George B. 1876-1946

Laid the foundations for centralizing library organization by setting up an A.L.A. central headquarters, in Chicago. Did noteworthy work in supplying reading material to the military and naval forces during World War I.

Assistant librarian, Watkinson Library, Hartford, Conn., 1899-1901; librarian, Jacksonville, Fla., 1905-11; secretary, A.L.A., 1911-20; executive secretary, A.L.A. Library War Service,

1917-19; librarian, Newberry Library, 1920-42; President, A.L.A., 1922-23.

Winsor, Justin 1831-1897

While remembered chiefly as a historian, his bibliographic output on literary and historical subjects was prolific, and his annual reports and notes in the bulletins and catalogs of the Boston Public Library led the way to a new era in library practice. By keeping pace with the new methods of instruction then being introduced at Harvard, increased the usefulness of the university library.

Boston Public Library, 1868-77; Harvard University, 1877-97; associate editor, LIBRARY JOURNAL, in early years. President, A.L.A., 1876-85; July-October, 1897.

The A.L.A. Comes Into Being

AMERICAN LIBRARIES had seen many years of development by 1876, and once before, in September, 1853, in New York, a representative group had been brought together, eighty-two delegates from a dozen states. Oddly enough the call for this convention had been issued by a bookseller and publisher, Charles B. Norton. It was presided over by Charles C. Jewett of the Smithsonian, and among the delegates were William F. Poole, whose first issue of an "Index to Periodicals" was issued that year, and Daniel C. Gilman, then assistant librarian at Yale. There were three days of learned papers and earnest discussions, and a committee of five was appointed to draft a proposal for a national association that was to meet at the committee's call at Washington. No report from this committee was made and no second conference called. Soon the panic of 1857 gave pause to library budgets and then came the Civil War to absorb the country's attention.

When the Bureau of Education printed its report on public libraries in 1876, it stated that 20 libraries had been formed from 1775 to 1800, 179 from 1800 to 1825, 551 from 1825 to 1850, and 2240 from 1850 to 1875.

Distinguished new leaders in the profession began to appear after the Civil War in the general educational renaissance of the country, but it remained for a young man just out of college to see the possibility of a new conference and a national association.

Melvil Dewey came down from Boston in May of 1876 to confer with Frederick Leyboldt at the *Publishers' Weekly* where ideas of library programs were also developing. The

committee which Mr. Dewey's energy and enthusiasm persuaded to sign the call for a conference was Justin Winsor, head of the Boston Public Library; William F. Poole, Chicago Public Library; and Lloyd P. Smith of the Philadelphia Library Company.

The natural place for the conference was Philadelphia whose Centennial Exhibition had made the city host for numerous gatherings. The place for the meeting was the hall of the Pennsylvania Historical Society. Approximately 100 attended, about 30 from public libraries and 13 were women. Justin Winsor presided; Melvil Dewey was the natural choice for secretary. Of the invitations sent abroad, there was only one acceptance, James Yates of Leeds, England, and he was made a vice president, but the next year after the new Association had met in New York, 12 Americans sailed to England to be present at the organization of the Library Association of the United Kingdom.

The historic Philadelphia conference was in session for three days, October 4, 5, and 6, and on the third day the following resolution was adopted: "For the purpose of promoting the library interests of the country, and of increasing reciprocity of intelligence and good will among librarians and all interested in library economy and bibliographical studies, the undersigned form themselves into a body to be known as 'The American Library Association.'" It was also at this time that the body adopted Dewey's thrifty motto: "The best reading for the greatest number at the least cost."