



Gratia A. Countryman and Family Papers.

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MRS. THOMAS BROWNFIELD JENNINGS
524 PORTLAND AVENUE
SAINT PAUL, MINN.

Dec. 6. 1936

Dear Miss Countryman:

Your recent letter in answer to mine was both a touching and a challenging message. I deeply appreciate the heartache that must be yours at the thought of leaving your staff. It is your creation; they are your children. Your comfort must be that what you have created will endure, and that your children are still yours even tho' you are separated — an experience that every mother knows and every builder of dreams into reality must suffer —

And the work one leaves unfinished! — the dreams that have never become reality. They are the cause of poignant regrets!

Please don't feel that you must answer this. It is written from my own heart. Sincerely yours June 5. 1915

Perhaps the only solace there ^{is} that no one can ever realize all the dreams, and that these cherished plans may bear fruit in some other form.

So long as one is active and eager and alert and vitally interested as you are in your work there will always be unfulfilled plans to regret. Alas for our human limitations!

And then you turn with such courage to face the future! You and Miss Baldwin and Miss Wood have met the unkind blows of fate with a bravery of the spirit that seems to me far higher than mere physical courage. We realize from our own experience that you have had bitter hours and that lonely days are ahead. But your realization of a splendid work well done will be your inspiration; and then the knowledge of how many are missing you.

that will greet you at
the dinner.

They will all talk about
the wonderful work that
you have done so very
efficiently - but I would
rather tell you that I
love you because in spite
of all the busy-ness of
your life and in spite of
its organized efficiency

Escondale B.C.
Dec., 6th 1936

My dear Mrs Countryman
Having heard from
Katie that Minneapolis
is honoring you on the
16th I am writing this
line to add my very
humble felicitations to all
the distinguished ones

you have managed to remain
utterly lovable and that is
so rare.

I will be writing to you
all again before Christmas
so in the meantime accept
my best wishes and be
assured that I am more
than cognizant of just
what the Library is losing.

Very lovingly

Your family abseente

Helen C. Balloch

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

GEORGE F. WOMRATH
BUSINESS SUPERINTENDENT

December 6, 1936.

Minneapolis Council of Civic Clubs
City
Gentlemen:

Thank you very much for your kind invitation of December 3 to attend the dinner on December 10 in honor of Miss Gratia Countryman. It is with deep regret that it will be impossible for me to be present.

The profound respect that I entertain for Miss Countryman for her splendid citizenship, and for her wonderful contribution to the welfare of Minneapolis in having established a Public Library which, by reason of its efficiency, and proficiency, and its economy in operation, has gained a national reputation, makes my inability to attend most regrettable.

Sincerely yours,
George F. Womrath

LAW OFFICE OF
WASHINGTON YALE
MINNEAPOLIS

December 7, 1936

Dr. Carel C. Koch
Chairman of the Minneapolis Council of Civic Clubs
405 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

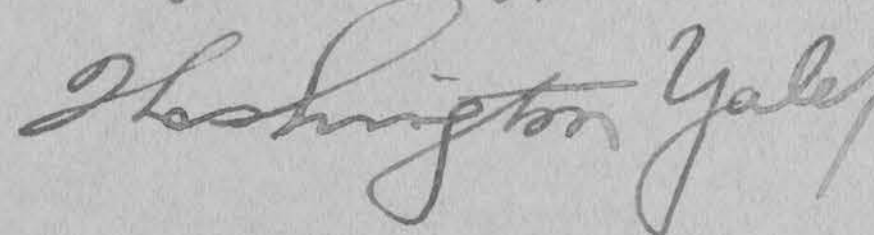
My dear Doctor:

I am duly in receipt of a joint invitation of yourself, Mr. E. C. Gale and Mr. Ben W. Palmer to attend the Testimonial Dinner to be given Miss Gratia Countryman, our retiring city librarian.

I regret that it will be impossible for me to attend this dinner. I appreciate the honor of being asked to the dinner for I consider Miss Countryman one of the outstanding librarians of this country and feel it only fitting that such a dinner should be given in her honor.

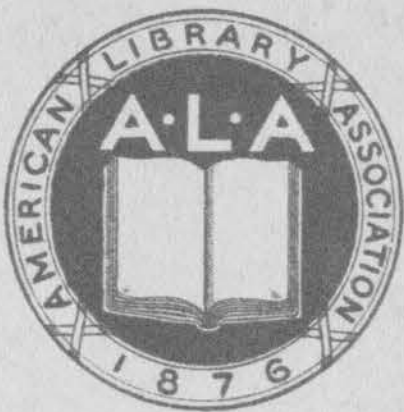
Again thanking you for the invitation and regretting that I can not be present, I am

Yours very sincerely,



Washington Yale

WY:vs



AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES: 520 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, CHICAGO

December 7, 1936

Miss Gratia Countryman
Public Library
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Miss Countryman:

On the occasion of the testimonial dinner in your honor, your friends of the American Library Association wish to join in paying tribute to one of our distinguished members.

Your impressive career in the Minneapolis Public Library has had no small part in the generous and effective service to your whole profession. As an acknowledged leader in library affairs and a former president of the American Library Association, you will not be allowed to withdraw entirely from active participation in the affairs of your profession, but will be counted on by your friends, the American librarians, to continue in the years to come the valued advice and counsel on which they have come to rely.

Your achievement is one in which we all take pride. You have our best wishes for the enjoyment of your leisure.

Very sincerely yours

Carl H. Milam
Secretary

whg

2448 CEDAR STREET
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

December 7, 1936.

Miss Gratia Countryman,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Dear Miss Countryman:-

I so enjoyd and appreciated newspaper clippings regarding yur services during yur "47 Library years" that I must ad my harty congratulations. The best and most gratifying part of it all is that yur devoted and able services merited all the complimentary and appreciati^v things written about them.

I wish yu continued enjoyment of the fruits of yur services as librarian of the Minneapolis Public Library.

At present there is good prospect that I shal hav hoarded up enuf shekels to enable me to attend the 55th anniversary of my Class next spring. I hope I shal hav the plesure of greeting yu in person.

Wishing yu a joyful Christmas and many happy years

I remain

Sincerely yurs,

Henry F. Nachtrieb

DR. WILLIAM J. MAYO
ROCHESTER, MINN.

December 7, 1936

Mr. E. C. Gale, President, Library Board
Minneapolis Council of Civic Clubs
405 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

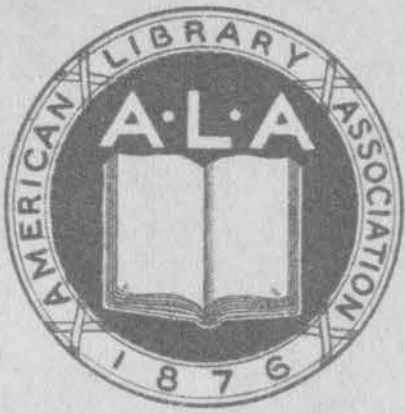
My dear Mr. Gale,

I thank you for your letter of
December 3 inviting me to attend the Testi-
monial Dinner in honor of Miss Gratia Country-
man at the Nicollet Hotel Ballroom, December
10. It would be a pleasure to be present,
to join in paying respect to Miss Countryman,
and I regret very much that because of a
previous engagement I shall be unable to do
so.

Sincerely yours,

*W. J. Mayo*₉

wjm:g:h



AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES: 520 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, CHICAGO

December 7, 1936

Miss Gratia A. Countryman
Minneapolis Public Library
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Miss Countryman:

The Headquarters Staff of the American Library Association want to add its personal greetings to Mr. Milam's official ones on the occasion of the testimonial dinner in your honor.

During your presidential year, we all felt the stimulus of your leadership. We enjoyed your interest in the work of each department and division and in all of us as individuals. We very well remember that your last official act at the Montreal Conference was a luncheon for the staff members in attendance.

We know at first hand what the Minneapolis Public Library has grown to mean to the city under your administration. For wherever we meet former residents, we find them fully realizing the educational service of the library and ready to help the whole library cause. And all over the country, former members of your staff are carrying on the same policy of making the library the very center of civic life. Your influence therefore has been nation-wide and will go on way beyond the close of your active career.

We send the best of wishes for the coming years of fruitful leisure.

Sincerely yours,

Julia Wright Merrill
Julia Wright Merrill
Chief, Department of Information
and Advisory Services

JWM:DP

City of Minneapolis

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

H. C. BROWN, TREASURER

December 8, 1936

Minneapolis Council of Civic Clubs
405 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

E. C. Gale, President, Library Board:

I am sorry to have to decline your kind invitation to the testimonial dinner for Miss Countryman.

I have made other arrangements for this date which would be impossible to give up without cause of annoyance to others, and I doubt my being missed in the gathering you should have at the dinner.

Miss Countryman has been an outstanding official of this city for many years and deserves all the commendation that I feel you and others will give her.

Yours very truly,



H. C. Brown
M

City Treasurer

Andrew Presbyterian Church

FOURTH ST. AND EIGHTH AVE. S. E.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

December 8 1936

My dear Miss Countryman:

I am today sending your Church letter to Westminster Church. Let me take this opportunity of expressing my personal appreciation of the wonderful work you have done for Minneapolis during these many years. Certainly it must be a real satisfaction to you to see the ever increasing use which is being made of the Library facilities by the general public. I appreciate also your interest in the ministry of Andrew Church to the Students at the University. I believe that ministry has been unusually effective during the past two years. At any rate an average attendance of 100 students at the morning service would indicate a real interest in the message and opportunity for worship which Andrew offers them. My association with them has been one of the real joys in a task which is difficult but extremely worthwhile.

I hope you will be happy in your new associations and trust you will not entirely forget Andrew. Give my kindest regards to Miss Todd.

Cordially yours,

R. H. Pileman

MRS. EUGENE WARREN MARTIN
5019 COLFAX AVENUE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

December 8, 1936.

Dear Miss Countryman;

We would be very happy to have you as our guest of honor at the tea hour after the program at the College Club next Monday afternoon at 3;45. Can you not drop in for tea at that hour even if you have not time to come to the program at the earlier time?

I shall hope to see you both then, and Thursday night at dinner.

Yours cordially

Clara B. Martin.

(Clara B. Martin)

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

UNIVERSITY PRESS

MINNEAPOLIS

December 8, 1936

Mr. Ben Palmer
1054 McKnight Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Mr. Palmer:

I enclose herewith a copy of a resolution of the Committee on the Press of the University of Minnesota to be read at the testimonial dinner to Miss Countryman on December 10, if that be appropriate, and then transmitted to Miss Countryman.

Yours truly,

Margaret S. Harding
(Mrs.) M. S. Harding
Managing Editor

MSH:ad
Enc.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

JACKSON SCHOOL
CLAUDE D. SIEHL, PRINCIPAL

December 9, 1936

Miss Gratia Countryman
Public Library
1001 Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Miss Countryman:

I represent the group of social workers, librarians, and teachers in the Seven Corners community.

The occasion of your retirement offers us an opportunity to express the deep and sincere gratitude which has been in our hearts for years. Your splendid work for our community has been a constant inspiration to us. The library service which you have fostered has been of immeasurable value to our people.

Both individually and as a group, we give voice to our feeling of joy in the honors which are being extended to you at this time, and also express our hope that you may enjoy thoroughly the period of relaxation ahead.

Very sincerely yours,

C. D. Siehl
Principal

CDS:GF

Elk River, Minnesota
December 9, 1936

My dear Miss Countryman,

They are honoring you to-morrow evening in Minneapolis much less than you deserve but as deeply and as broadly as large and willing committee can plan.

It seems now that I can't be present to ^{do} honor to you from some far corner of that gathering, but I earnestly wish to make known to you how completely I admire your service to us all. Your intelligence and the warm democracy of your political views, which does not detach one particle from your dignity, is aristocracy. It is the finest development of free and thinking human beings and Minneapolis people honor themselves claiming you as a growth of their community.

If you are going away the place where you go will be fortunate, but I hope and believe that Minnesota, that honors, admires and loves you will be your home and never be able to do without your sane forward-judging leadership in the real educational means of civilized people from the dawning of intelligence to its translation from known spheres.

Most sincerely yours
Jessie H. Parsons

ARCHIBALD E. MACQUARRIE
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Dear Miss Countryman:

I have been trying to write a little note telling you how much Mrs. MacQuarrie and I regret our inability to be present at your all city party tonight, but it is just impossible.

I feel so strongly the urge to pay tribute to what your rich life has meant to the youth of Minneapolis, that a note is just inadequate.

I am so happy that you are going to be where you can hear our calls for counsel.

When you are free from official routine please save a little time to get acquainted informally with the boys and girls of Washburn High. I will guarantee you a chuckle.

Sincerely,

A. B. MacQuarrie

December 9, 1936.

*With a
beautiful orchid*

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NM = Night Message

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

Received at 317 2nd Ave S Minneapolis Minn. TELEPHONE
MA in 4211

1936 DEC 9 PM 4 42

CDU156 CABLE=BELFAST 21 9

NLT BESS WILSON JOURNAL=

MPLS=1

HONORING GRATIA COUNTRYMAN MINNEAPOLIS RECOGNIZES LIFE
GIVEN IN SERVICE GIVE HER OUR LOVING GREETINGS=
THE STOCKWELLS.

M. 2571

*Walter Stockwell
of Fargo -
pres. 70 class 89*

THERE IS NO DEPENDABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR WESTERN UNION TIME

The Minneapolis Journal

THE NORTHWEST'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

[Dec. 9, 1936]

Dr. Koch —

This cablegram
came to me this
morning and I
am sending it on
to you in case
such greetings are
to be read tonight.

It comes from Mr.
and Mrs. Walter Stockwell,
Fargo, N. D. Now traveling
abroad. Mr. Stockwell was
president of Miss Countryman's
Class ('89) at Minnesota University.
Best Wilson

Thursday.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

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AM 8

WESTERN UNION

(03)

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MA in 4211

1936 DEC 9 PM 2 06

WMA198 48 NL 1 EXTRA=DENVER COLO 9

GRATIA A COUNTRYMAN=

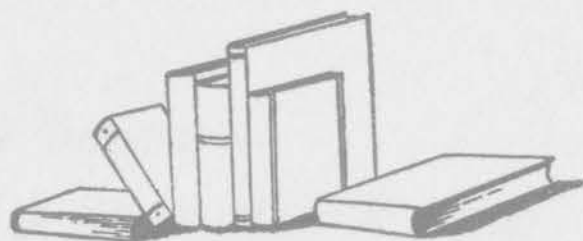
CARE BEN PALMER 1054 MCKNIGHT BLDG MPLS=

PLEASE ACCEPT MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS FOR YOUR
ACHIEVEMENT IN ADVANCING LIBRARY SERVICE IN MINNEAPOLIS IN
HENNEPIN COUNTY AND IN MINNESOTA AND FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION
TO THE LIBRARY PROFESSION THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY MY
PERSONAL BEST WISHES ARE ADDED TO THOSE FROM ALL MEMBERS
OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION=

MALCOLM GLENN WYER PRESIDENT AMERICAN LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION.

THERE IS NO DEPENDABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR WESTERN UNION TIME

Formal Testimonial Dinner
FOR
Miss Gratia Countryman



NICOLLET HOTEL BALLROOM
THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 10, 1936
SEVEN O'CLOCK

ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE
BEN W. PALMER, Library Board, *Chairman*

DR. CAREL C. KOCH - - *Minneapolis Council of Civic Clubs*
HERBERT J. MILLER - *Minneapolis Civic & Commerce Association*
MRS. EUGENE W. MARTIN - *Minneapolis College Women's Club*
DARRELL F. JOHNSON *Minneapolis Junior Association of Commerce*
MRS. JOHN S. DALRYMPLE - - *Woman's Club of Minneapolis*
MISS MARION LANGDON - - - *Business Women's Club*
MISS ISABEL McLAUGHLIN - *President Library Staff Association*
MRS. HAROLD G. CANT - *Minneapolis League of Women Voters*
MRS. FAY M. PERKINS - *Council of Parent-Teachers Association*
VERA V. COLE - - - *Minnesota Alumnae Association*
ORREN E. SAFFORD - - - *Minnesota Alumni Association*
MRS. MYRTLE HOOPER DAHL - *Minnesota Education Association*
E. C. GALE - - - *Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts*
MISS INA FIRKINS - - *Delta Gamma Alumnae Association*
ARCHIE WALKER - - - - *Library Board*

PROGRAM

ORREN E. SAFFORD, *Toastmaster*

CARROLL R. REED - - - - - Remarks

E. C. GALE - - - - - Remarks

MARGARET CULKIN BANNING - - - - Address
"A Successful Woman"

MRS. JOHN S. DALRYMPLE - - - - Remarks

MISS GRATIA COUNTRYMAN

MUSICAL PRESENTATION

Roosevelt High School String Quartet

Floyd Barnard, *Director*

Joyce Ward, 1st violin Adelaide Forbes, Viola
Beth Green, 2nd Violin Mary Stewart, Cello

Flowers—Courtesy R. P. KELSEY, *St. Paul Book & Stationary Co.*

A Record of Achievement

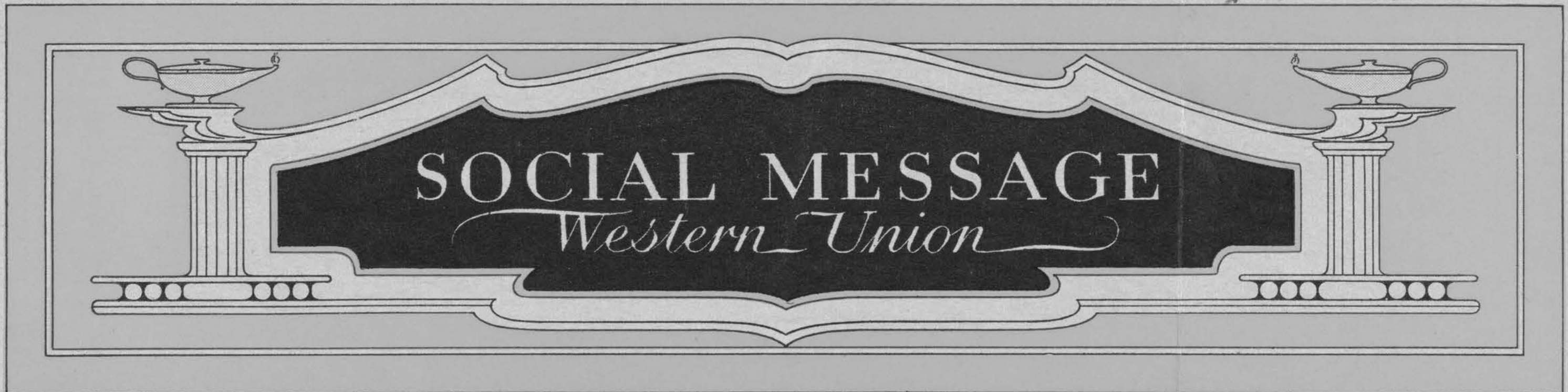
"THEN" and "NOW" in THE MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY Under
MISS GRATIA COUNTRYMAN

Distributing Agencies	1904	1935
Main Library	1	1
Stations	9	16
Branches	4	24
Classroom Libraries		223
Business House, and Factory Libraries		49
Hospitals		15
Total	14	328
Number of volumes in library.....	144,149	644,047
Number of volumes circulated.....	519,475	3,631,718
Card holders	40,500	181,961
New cards issued.....	8,192	36,869
Books acquired	8,525	60,485
Books bound or repaired.....	11,431	70,683
Staff—regular	32	250
—WPA on professional projects.....		89
Expenditures	\$93,357.33	\$434,026.33

Program—Courtesy W. E. KRANHOLD of the *Kranhold Company*.

[Dec. 10, 1936]

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GRANDRAPIDS MINN 10 715P

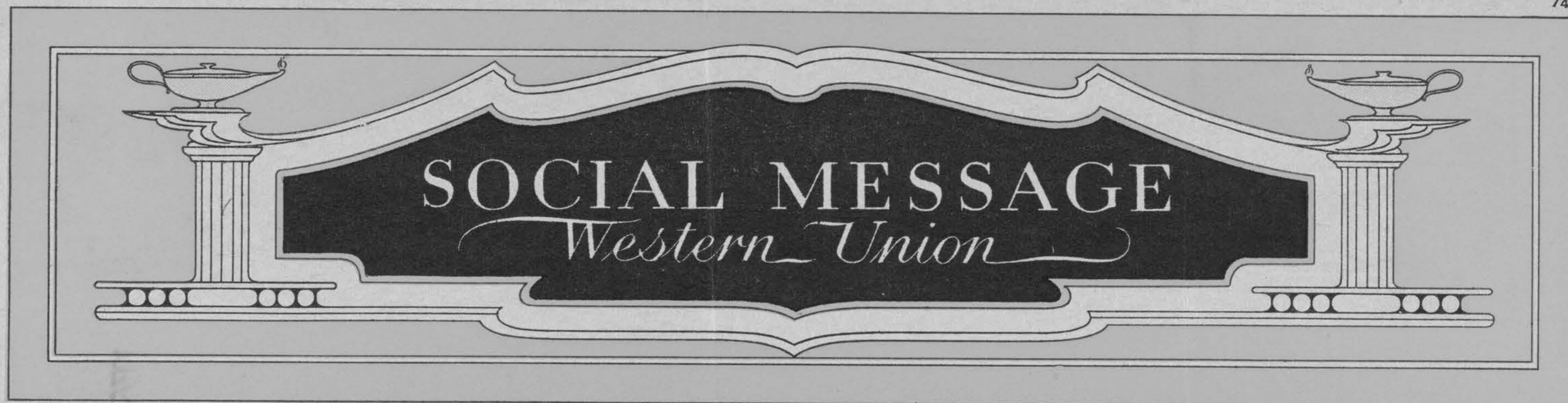
MISS GRATIA A COUNTRYMAN

NICOLLET HOTEL CARE BANQUET MPLS

BEST WISHES FOR THE FUTURE LOVE

ARROWHEAD LIBRARY CLUB MATA C BENNETT PRESIDENT.

1936 DEC 10 PM 8 22



LD92 63

MINNEAPOLIS MINN 10 535P

GRATIA COUNTRYMAN

THE NICOLLET HOTEL MPLS

ON THIS OCCASION I WANT TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO YOU
THE SINCERE GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION OF THE SETTLEMENTS YOUR WORK
HAS BEEN A CONTINUAL INSPIRATION TO ALL OF US AND HAS EXERTED ON THE
COMMUNITY A CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL INFLUENCE WHICH CAN NEVER BE
MEASURED IT IS WITH MUCH PLEASURE THAT WE JOIN IN PAYING TRIBUTE TO
YOU TODAY

THE TWIN CITY FEDERATION OF SETTLEMENTS EDWARD A CURRIE
PRESIDENT

1936 DEC 10 PM 5 41

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

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Received at 317 2nd Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. TELEPHONE
MA in 4211

1936 DEC 10 PM 1 54

CC 30 26=0A CHICAGO ILL 10-128P

MISS GRATIA A COUNTRYMAN=

PUBLIC LIBRARY MPLS=

TO THE LIBRARY WORLDS JANE ADDAMS A PERSONAL MESSAGE OF
ADMIRATION AND AFFECTION YOUR SPIRITUAL RETIREMENT IS
IMPOSSIBLE AS FAR AS SOME OF US ARE CONCERNED=

BEATRICE SAYER ROSSELL.

American Library Assn

THERE IS NO DEPENDABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR WESTERN UNION TIME

[Dec. 10, 1936]

Council of Civic Clubs of Minneapolis

A Section of the

Minneapolis Civic and Commerce Association

405 MARQUETTE AVENUE

Atlantic 6401

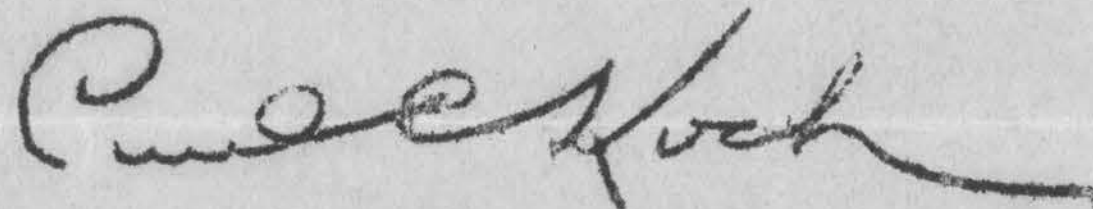
Miss Gratia Countryman's retirement from the Public Library has been the subject of much conversation and has been responsible for the formation of a committee to arrange a testimonial in her honor.

It was agreed that the city should honor her splendid record of service which has attracted national and international recognition.

Plans have been made for a formal testimonial dinner to be held at the Nicollet Hotel at 7:00 P. M. on December 10, 1936. Margaret Culkin Banning has kindly consented to give the principal address of the evening.

We know you will want to attend this dinner and suggest you call this office immediately to make your arrangements. Dinner tickets will be \$1.50 each.

Yours very truly,



Chairman

Dr. C. C. Koch:FBD

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
UNIVERSITY PRESS
MINNEAPOLIS

December 10, 1936

Miss Gratia Countryman
3243 France Avenue North
Robbinsdale, Minnesota

My dear Miss Countryman:

The Committee on the Press wishes to add to its testimonial presented at the dinner on Thursday evening some slight tangible tokens of remembrance.

I consulted Miss Todd and she found that there were a few of our books that you did not already have in your personal library and would enjoy. I am sending these by parcel post to your home instead of to the dinner: Folwell's AUTOBIOGRAPHY, TREES AND SHRUBS OF MINNESOTA, MINNESOTA GROWS UP, and Snelling's TALES OF THE NORTHWEST.

I am glad that you are to escape the worst of Minnesota this winter, and look forward to seeing you on your return in the spring.

Cordially yours,

Margaret S. Harding
(Mrs.) M. S. Harding
Managing Editor

MSH:ad

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
MINNEAPOLIS

OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

December 10, 1936

Miss Gratia A. Countryman
3243 France Avenue
Robbinsdale, Minnesota

Dear Miss Countryman:

Three educational institutions or activities have been recognized for centuries as among the most effective forces of civilization: The school, the university and the library. The public library, like the university and the public school, has changed from an institution for privileged classes to one of the most important "unseen" foundations of society". The word "unseen" is not quite the one to use here, for work like yours, Miss Countryman, has not only been effective, but has brought the library into such prominence that its educational visibility cannot be overlooked.

In a sense we might say that the school lays the foundation for civilization; the university puts the superstructure on this foundation; the public library furnishes the service corps which makes both school and university effective, not only during the period of their active contact with their students, but conserves their results in after life.

At the close of your forty-seven years of most effective library service, the Library Committee of the University of Minnesota desires to bring you its tribute of appreciation, not only of the good work you have done for the community in which the University is situated, but for the direct help you have given it in providing material for students and faculty to supplement that in the collections of the University itself. The Committee, individually and collectively, send you their very best wishes for a long, pleasant and profitable period of leisure.

Library Committee of the University Senate

Gay Stanton Ford
Chairman

Frank K. Walter

J. C. McKinley

J. F. H. MacDougall

Effaustock

Samuel Kraesch

W. H. Kirchner

W. G. B. G. B. G.

Harold R. Douglass.

Dear Miss Countryman.

Dec 10. 1936

I have wanted for a long time to tell you how I appreciate the work you have done for the people of Minneapolis and the Northwest
My connection with Library Service in Minneapolis antedates the foundation of the Minneapolis Public Library, when I came here in 1877, the only Library and reading room I could find was in the upper floor of the Atheneum Building on Hennepin or near Washington. That a great change in Library Service from that time to this, in the winter of 1880-81 there were but three regular readers at the magazine table. (There were no newspapers on file at that time.)

The three readers were Judge Andrew Holt, a man whose name I have forgotten and myself.
The Librarian then was Judge Laing, who gave but part of his ^{time} to the service, a young woman was in

2 in charge during the day till 6.30 or 7. then the Judge retired her.
I vividly recall the Judge. he had an impressive front and a deep booming voice, on his arrival, he disappeared into the book stacks, from which presently came a crash, it was the Judge opening and violently ~~the~~ closing a book, we understood this was the Judges method of getting rid of book worms.
Mr Putnam did great ^{work} ^{forming and} developing the Library until he was called to Washington.
I recall Mr Hooper did a lot of writing during the time he was in charge.

But when you became head things began to turn branches were formed, service was increased in many direction, to sum it up the Library was going to the public, and whisper: While you worked under a conservative Library Board, you were able to maintain a liberal spirit. Wishing you a long and happy life, I am sincerely yours
Thomas Flanery

December 11th 1936

Dear Miss Countryman;-

It was a great disappointment to me that I could not be at the dinner given in your honor on Thursday night. May I add my little contribution to the tribute of affection and respect that was paid to you on that occasion?

You have rendered a splendid service not only to Minneapolis but to the world and we are proud, Tom and I, to claim you as a friend. May your usefulness and happiness ~~be~~ continue unabated, and may new horizons beckon you forever on.

A very Happy Christmas to you!

Cordially yours

Elizabeth Wallace

MINNESOTA TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT

(INCORPORATED)

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MAJOR ARTHUR M. NELSON
REV. R. W. BABCOCK, D.D.
GEORGE W. HARDEN
H. H. PARISH

ADVISORY

T. H. COLWELL
N. T. MEARS
REV. G. K. STARK

HERBERT H. PARISH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

514 HODGSON BUILDING
TELEPHONE BRIDGEPORT 2620
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

December 11, 1936

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OFFICE SECRETARY
MARION L. FREEBURG

Miss Gratia Countryman
3243 France Ave. No. 1
Robbinsdale, Minnesota

Dear Miss Countryman:

It was my pleasure to attend your testimonial dinner last night. I cannot refrain from sending you a congratulatory note.

Mrs. Parish and I both felt that your talk indicated a wide range of vision, a youthful energetic mind and a splendid loyalty and consecration to the institution to which you have given so much of your life. Your personality thrilled us all.

I wish you every success in whatever line you may undertake in the days to come.

Again I congratulate you for the marvelous work which you have done in the Public Library.

Most sincerely your friend,

H. H. Parish
Executive Director.

HHP:MC

My dear Miss Conklynman:-

I am so sorry that you are not
more a private citizen. I have a little cannot
afford to lose your services, and personally
I still find it hard to believe-

I just want you to know that I am
one of the thousands who appreciate what
you have done.

With best wishes for a delightful
winter and very real regrets for the library
system that you are no longer its chief

Sincerely yours
Louise Gregory Ladd

December Eleventh

Nineteen hundred and eleven-six-

Memphis.

December 11, 1936

Dear Miss Countryman,

Last evening will long be remembered — a stately dinner, and pungent, first "remarks" honoring an humble, achieving woman.

I think I have never attended anything that impressed me so deeply. I am proud that the one for whom so much esteem and appreciation was proclaimed, is a loved member of the Memphis.

We could be said no more
wonderful complement than to
have you with us -

May we anticipate that joy?

Very sincerely yours

Oliver Thorne Peile

Chairman Program Committee

830 - 530

The Board Art Galleries

68 Po 10' St

Main 7802

Women's Rotary Club. It is in "our"
whale that I write you just
now. Will you confer upon us
the privilege and joy of your
company at Rotary's Christmas
party Tuesday Evening December
15th? We are to meet at the
College Women's Club, 310 Grov-
land Avenue at six o'clock.

Mr. John Holzgermann will tell us
about "Christmas in the Land".
Eight ^{High} School Boys dressed in
costumes will sing Christmas
Carols.



Miss Countryman

Helen Baird

Alie C. Webb

Maie A. Todd

Gervase Macdonald

Jessie M. M. Marley

Margorie Baird.

Mammie Pratt

Eloa B. Bailey

Clara Fanning

Miss Baird's luncheon

Dec 12 - 1936

At Jones Sea Shy.

[Dec. 12, 1936?]

The Larchmont

Dear Miss Countryman -

It is with much regret that I must forego the pleasure of attending the Appreciation Dinner on Saturday Evening -

Minneapolis can never really express due appreciation to you - Nor can your friends. Your interest in me has meant much more than

you will ever know -
It has been a tremendous
influence and a great
inspiration -

May I wish you a
merry Christmas and a
new year full of health
and happiness -

Most sincerely -

Esther Mayne Knigbry

December twelfth

[DEC 12, 1936?]

My dear Miss Countryman,

This is just to let you
know how much we enjoyed
your complimentary dinner
last night. We didn't
go to the front to speak to
you, for there were so many
going - & I thought you must
be tired enough when it
was all over.

But I thought I would

that a long lovely winter amidst
the blooms and oranges of Southern
California? Success to you
in all! -

And don't forget your en-
gagement at our house! Just tel-
ephone!

Very lovingly

Miriam D. Wallace

you a word, letting you
know how pleased we were
with every thing and how we
prised in the presents for you.
We were proud of you and
of your "speech".

I hope you don't leave
the library all tired out and
that you will have a real
vacation & will get rested,
And that you all will
have a very happy & merry
Christmas - and after

[DEC 12, 1936]

Minneapolis Teachers League

Grade Teachers Section

To Gratia Countryman,
who has been one of us for so many
years, and the greatest educator
among us, we wish to express our
sincere affection, our admiration
and our appreciation for all that
she has done for our city; not only
in building the Minneapolis Public
Library System, but as a woman
citizen and civic leader.

While we as teachers, know best
her wonderful work in promoting
those departments of our Library
System which serve the children and
students, we have marveled at the
innumerable branches of service
which have been ever increasing
and reaching out to promote the
culture and mental stimulation of
every phase of the Community Life.

A Library System so thoughtfully
planned and painstakingly developed
will live on to do honor, not only to
its founders, but to the capable and

Minneapolis Teachers League

Grade Teachers Section

and conscientious guide, who has so successfully promoted its usefulness, and we, feeling deeply the loss of the personality that has meant so much to us through the many years of fine service, will glory in the thought that an enduring institution has been established, which will be a source of satisfaction to her and to us through the years ahead.

From our hearts we wish Miss Countryman a life as full in the future as it has been in the past.

Grade Teachers of the
Minneapolis Teachers' League

AT YOUR SERVICE BUREAU

OFFICE EMPLOYMENT
DOMESTIC EMPLOYMENT
MOTOR TRIPS PLANNED
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

502 ESSEX BUILDING
NICOLLET AT TENTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
TELEPHONE: GENEVA 7457

December 16, 1936

Miss Gracia Countryman
c/o Minneapolis Public Library
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Miss Countryman:

It has given me unusual pleasure to see the recognition that is being so sincerely given yourself for the period of years during which you have in spirit and deed so efficiently run the library in the interests of the people. In an impersonal way, it seems to me you can feel that you are being justly recognized.

In some stupid way I thought the dinner given last week was an invitation affair. I wanted very much to go but felt it was not possible, and did not find out my mistake until too late. It is my loss and I shall always regret not being present.

I like to think of the years to come, and I know with your vigorous wide interests and initiative you will lead a life probably even more filled with work than before; that is, after you have had a sensible amount of letup.

With personal congratulations on the splendid structure you built, and kindest personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely,

Caroline M. Crosby

Caroline M. Crosby

CMC:mw

HENNEPIN COUNTY SCHOOLS

ROBERT E. SCOTT, SUPERINTENDENT

COURT HOUSE
ROOM 248
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

December 16, 1936

Miss Gratia Countryman
Minneapolis Public Library
Minneapolis, Minnesota

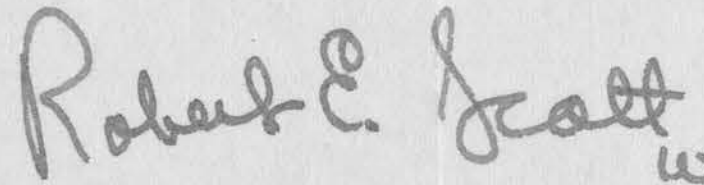
Dear Miss Countryman:

On behalf of the teachers in the rural and village schools in Hennepin County, I wish to express our appreciation of the splendid work that you have done outside of the City of Minneapolis.

The very fact that you have sponsored the rural, County Library project, which has a national reputation, speaks very highly for your far-sightedness.

I, therefore, wish to add my little bit to the words of appreciation for your fine work.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert E. Scott". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Robert E. Scott
Superintendent of Schools
Hennepin County

RES:WL

Life's Like That

By FRED NEHER

BUBBLES.



FRED NEHER - 12-24

(Copyright, 1936)

"You'll have to sneak out to the corner to get tinsel."

THE PUBLIC

Contributions to The Public Pulse which are not requested, but a self-addressed stamped envelope should be enclosed for return. Letter should be limited to 300 words, and written on one side of paper only. All remarks should be addressed to the editor.

A Tribute to Miss Countryman.

To the Editor of The Tribune:

During recent weeks I have read with keen interest the accounts carried in your paper of glowing tributes paid to Miss Gratia Countryman, retired librarian of the Minneapolis Public library. Educators, clergymen, public officials and the people themselves agree on the value of the contributions she has made to the city's culture through her work as librarian. This feeling is shared by many prominent persons around the United States. For that reason I think it would be a grand tribute to this brilliant woman to name one of the rooms at the main library, or the library itself, in honor of Miss Countryman.

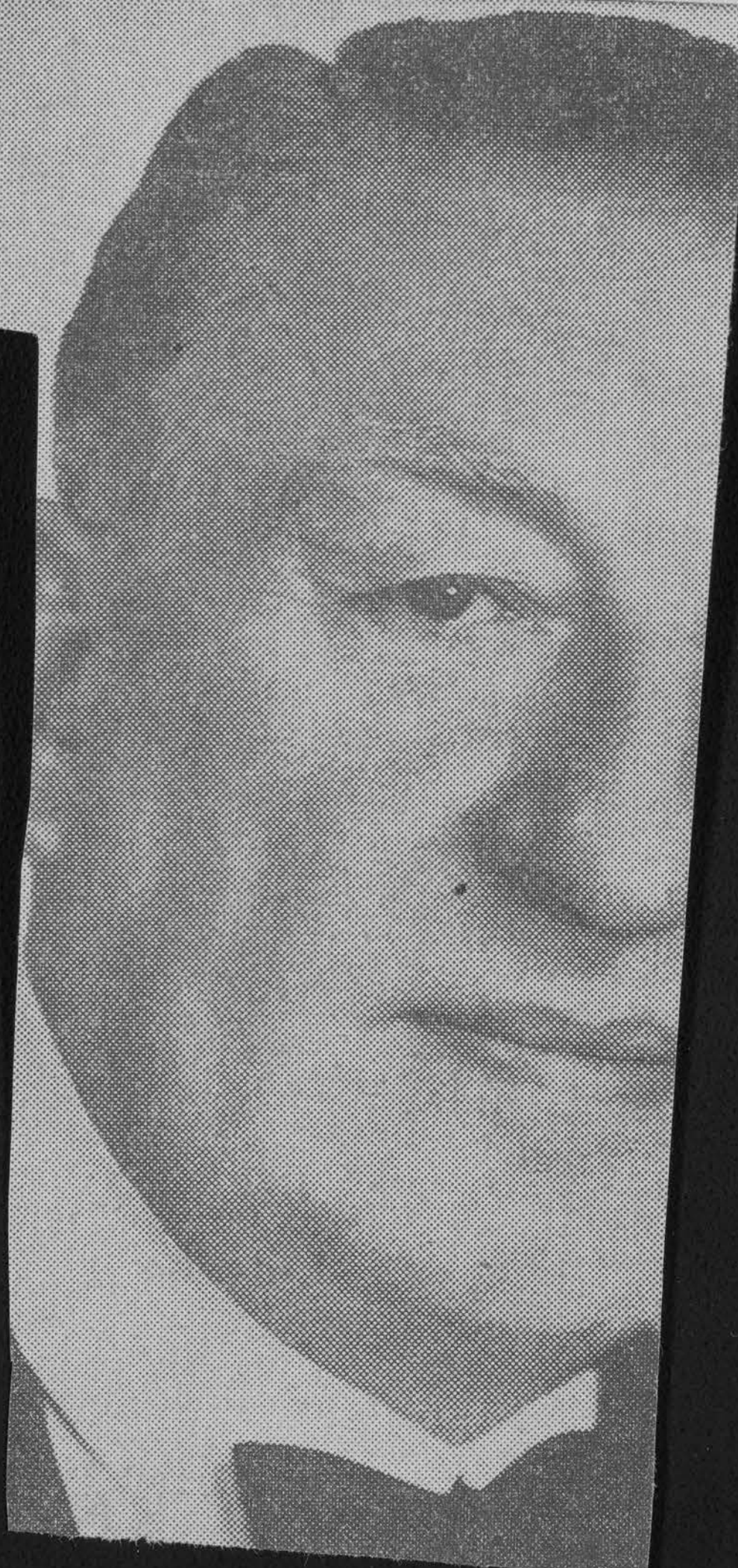
Eventually Minneapolis will need a new public library building. The present structure is not large enough and the building is outmoded. Why wouldn't it be a good idea to launch a movement now for a new library to be erected as a memorial to the fine work started and carried on so successfully by the retired librarian. I can think of no finer tribute to this woman and I'm sure every citizen of Minneapolis feels the same way.

M. C. X.

And how

M

CHRYSLER



*Answered
informally*

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

HENRY J. BESSESEN,
PRESIDENT
MISS HELEN L. BAUMAN,
SECRETARY
CARROLL R. REED,
SUPERINTENDENT

December 24, 1936

DR. CHARLES R. DRAKE
JAMES F. GOULD
WALTER E. JOHNSON
ARTHUR LE SUEUR
LYNN THOMPSON

Miss Gratia Countryman
1007 Euclid Avenue
Ontario, California

Dear Miss Countryman:

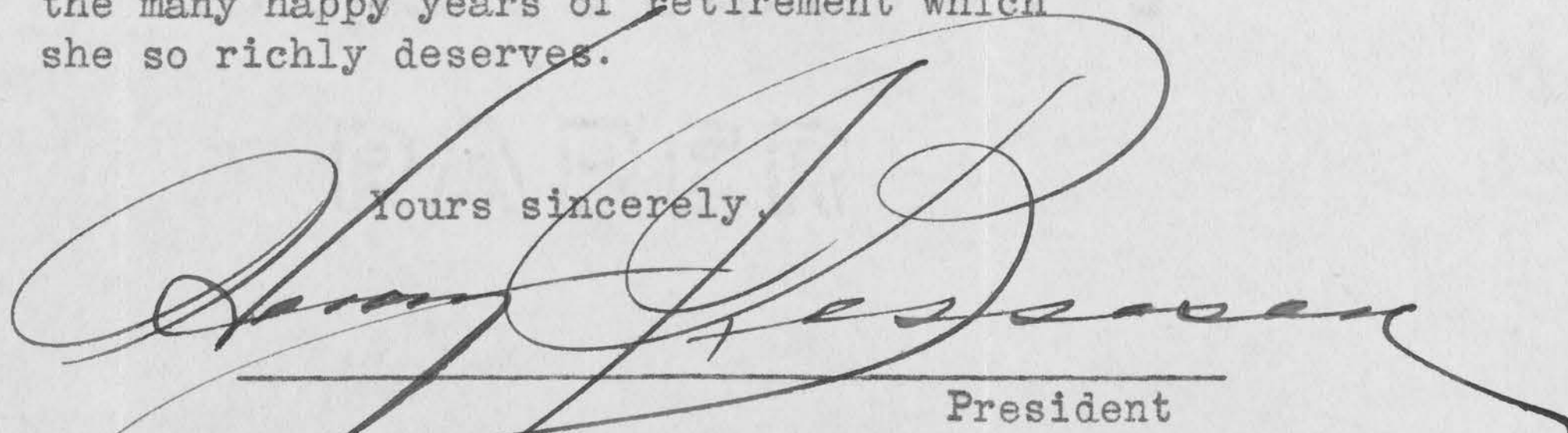
The Board of Education has authorized adoption of the following resolutions, with instructions that copies be sent to you and to the Library Board:

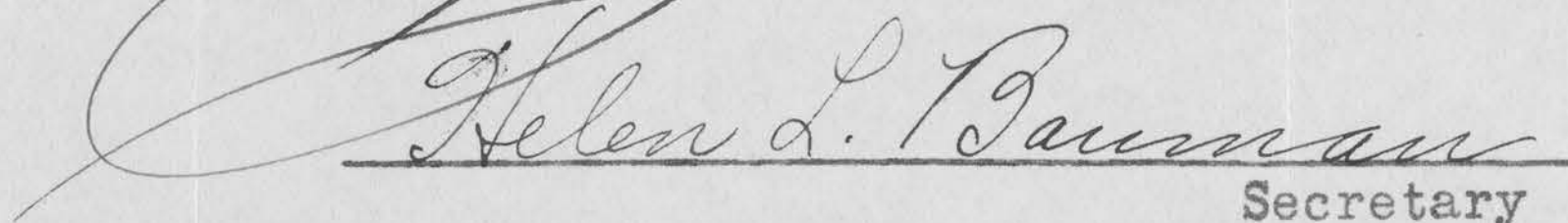
Whereas, Miss Gratia Countryman has announced her retirement from the service of the Minneapolis Public Library after forty-seven years of faithful and efficient service, and

Whereas, the program and objectives of the Public Library and the Public Schools have so much in common and the policy of the Public Library under the direction of Miss Countryman has been so helpful and co-operative; Now, Therefore,

Be It Resolved, That the Board of Education express its appreciation and gratitude to Miss Gratia Countryman for the great contribution which she has made to education in Minneapolis, and wish her the many happy years of retirement which she so richly deserves.

Yours sincerely,


President


Secretary

MESSAGE FROM MISS COUNTRYMAN

My best wishes to all the library staff for the coming year - not only to the staff as a whole, but to each and every individual member of it. You have always been a wonderful working group, but chiefly because you have each in your particular place promoted the best development of the library. You have made it yield the best service possible to each person who came to use it. You have made its reputation and it will be you as a group and as individuals who will continue to make its reputation. I hope the coming year will bring many new and widening opportunities and that the same spirit which has animated you will be passed on through the years to new members of the staff, so that the Minneapolis Library will never cease to be a social, intellectual and spiritual force in our city.

I want to thank you for all that you mean and all that you have meant to me during the years. I wish I could express my gratitude for the tangible proof of your friendship for me during these last weeks. The very beautiful traveling bag, so complete and convenient, was a total surprise and a wonderful reminder of your friendliness toward me, as I hurriedly started for California. I love it and the message that came with it. I hope to use it for many trips before I really grow old.

May I take this way, too, to thank many of you for individual cards, letters and gifts too numerous for me to acknowledge one by one, but each of which I prize.

Again, a Happy and profitable New Year to you all!

December 27, 1936.

Her Torch of Light [1936?]

To the Editor: A tribute to Gratia Countryman

She held a lighted torch for all to see,
In city, state, and nation, to each coast;
She held ideals aloft, as they should be,
Ideas to serve humanity the most.
She built a lighthouse on the lonely rocks
Of ignorance, whose beacon sheds its ray,
Far out upon the sea of doubt, and locks
The mind against false prejudice each day.
She gave her friendly aid to those who came,
Wise counsel and advice she gave to all,
An inspiration is her torch of flame,
A summons to march on, like trumpet call,
Up mountain peaks, upon which magic looks,
To climb the Steeps of Learning, paved with books.
Minneapolis. —Florence English Hadden.

The resolution charges that in the Ninth precinct of the Sixth ward (Thirty-first district) it was apparent that more than 100 ballots had been marked for one candidate by some person other than the ones who had originally voted them.

In the Thirty-eighth precinct of the Eighth ward (Thirty-fourth district) there was evidence, it was claimed, that 100 ballots had been similarly tampered with.

Representative L. E. Brophy (C), told the house in discussing the resolution that figures remained unchanged in only 10 of 200 precincts in the city in which there

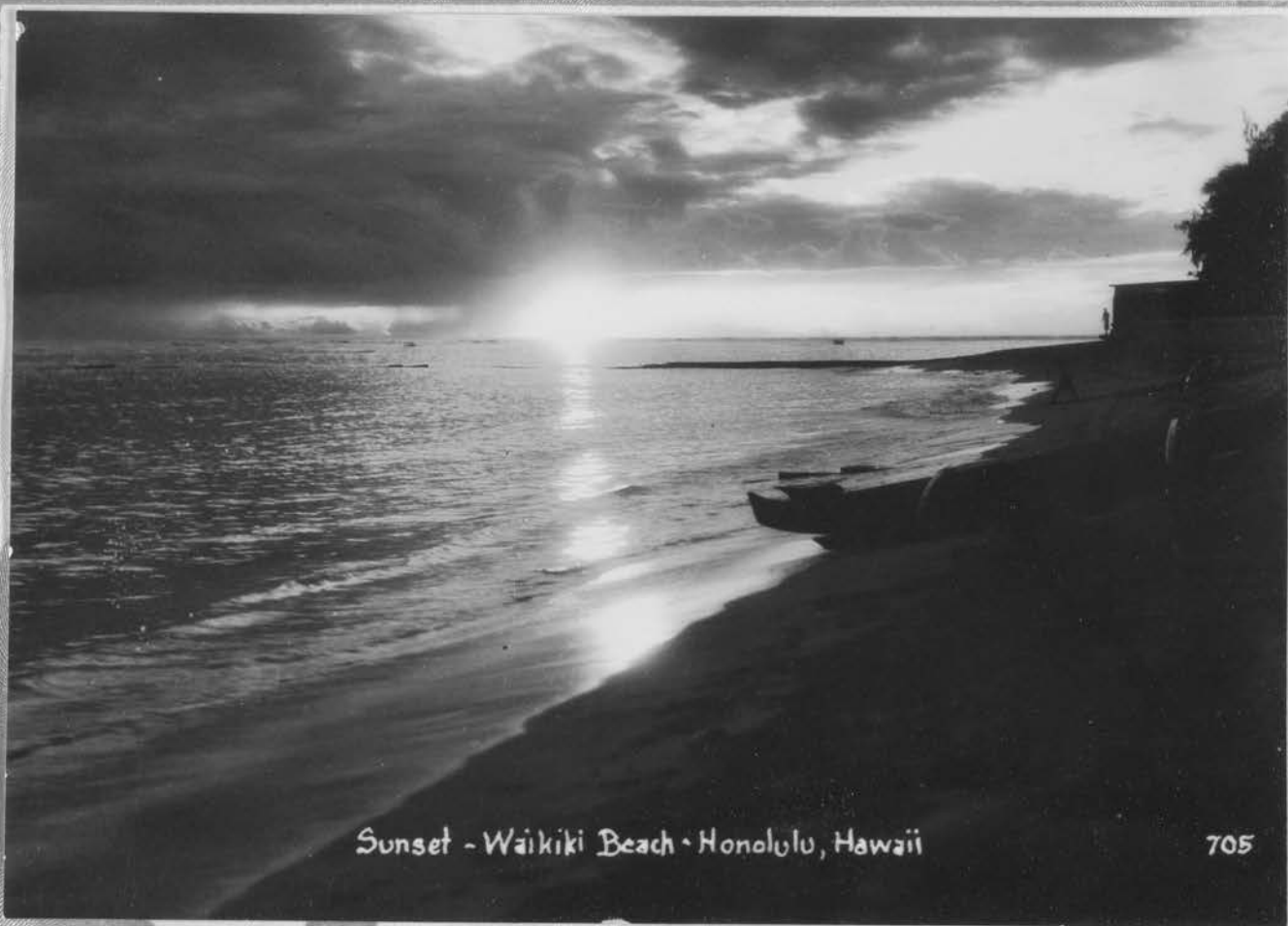
tion also is ex
movement for

Knows

Charles C. S. who is in charge of the machinery, said there was no evidence of fraud in the November election. If such evidence, it I do not believe was disclosed or legislative committee.

Another official allow use of his "you can't expect from some of the whom our alder

[Dec, 1936]



Sunset - Waikiki Beach - Honolulu, Hawaii

705

Christmas

Dear Miss Countryman,

It isn't a happy thought to know you are soon to leave the Mpls. Library. Somehow I cannot think of the Library without thinking of you. You've made it an exceptional one, and I'm very sure there'll never be another to take your full place. There was one Lincoln - so, also, is there one Miss Countryman.

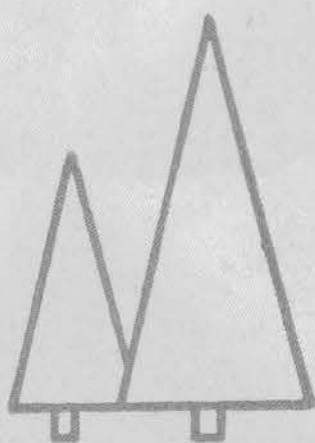
I sincerely thank you again for the lovely gift. I never could have received another that I needed more. I shall cherish it more, too, because you gave it to me. My husband wishes to thank you personally.

I'm wishing you many many happy days to come with each one full of every joy-possible for one so deserving.

May every joy of this

HAPPY SEASON

be yours



Lovingly Always,
Betty Krueke



Miss Countryman

