



## Gratia A. Countryman and Family Papers.

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Notes on  
National Aspects of  
Library Service

Library School  
W. F. Munroe  
March 8, 1933

" Our natural interest - local.  
our job.

Contact those with same interests,  
(like trade unions)

City clubs, State associations, National.

Do collectively what we cannot  
do individually.

Concerted action, stimulation,  
Cannot afford to be local in our interests.

Many Kinds of libraries. Many phases  
of library work.

Only the larger organization can  
unite them all into one  
Professional Group. The A.L.A.

(At N.E.A. there were  
Vocational groups. Visiting Teachers.  
Adult Educ. " Deans of Women )  
Administration women &c &c All  
N.E.A. So all. A.L.A. )

3. A. L. A. our great Central organization

Membership. The members are the  
body of the Assn. About 14,000.  
Every librarian should support.

Conferences. Held annually in various  
parts of country. New Haven New Orleans  
next year Chicago.

Elect Officers. Executive Board  
+ members of Councils.

Conference programs carried on through.



4) Sections. Catalog Section. Children's  
Section. College + Reference Section  
+c.

Council, Inner Circle, Determines  
Policies of A. L. A.

Made up of Ex Presidents, Chairmen  
of Standing Committees, Representatives  
of affiliated agencies. 25 Elect members.  
Council meetings at Midwinter meetings  
Chicago. Important.

5 Glimpse of Winter Meeting 1932

Council Meetings Small (480)

More valuable discussions.

Get down to pressing problems.

This year most earnest. Finance  
& cut budgets.

Concerted action against Education

Many important papers, considering  
way out.

Trustees, 60 present.

6) Trustees adopted important statements  
+ Resolution.

Last resolution hinted at by several  
Speakers calls for Co-operation  
with other social + educational  
agencies

A.L.A. Secretary Liao followed up with  
other leaders.

Efforts made to form



7) Citizens Community Councils for protection  
of building-up agencies.

*Insert*  
First of April to carry publicity  
on a proposed Nationwide movement  
for local Citizens Councils everywhere.

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This represents value & importance of  
the National organization - Large  
projects for the benefit of all.

8) Retirement plan. Completed at Midwinter  
Group Retirement plan. Benefit fall.

Return to our organization.  
Secy who presides over Headquarters  
the important officer. All work  
heads up with Headquarters staff  
in Chicago. Committee work  
standing committees, such as  
Legislation, Public Documents, Co-operation  
Cataloguing, Children's work, Hospitals &c.

9. Headquarters

Monthly Bulletin

A. R. G. Booklist

Personnel Records.

Publicity.

Publications

Exhibits - (Booth at N.E.A.)

Conferences planned.

Contacts with Foundations

Committee & Board Meetings <sup>etc etc</sup>

10/

Most Important work

Boards

1. Board of Education for  
librarians & life
2. Board on Adult Education
3. Board on Library Extension

To be a 4<sup>th</sup> Board on Library work with  
Children.



11] Boards were established and  
functioned on gifts from  
Carnegie Foundation  
Carnegie

Great popular growth of libraries  
in 90's.

Buildings in small towns & large  
branch buildings, until war.

Carnegie Foundation later kept  
libraries as chief beneficiaries

12/ Changed plans from material  
help to improving librarianship.

Still had large interest in the  
Small Library, believed training  
necessary. improved personnel

(See quotation from Carnegie  
Office Memorandum.)

13

"If one were to ask an intelligent and well-informed foreigner as to the most important contribution of the American people to human enlightenment, the answer would in all probability, be, the American Public Library."

(From Office Memorandum-  
November 10, 1925  
Proposed Program in Library  
Service of the Carnegie Cor-  
poration of New York.)

14) 1925 Carnegie proposed program  
entitled "Ten Year program of Library  
Service  
4 million grants spread <sup>ten years</sup>  
440,000 to Library Schools existing  
including Negro Schools. Annual  
1,000,000, trust funds for Library Schools.  
1,000,000 of " " for Graduate "  
345,000 annually to A.L.A. activities.  
1,000,000 Trust fund to A.L.A. ~~total~~ +1



15. Since then 1,000,000 trust fund  
to A.L.A. if they raise million

Boards created to administer.

1 Board of Educ. Money for library schools  
Duties. Improvement of personnel.

Advancement of professional knowledge.  
Studied library school curriculum.

+ recommended for grants.  
Certified library schools. = Text Books

16) II Board of Adult Education.

Published Reading with a purpose  
Series.

" Library & Adult Education.

" Material on Adult Reading.

Co-operates with libraries with  
Readers Advisory Service.

" with radio broadcasting.

Disseminated ideas & suggestions

16 1/2

Co-operates with industrial  
organizations.

Study of readable books for  
foreign born

Connects with.

Amer. Assn. for Adult Educ.

Nat. Univ. Ext. Assn.

Amer. Country Life Assn.

Rural Adult Educ. Conference

Council on Radio in Education

National League of Women Voters.

17 III Library Extension Board.

gives advice on establishment  
of libraries. Travels. meets  
with local groups.

Keeps in touch with all  
State agencies.

Cooperates with regional  
surveys & County demonstrations

Furnishes Leadership (Iowa)



18/

Publications Board - Special  
Endowment & Life Memberships

Publications Handbooks A.L.A.

Catalogs and many helps -

Paris School & Library  
established from war funds.

19 | Southern Field Work A.L.A. Agent

A special grant for a field  
Agent through the South,  
where library work and all  
Educational work weak.

Roosevelt Fund has supported grants  
to schools white & negro, &  
Carnegie grants for library surveys  
and County demonstrations (11 Counties)

20 | Survey of book resources  
77% of people none of any <sup>kind</sup>  
23% far below standard.

Surveys made of School libraries  
County libraries and State lending  
agencies

Field worker did intensive  
field work: getting results in  
the interesting local people.

21 | In April Southeastern Library  
Assn formed.

Grant is now up. but this  
assn. recommend intensification  
field work to be carried on.  
to hold work already done  
from Carnegie Fund + Rosenwald  
Fund. Regional field work <sup>may</sup> cease.



CONFERENCE OF SOUTHERN LEADERS. President Graham of the University of North Carolina is joining the Southeastern Library Association and the A . L. A. in calling at Chapel Hill, April 7 - 8, a conference of Southern citizen leaders and representatives of organizations interested in Southern progress to consider the library in relation to all educational, cultural, and social agencies in a well-rounded community development. The Library Extension Board approved the plan, in principle, at the Midwinter Conference and referred details to the Executive Assistant and Regional Field Agent, subject to the approval of the Chairman.

22] Romanian State Demonstration  
taken over by State agencies.  
Community worker Miss Meins.

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State Agencies + Commissions  
League of Library Commissions  
County Libraries in 35 States.

23] State aid

Federal aid - bill formulated -  
like road aid.  
vocational " etc.

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Other National Aspects.

Library Institute.

Co-operative Cataloguing  
Bibliographical undertakings.

Library of Congress.

24] Scarcely know how much  
indebted to National  
Interests.

Open one's eyes.

Like travelling you never can  
be so hemmed in again  
Honzon witnessed.

Library work, a great profession.



Two great Descent points

Rural      Canning

Schools

Stevenson, Robert Louis.

Kidnaped. Winston. \$1.25.

(Examined.)

Age 13-

"In times like these the services of the public library are simply indispensable if we are not to start a relentless march backward toward barbarism. Not only is the library a place of comfort and relaxation to weary and depressed people, but it is the fundamental mine of the historical and other knowledge necessary for the use of the citizen who is going to take an intelligent part in the discussion and determination of public affairs."

Newton D. Baker