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PUBLIC AFFAIRS LIBRARIES

Proceedings Annual Meeting of Special
Libraries Association, Sept. 28, 1911.

Report on a Public Affairs Index.

John A. Lapp, Chairman of Committee.

When I heard the report of Mr. Wheeler yesterday morning, and his further request that the Committee be discharged, I felt somewhat badly to think that our committee which was appointed at the same time was just beginning its work. This committee was appointed at the session at Mackinac last year, and its purpose was to investigate the practical way in which a public affairs index might be published. In the first place, it was necessary to determine something of the needs for a public affairs index, and the scope of such an index, and at the meeting at Mackinac that question was quite thoroughly discussed. It was shown that there are a great many fields which are not now covered by indexes and when we get to the point of efficiency in library work demanded by special libraries we have got to have better facilities for getting hold of information. In my estimation, so far as legislative and municipal reference libraries are concerned,

we have just simply been paddling round the edge of the pool. We have not struck across it at all, and it is time to get hold of the full information which is contained in this great pond of municipal and legislative information. Some of the things which we mentioned at Mackinac at that time seemed to be far in advance, but many have already been accomplished. I feel gratified that this last year has seen a very great step in the advancement of facilities for information. A great deal of agitation had taken place before that time for a newspaper index. The need was shown, and the fact that we had not a single complete index in this country was commented upon very freely. Since that time the H. W. Wilson Company has taken up the newspaper index in the way we outlined it at the meeting. The plan they are now beginning in the Reader's Guide covers the newspapers located in all parts of the country. They index one in Boston, New York, the Middle West, Pacific Coast, one at Omaha, and one or two in the South. They cover seven or eight papers. It is intended to enlarge that index so that it will cover quite completely the newspapers of the country. It has been shown, also, that there are a few newspapers that have indexes published of their own paper. The Record Herald of Chicago has published for a few years an index to its files. That is a very valuable publication, inasmuch as a reference to the dates will put one in touch with the event as found in the files of other newspapers. I think we can leave it to the Wilson Company to work out the problem of the newspaper index.

Another matter which was taken up there was that of associations. The reports of associations, the valuable material contained in the discussions at the meetings, and also in the periodical publications of associations. We have not gone very far in that, but there is a good beginning. Mr. Meyer, of the Library of Congress, has undertaken the preparation of the list of associations of public officials. These associations are becoming a very prominent factor recently. For example, the Association of Insurance Commissioners has given out some exceedingly valuable reports on insurance. One of the results of their work was the uniform bill last year on fraternal insurance companies, and, if you examine their report of proceedings, you will see the wealth of material contained is invaluable. There are associations of commissioners covering pretty nearly every field

of administrative work today, and when the list is complete and published, as it will be in Special Libraries, we will have a good beginning along that line. The Free Library of Newark has published a pamphlet on Social Questions, giving a long list of associations and their addresses. They listed the associations and indexed the subjects which can be found in their reports and by referring to the index it is possible to find out the associations which are dealing with the specific subject, and those of you who have had the experience in that line know that the first place to apply when you get stuck is to go to the association that is dealing with that question.

There are hundreds of these associations, and it is well that we get in touch with them. I have had some very sad experiences myself in that line. Last winter I had a question in regard to a paint law. It was proposed to pass a pure paint law in our state. I looked up all the material I could find, but it was a subject which had not been discussed very much. I could not find anything except a few scattered references, and I furnished all that I had to the man who had asked for the information, and afterwards, near the close of the session, I had a talk with him, and I discovered that he, through some organization, had secured the completest bunch of information that could be gotten together upon that subject. I had no means of knowing about that. I lost an opportunity there to give that man at the start the whole basis of this subject, simply because I did not know that the organization existed.

Then, there is the field of municipal material which will be discussed more fully today. That field is practically untouched. There is nowhere today existing an index of municipal ordinances; not even the important ones. The only attempt is the one made by the United States Marine Hospital Corps. In their bulletin they publish a list of ordinances, passed on public health questions.

We have not attempted to touch municipal reports; the cities themselves have not got so that they can distribute their reports from a central point, and I doubt, if the city libraries know what is contained in the reports of their own cities, and more particularly the reports of special investigations.

There is also a large field in the material of civic and commercial organizations. I wonder how many of us knew that the Chamber of Commerce of Chicago had one of its leading educators in Europe studying the question of industrial education for its own purpose, and that they will publish a report upon that subject? That indicates something of what we miss in this field. It just happened that I found out about this in a newspaper report. We are making a

beginning to cover the general field of the best things of this nature in Special Libraries. Nearly every month we have a list of current references to material of a fleeting nature, the kind which is prepared locally and is not given a general circulation and does not get into the general indexes, either of books or periodicals, special reports, special investigations, etc. This list in Special Libraries is rather suggestive of the things that ordinarily escape, and with the co-operation of all the members in the association in sending in matters of this kind, we will make this more and more complete. It is growing rapidly, and, I think, we can hope in a short time to cover that field somewhat.

As far as preparing a public affairs index is concerned, the committee is still in the dark as to what we should attempt, and what we are going to accomplish in a complete public affairs index, and I would like to have the committee continued with the idea of reporting at a later time on the preparation of parts of this index in the line which I have suggested here, or, if it is possible, eventually to establish a complete public affairs index. It will, doubtless, be hard to draw the line where it ought to be drawn, but we can some time or other develop a plan by which we can get hold of a large part of this information which now escapes. If the association succeeds in promoting the efficiency of libraries by getting them in touch with this material I think it will have accomplished a desired end.

Present Status of Municipal Reference Work.
Abstract of Address by
Horace E. Flack.

I was very much pleased to hear the report of the Committee on Public Affairs Index, and agree with the committee as to the difficulties in the way of securing municipal data. So much of the material is ephemeral that if not secured at once it is practically impossible to get it. Most of you here represent special or technical libraries, and I wish to take this occasion to speak briefly of the work of the municipal reference library.

The Department of Legislative Reference of Baltimore was created by an Act of the State Legislature in 1906, and went into operation January 1, 1907. It not only serves as a municipal reference library for the city but also as a legislative reference department for the State Legislature. In order that the department might be removed entirely from political influences, it was placed under the control of a board composed of the Mayor, City Solicitor, President of the Johns Hopkins University, President of the Municipal Art Society, and the President of the Merchants and Manufacturers Association.

Baltimore was the first city to establish

such a department for its municipal officials—a department to serve the city in the same way as the legislative reference departments have been serving the states. Soon afterwards Milwaukee established a municipal reference library, modeled very much after the one in Baltimore. There are at present three other municipal reference libraries located in Kansas City, St. Louis and Chicago. Minneapolis also has a municipal reference library, but there it is in the Public Library building. The organization of the Kansas City department is similar to that of the Baltimore department.

The National Municipal League appointed a committee to report on the subject, and a report was submitted at the Buffalo meeting of the League, November, 1910. This committee, after careful consideration, submitted the following recommendations:

1. That municipal reference libraries should be established in all large cities.

2. That, as a general rule, such libraries should be under the control of the public library.

3. That such libraries should be located in the City Hall where feasible.

4. That the qualifications for the head of such a library should be a liberal education, with special training in political science, economics, municipal government, and methods of organization and administration, and he should be selected for merit alone.

5. That the head of the municipal reference library be selected by that method, which, in the particular city, will, under the local conditions there prevailing, tend most completely to eliminate political considerations. In some cities, the most satisfactory results may be obtained by lodging the appointing power with the public librarian or library trustees. In other cities, conditions may make it advisable to have appointment made by a select, impartial and non-political board.

6. That the municipal reference library be made the agency for the exchange of municipal documents.

7. The functions of the library should not be restricted to any particular phase of work, so long as that work relates only to the collecting, collating, compiling, and disseminating of data or information. It will also be one of the functions of the library to aid in the drafting of ordinances. Of course, the principal work will be concerning municipal questions, and special efforts should be made to secure such information for the city officials who are responsible for the administration of the city's affairs, but to be of the greatest value such a library must undertake to furnish information to the public generally. Such a bureau will be used extensively by the Press, and this is one of the best ways of reaching the public.

Social, civic and improvement associations will also frequently have occasion to use such a library and its value to a city cannot easily be overestimated. If the bureau be under the control of the public library, it would seem advisable to issue a bulletin containing interesting comments for newspaper purposes, and showing how the reference library can be of assistance to officials and to the public as each matter of general interest gets the center of the stage.

Soon after the report of the committee was published, St. Louis established a municipal reference library, as a branch of the public library, with rooms in the City Hall. Where feasible, this is probably the best way of solving the problem, but there are cases where it is better to have the municipal reference library a distinct and separate organization, as in Kansas City and Baltimore.

There is another feature which should be emphasized and that is the exchange of municipal documents. The municipal reference library should be the depository of all municipal documents, and have the power to make exchanges. It will be much easier then to secure the documents of other cities. The recent Charter Revision Commission of Baltimore recognized the advantage of this feature and provided for it in the proposed new Charter, which, however, has not yet been granted by the State Legislature.

I wish particularly to emphasize one point, and that is, that a municipal reference library, to be really successful, must be more than a mere collecting and housing agency. It is necessary to keep in touch with the work and plans of the officials of the city and be ready to co-operate with them. The attention of the officials can be called to what is being done elsewhere along the same lines, and you will find, almost without exception, that the city officials are ready and willing to use such information. The municipal reference librarian must keep thoroughly posted with what his own city is doing, but he must not under any circumstances give his own opinion. It is his duty to place all the facts collected before the officials and let the facts speak for themselves.

I understand that the National Municipal League will soon begin the publication of a quarterly magazine, and I feel sure that it will be of great value to the municipal reference librarian, since it will be possible to keep more closely in touch with what other cities are doing. In fact, it might serve to some extent as a clearing house for the exchange of information. And, in this connection, I wish to refer to a topic which some of us have talked of before, and that is, the desirability and great need of having somewhere in this country a central bureau to gather and compile information,

which would be available for all cities. This would not remove the need of local municipal reference libraries, but it would add greatly to the work of such libraries. The federal bureaus at Washington, particularly the Census Bureau, have rendered invaluable assistance and it seems to me that this work could be carried on better and more economically there than anywhere else. A few men added to the present staff would make it possible for the bureau to undertake this additional work. It seems to me to be quite feasible and practicable, and, I hope, in the course of time that it will be accomplished.

The Sources of Municipal Material With Reference to a Clearing House of Information.

Clinton Rogers Woodruff.

The subject that has been assigned to me this afternoon—"The Sources of Municipal Material with Special Reference to a Clearing House"—is really an extended one, and might easily engage our time and attention during all the hours of the session. The most that I can expect to do will be to outline very briefly the situation with the hope that at future meetings the outline may be filled up by more particular and definite attention.

In the first place, I think we all recognize the fact that there is a very considerable increase in the actual amount of municipal legislation. Municipal functions have been multiplied so rapidly in the last twenty years in America, as well as abroad, that municipal legislative matter has been tremendously increased and its very amount constitutes a problem of very great importance.

To look after this mass of material there has grown up a great number of voluntary organizations of various types: municipal leagues, taxpayers' associations, and all sorts of municipal associations designed to look after some one or more phases of municipal life, to make suggestions in regard to further legislation, and as to codification of laws, and we have the reports of those organizations, which are of increasing value.

Any example I may cite this afternoon is purely for the sake of illustration and not for comment, therefore, when I talk about any particular organization it is not implied that there are not others doing the same things. The Civic League of St. Louis, two years ago, when the subject of charter was uppermost in that city, made a report on the subject, that was a real contribution to the subject. The same is true of its report on the subject of bill boards, which was used by the city's lawyers in their argument before the Supreme Court of Missouri, and the Supreme Court of Missouri used that partic-

ular report in making its decision, and the decision of the Supreme Court of Missouri remained as rendered, largely because of the report of the Civic League of St. Louis. It contained some of the best things that have been said and collected on the bill board problem.

There is another source of considerable importance. The city clubs of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Kansas City report the addresses that are delivered before them, and we find in the weekly bulletins of the City Club of Philadelphia and Chicago some of the best information that can be found on certain subjects. A bound volume of those bulletins contains an immense amount of very valuable municipal information. Then, these various organizations are building up libraries of their own; the library in Columbia of the old Reform Club was one of the best libraries ten years ago on municipal questions in this country, unfortunately when Dr. Maltbie retired from the Secretaryship of the Municipal Affairs Committee of the Reform Club to be assistant secretary and the actual executive of the Municipal Art Committee of New York, no one was appointed to take his place, and the collection lies rather inert in the library.

There is a great deal of material in all our libraries bearing on municipal subjects. These libraries, however, fall short in one very important particular—they are not up-to-date. A graduate of Columbia University, at one time, had to gather a certain amount of material on a certain problem I asked him how valuable he had found the university library, and, although a graduate of the institution, he was compelled to say that it had been of no use at all, because it had no recent references on his subject.

In addition to various sources that exist in the cities in addition to municipal reference libraries, of which I think there are now half a dozen, in addition to great masses of municipal legislation and the various reports that are being put out, we have our state legislative reference libraries. I have no doubt that it is only a question of time before all the states will follow the leadership of Wisconsin, as it has in other matters.

There is another source of information on these questions which is coming into view, and that is the conferences of the state governors. I think within a short time that that very interesting group will develop a quantity of literature of great interest to students of municipal affairs, for, indeed, under our system of government in this country, the state government is really a branch of our municipal government. When we really achieve municipal home rule those who are interested in municipal questions will be able to ignore state questions as a

matter of pertinent interest, but today the man who is interested in municipal matters, must, of necessity, keep in touch with what is being done by the state government, because the state government exercises a legislative control through the state legislature, or through bodies like the public utilities commission, and like the accounting supervision which now exists in the states of Massachusetts, Ohio and Indiana.

Only this week there was held in Chicago at the invitation of the National Census Bureau, a conference of state officials interested in municipal accounts. I cite that simply to show the growing interest in the question of state supervision. It will interest those who are present to know that the legislative control of cities by the state is gradually, very gradually, unfortunately, yielding to a state administrative control.

We have this great group of state legislative libraries of necessity interested in municipal questions. On that point I want to say something a little later on; perhaps I might just as well say it at this time and in this connection. The state libraries are performing in this particular connection a two-fold duty. I recognize the desire of a state librarian, as of every other librarian, to have within his four walls a complete report and every book issued, but the mere collection of books, unless they are actually doing good, is of little value. We want things that are alive, that are doing work; that are doing a day's work, and I think our libraries, whether they are public or private, should be libraries that are doing something and not mere collections of inert books. I know there are those who will take issue with me in that view of it, but I believe in a library that has a circulation, that is working out in all parts of the state. I hope that our state libraries will have duplicate sets of reports. For instance, take my own state of Pennsylvania as an illustration. Suppose the city of Williamsport was interested in the question of water supply. I take it for granted that the collection of the library at Williamsport on the subject of water works is not an elaborate one. It ought to be able to go to the state library and say: "We want all the reports that you have on that subject for immediate use." The ideal is to have the municipal reference library, such as Dr. Flack has established so successfully in Baltimore, and which is in the process of establishment in Kansas City, St. Louis, but there are a great many cities of from forty to seventy thousand inhabitants who have not the means at the present time to justify the establishment of a municipal reference library. What are those people going to do? Wisconsin has it through its traveling libraries, and there is

no reason why the idea should not be generally applied.

We have not made the great mass of material in the country at all available, and I do believe that the time will come, and must come, and I hope it will come soon, when organizations like the Special Libraries Association and various others that are associated with it, will take the initiative in having the national library, the great library of Congress, serve as a means of keeping every state library informed concerning the important work that is being done along these lines. It does that work today on general library matters. Why should it not do it on special library matters which naturally come far more closely to the people than the others? The mass of people are affected by the special libraries because those special libraries are used by the men who in turn influence the legislation of a community, or administer the affairs of the community.

Several have spoken, and the president, in his introduction of myself, spoke of the National Municipal League and its work. Today it is striving to do the very thing that I have suggested as being a matter which the federal government should do. It is serving so far as it can with the means at its disposal, as a means of communication between the various communities and states; to bring the resources of each within the knowledge and use of all, but most of us who are active in the League feel that that particular function of the League ought to be merely a temporary one, and that the best and most effective work will eventually be done by some government agency like the Library of Congress. The National Municipal League is seeking to carry out this idea of bringing all the various organizations and individuals interested in civic affairs into closer contact through three agencies: the first is the establishment of a National Municipal Review. In January next the League will issue the first number of the review, which will be designed to put in condensed form current information on municipal affairs. Of course, one cannot expect in 640 pages a year to give a full account of everything that is being done by the American cities today when we recall that the proceedings of a single community, in many cases, far exceed that number of pages, but the National Municipal Review will contain in concise form a reference to all the more important events that have occurred during the preceding quarter, so far as they relate to municipal affairs.

There is no second reason why what Chicago has done, and has done well, should be done all over again in St. Louis, Philadelphia, or anywhere else. The National Municipal Review will be designed to keep all those who are interested in these questions in touch with each other, and in touch with

important movements and developments.

In addition to the Review, the League is working in conjunction with a committee of the Special Libraries Association and a committee of the National Association of State Libraries to establish a municipal year book, which will do for American municipalities what the British municipal year book does for the cities of the British Isles, and what the German year book does for German municipalities.

A third method of making this increasing amount of municipal literature available is through a series of books. The purpose of the League is to issue a series of books that will consist of information on all the questions that are now uppermost, the idea being to bring within these volumes the best material. These will not always be original contributions, but between the two covers will be brought together the most important statements that have been made by qualified experts on those particular subjects, so one may find in the single volume the arguments of both sides of the question.

The National Municipal League is seeking to place the information of all at the disposal of anyone so that any one individual may know where to go for the important information, and at the same time it is desired to further a higher standard of efficiency in legislation and altogether a better and a nobler municipal life and so that seems to me should be the aim of municipal reference libraries.

Experience demonstrates time and again that the average man wants to do what is right, and nine times out of ten he don't know how, because he has not the education or information. Organizations like the National Municipal League should always be striving to place higher ideals before the people, and endeavoring to make those ideals practical by putting the great illustrations before the people so that they can see what others are doing. Most communities are willing to avail themselves of the experience of others.

An official of our city was asked to give an address on the work of his department before the City Club. That official could not understand at first why citizens should be interested in the affairs of the city. It took some of us quite a little time to convince that man that the interests of the City Club were sincere and above suspicion. Now the officials of Philadelphia are glad to go before the City Club and lay before the members of that organization their ideas and their plans with regard to the discharge of their public duties, and that is what is essential.

It seems to me that we ought to provide a way for giving the officials a chance to make themselves heard and to explain their plans, and to elaborate their ideas and then

the municipal reference library should come in and help them make those ideals practicable and concrete.

Let me say inconclusion, that as a capping of these various steps to which I have referred, there is a proposition to establish an international municipal bureau, so that the experience of European cities may be placed at the command both of the Canadian and of the American cities, and that our experience may in turn be of value to the European. Thus, you will see that, this great problem of how to make a growing mass of municipal material available is receiving the attention of those who have their hearts in it, and who have only one object, and that is, to make the American cities worthy of the emulation of the whole world.

The Qualifications of Legislative and Municipal Reference Librarians.

M. S. Dudgeon.

I do not know whether it is altogether safe in this presence to say it, particularly in view of recent progress in feminine athletics, and in view of some of the experiences of our English brothers who oppose women's suffrage, but it seems to me that the first qualification of a legislative or municipal reference librarian is that the librarian should be of the masculine gender. I realize that this subject may be open to discussion. I come to this conclusion, however, not because of any conception of shortcomings on the part of the feminine portion of humanity, but because of an appreciation of some of the rough features of the work. The work is such that the librarian must go out and see things and come in contact with people in such a way, which, frankly, I would not want my sister to do. That this is so is a reflection on humanity at large and is not because of limitations on the abilities of women.

The first thing aside from this important consideration is the question of method of appointment. Mr. Flack has spoken of that and I think we will all endorse heartily the view that the librarian must not be the appointee of a purely political board. I sometimes question also whether the legislative reference librarian should always be connected with the state law library. I know I am treading on dangerous ground again. Many state libraries are the creatures of Supreme Court judges. Supreme Court judges are so absolutely conservative in their position, are so trained to look back over their shoulders at what they did yesterday in determining what they shall do today, that I doubt somewhat whether a librarian who was directly and absolutely under the control of Supreme Court judges could be enough of an aggressive and progressive gatherer of material to be of service. The librarian must not, of

course, be too much the creature of politicians, but, on the other hand, care must be taken that he is not altogether the creature of a body of men who are most excellent in their intentions and most learned in their views, but who, by training learn simply to depend upon the past for guidance in the present.

I suggest also some educational qualities. I think we will all agree that there should be a background of history, political economy, political science, sociology; and that the librarian should be something of a constitutional lawyer. When, either as a municipal or legislative librarian, he comes in contact with the making of laws, he must know something of the underlying fundamental principles of constitutional law. He must, of course, know something of legislative procedure, of municipal government, and of all the activities of government whether state or municipal. I am somewhat at sea as to how much library science he should have. He should certainly have a general view of cataloging and classification; enough, at least, to know whether the librarians working under him are doing the work well. I think too you will find in many beginnings that the municipal and legislative librarians themselves do a great deal of classification and cataloging, and so must have a direct knowledge of library science.

When I say that a librarian must know something of political economy or political science or of similar subjects, I do not mean that he must simply have a fund of dead information on those subjects. What I mean is, that the legislative or the municipal librarian must be a thinker along those lines; must be disciplined to think along those lines and accustomed to think along those lines. As you know, some people are so constituted that no matter what they study or know they cannot think with originality along those same lines or along any lines.

I think we all appreciate too, that the question of personality is possibly more important than education. It is not so much what a man knows and what he has stored up in his library as it is a question of how he can bring that information out to you—how apt he is in bringing that information out and giving it to the right person. He must have in his personality the ability to convey information and ideas and suggestions to the person who needs it. Personality is often more important than knowledge. We all realize, of course, that the librarian must be a man of broad sympathies. He must be a humanitarian rather than a scholar of the older order—one who is concerned more with people than with books.

I do not know but that I could sum it all up by saying that the personality must be such as would qualify him eminently for a

politician. Neither am I making any insinuations as to politicians when I say he must have an inherent integrity and honesty. What I mean is this: A politician too often is trying to make himself seem what people want him to be; the librarian must be what he wants the politician to think him. The municipal librarian or the legislative librarian is going to come in contact with the shrewdest men in the human race. Whether educated or not, the politicians with whom he comes in contact are shrewd and the librarian cannot get away with anything. He must be exactly what he wants the politicians with whom he comes in contact to think him to be. He must be what he wants to seem to be, and a man who has not a fundamental and natural frankness and integrity and honesty back of him had better get out of the business, because, above all, he must be absolutely a square man. I do not know but that the previous speaker said that down in Baltimore he was able to initiate things without letting politicians know that he was initiating them. He probably means that some good political friend initiated them and came to him for advice, which is, of course, a perfectly proper thing to do.

These are some of the things that I have thought over, and, while incomplete, they may possibly form a suggestion or outline for a discussion which will amount to something of value

DISCUSSION.

MR. WHITTEN: The question is now open for general discussion. We have not a great deal of time, but we have time to hear from a considerable number if they will speak briefly. The main questions for discussion are those of the public affairs index, the collection and organization of material, and the qualifications of the legislative or municipal librarian, and the functions of the municipal library. I think I would like to hear from Mr. Belden, of the Massachusetts State Library.

MR. BELDEN. I do not know as I have anything special to say on the immediate subject of the program. Of course, as State Librarian of Massachusetts I am interested in the legislative reference side of the work. The Massachusetts State Library is primarily a legislative reference library. It was established for the use of the governor and council, members of legislature, state officials, and such others as may be permitted to use it. You see that it is not a state library in the ordinary acceptance of that term. Its activities do not, except in a limited way, cover the state. Strictly speaking it is not a public library; nor is it a circulating library. However, we do try to make the work in the state library as broad as possible, and very frequently it has been

my pleasure to send books to different parts of the state and country. The legislative side of the library, as I have intimated, forms the whole basis of the work of the library, and has been carried out, we think, satisfactorily for a great many years. Since I have been in the library it has been possible to make its many rich collections more accessible to the members of the legislature. We have been able to obtain the use of four additional rooms which are thrown open during the session of the legislature only to its members and state officials and in these rooms we place collections of books on special topics, which we know will be of interest to the members of the legislature during a particular session. We write to the members; we interview the prominent men of both branches in order to be prepared regarding matters to come before the current session. Then we collect our material from the main stacks of the library, supplementing this by bibliographical lists. We also gather information and additional material from other sources.

MR. LESTER (New York State Library): There are one or two things that have been suggested by the papers and discussion this afternoon that impress me as being possible to be linked together to lead up to one idea that I am a good deal interested in. In Mr. Lapp's report of the committee, and in Dr. Flack's paper, we had impressed upon us the necessity of the personal side of our work. For the constituency of the particular class of libraries with which I am connected, and ever since I did some work with Dr. McCarthy's bureau, I have had it more and more impressed upon me that it is the personal touch work that counts, if I can suggest it in that way. I think we all know what I mean by that. The work started by Dr. McCarthy is the successful line of work. In doing that the person in charge of the bureau must have a certain kind of help which the public affairs index is going to give him. I have come to think that this public affairs index is one of the most important lines of work with which the association is connected. I feel the need of such a thing that will give me all the information that I have got to use myself, not which I am going to put in the hands of someone else for his purposes, but which I have got to use and keep track of, and which is going to be part of my work in reading and thinking along the lines which Mr. Dudgeon referred to.

I think Mr. Meyer, of the Library of Congress, is doing a work which is going to be of considerable value in the solution of the problem, namely, the preparation of a list from the resources of the Library of Congress, and the offering of that for criticism, addition and correction, if necessary, to

others connected with the same line I have attempted already to follow suggestion along that line in connection with the call which has come to us for a special committee of our legislature manufacturing conditions. I could not get much help, but I sent to other libraries asked for lists. We have gotten a great deal of assistance not merely in bibliographical lists but in the actual material in so far as these references we have arranged in a consolidated list in card form, and are in turn going to put back in a ten list, and send copies to all the members that helped us. That sort of thing, to me, others in this line of work. There is a possibility of co-operation in the phase of the work.

There is another side of that which I do not see any solution in. I am going to throw out the question and hope that some time someone may find a solution. That is in the picking up of material on those more minor questions. The results of research are not put in often times only typewritten. In that at these meetings I have talked with similar lines of work for are worked subjects which I have got to take up in the next six months, and in each case to be able to get something of this their doing a share of that work, of course, we cannot always get that solution. I do not know how that information can be made available unless we are willing to co-operate in it. Dr. Brunck was then connected with the California Library, had made a beginning at putting out some kind of a scheme. The public affairs index should supply us with the information as to where we may obtain material in print, or in other words, the source of information; but when that information is not in print, how are we going to get it? That is one of the big problems and that some time our public affairs committee will be able to extend its work to the solution of that particular phase of the problem.

MR. LAPP: There is a chance to carry out just the plan Mr. Lester suggested through Special Libraries, but I have not received sufficient co-operation so far in carrying it out. I have asked others to be informed of investigations which they are undertaking which they did not intend to publish, and if we can get that information from them and print lists of work has been done in the different libraries will then be available to everybody. I have an experience which, I think, illustrates the need of that. After the close of our session in 1911 I went to Wisconsin and I found during the year they had a great many investigations which were not published,

and bibliographies upon obscure subjects. I went through their duplicate files and selected 150 digests and bibliographies upon as many subjects. The value of that could not be counted. If I set to work with my force to do that amount of work it would have cost me thousands of dollars in our department, and yet these were already prepared. They had a few typewritten copies left, and I was enabled, through the courtesy of the department, to acquire all this valuable information. I take it this is exactly the thing Mr. Lester was working upon, and I believe the public affairs committee can be of assistance, and I would invite the suggestions of members, and also the co-operation of members, in carrying this out.

MR. BRIGHAM: I think that we can work up in this way by making a check list of what we have on hand, and taking from that the material that is available. Often times we do not care to distribute to another library some work that has been done. We want to check it back again for perfection as soon as possible. When you hand a man some work which he requests within six hours, sometimes less, it is very apt to be a little hasty and I would not care to have that go out broadcast to other people until it was checked up. The great difficulty would appear to be in devising a cheap process of copying. At the present time, it means we have to get that material copied, and I do not quite feel that in the stress of work that we can often times do that within a given time. I think that Mr. Lapp should have as much assistance as possible in the public affairs index. This next year we will try to send him material and information on subjects that he wants. Mr. Meyer may have suggestions with regard to carrying that matter out further. I do not suppose it is possible to supply a card index to the material. That would be of great help where the Library of Congress already prints the card for the pamphlet that they receive. It may be impossible, but I would like to ask Mr. Meyer if the thing can be worked. Would it be possible to supply the cards issued by the Library of Congress?

MR. MEYER: That can be done in the Library of Congress very easily. They have a subject catalogue in the Card Section, and if you place an order for all the cards on any specific subject and related topics, they will gather them together and send them to you at the usual rate. It is being done by an increasing number of investigators in this country. In fact, it is one of those functions of the library that is growing most rapidly, to gather together all cards on the subject that the individual inquiring may be interested in. I just want to say another word in connection with what the other speakers have referred. In the dissemination of in-

formation as to what other bureaus are doing: we prepare, on an average each year, about 150 typewritten lists on all sorts of subjects. Probably one-half of these would appeal to the legislative reference librarian. I hesitated to publish a list of them, because it will add work to an already overburdened division, but I would be very glad to lend any of these lists. The difficulty that arises if we publish a list of subjects on which we prepare bibliographical lists is that every small library will borrow them, but where there is a real need we are very glad to lend these lists; and for the first time in the annual report that will shortly appear, a list of the more important investigations, under taken by the Division of Bibliography, will be printed, and we have duplicate copies of those lists on hand which we will be glad to lend to the librarian who really wants the material.

MR. ANDREWS: Those of us who were in Sacramento this spring saw tried the cameragraph, and, to me, at least, it seemed a partial solution of the problem which Mr. Brigham brought up—the question of the cheap duplication of one copy. At five cents a page you can reproduce the page in readable form, or if you want black and white it will cost you about ten cents. We propose to have such a machine in our library next year, and we will gladly undertake to reproduce lists and send lists out. The California State Library people have been using it for some months, and are very well pleased. It is exactly the thing we want for these lists of occasional and temporary value, things which will go out of date.

MR. MEYER: We would be glad if any library or anyone copied the lists we send them, or even published them, if they would undertake that work. We have a few of these that we put through a duplicating machine and we run off from 50 to 200 copies. Those we give freely. Subjects we treat that way are those of wide interest. The last inquirers have to do their own copying. We have also made investigation in regard to reproductions methods, and, I think, in a short time something of that sort will be available at the Library of Congress.

MR. LEE: Students' theses have been mentioned and the need for an index pointed out. I think that the possibilities there are very great. A while ago Professor Jackson asked to let his students into our library, and I said: "Come on and use it, and when you get it done give us a copy," and we did get a copy. It so happened that a committee of the American Street. R. R. Accountants Association was getting up a report on depreciation of trolley cars, etc., and I was able to put it at their disposal, and I learned afterwards that Professor Jackson has many quotations that he has

kept together on that subject. In this connection I want to mention one more thing. Somebody suggested a bibliography of college publications. Mr. Homer is here; he proposed that, and I think his proposal is worth mentioning. May I ask Mr. Homer to say a few words?

MR. HOMER: The subject came up rather in an interesting way. I was asked by a chemist who was interested in all sorts of things to prepare a bibliography on fuel, especially on trees. I, therefore, commenced to make a very slight bibliography on that point, slight in comparison with the wealth of material there must be, and not slight in point of view of the number of hours it took me to get together what I wanted in the time given. Most of my work was conducted in a library situated near Boston. Eventually I got around to the Department of Agriculture publications and found two or three lists already published by the Department of Agriculture. Notably one by Messrs. Cannon & Harding, a classified list of the Department of Agriculture publications. A list of that sort led naturally to one where I could find a classified list relative to fuel, of the publications of the colleges and universities. I have so far been unable to find anything in the way of a bibliography of the publications of the colleges and universities of this country. I have found a basis for such a bibliography in Mr. David Thompson's Handbook.

MR. MEYER: We feel the need of a similar list covering all publications of universities and colleges, and I might suggest to Mr. Homer that he will find some special bibliographies of some colleges in existence. Recently Mr. Adams, of Williams, has published one on Williams College. That would give all the publications of Williams, and there is a similar one for Columbia University.

MR. HANDY: I wanted to ask to what extent the Library of Congress cards cover periodicals or associations' publications, if they do to any extent at all.

MR. MEYER: To a very slight extent, indeed. Only where the article has been separately printed and a specific request has been made to have it catalogued. The work has been so very extensive and the influx of new material has been so great that they have not been willing to print cards covering periodicals. I made the suggestion twice that we print cards covering the social, political, financial and similar sciences, but conditions are not at present favorable for any such additional undertaking, but it is bound to come.

SELECT LIST OF REFERENCES ON RATES CHARGED FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES IN VARIOUS CITIES.

(Cabs, Electricity, Gas, Street Railways, Telephones, Water.)

Compiled under the direction of H. H. B. Meyer, Chief Bibliographer, Library of Congress, with the co-operation of the State Libraries and Legislative Reference Departments.

The following list was prepared in response to an inquiry for books showing rates charged for various public services in American and foreign cities. The list is limited to material containing such information and does not include general discussions of public service rates.

General

- Clarke, J. M.
Rates for public utilities. American economic review, Sept. 1911, v. 1: 473-487.
HBI.A5,v.1
- Connecticut. Commission concerning public service corporations.
Report. Hartford: Pub. by the state, 1909.
114 p. HD2767 C82 1909
"Comparative street railway, gas and electric rates (American cities):" p. 23-28.
"Comparative telephone rates for unlimited service (American cities):" p. 29-34.
- Howe, F. C.
Municipal ownership in Great Britain. U. S. Bureau of Labor. Bulletin, Jan. 1906, no. 62: 1-123. HD8051.A5,no.62
Price of gas in 13 cities, 1903-4: p. 36.
HD4647.U5
Rates of tramway fare: p. 48-53.
Price of electricity in 30 cities, 1904-5: p. 63.
"Charges for gas, water and electricity in various cities, 1904-5:" p. 120
- Lindsley, Van Sinderen.
Rate regulation of gas and electric lighting. New York: The Banks law publishing co., 1906. 165 p.
- Municipal year book for the United Kingdom for 1911. Edited by Robert Donald. London: E. Lloyd, 1911 xxxvi, 966 p.
JS3003
Gas supply: p. 480-484; Tramways: p. 489-528, Electricity supply: p. 543-600; Charges for gas, water and electricity: p. 893
- National civic federation. Commission on public ownership and operation.
Municipal and private operation of public utilities. New York city:
National civic federation (etc., etc.), 1907.
3 vols. HD4431.N25
Covers United States and Great Britain.
See indexes under Prices
- New Jersey. Board of public utility commissioners.

- Annual report, 1910. Trenton, N. J., 1911. 285 p. HD2767.N5A3 1910.
 "Rates charged for gas (in New Jersey):" p. 253-256.
 "Rates charged for electricity (in New Jersey):" p. 257-268.
- U. S. Bureau of labor.
 Water, gas and electric-light plants under private and municipal ownership. Washington: Govt. print off., 1900. 983 p. (Annual report of the Commissioner of labor, 14th, 1899). HD8051.A3, 14th, 1899
 Issued also in the Congressional series, no. 4004, as House doc. 713, 56th Cong., 1st sess.
 "Waterworks: prices (private plants) and cost of production (municipal plants):" p. 353-372.
 "Gas works, prices (private plants) and cost of production (municipal plants):" p. 507-531.
 "Electric light plants: prices (private plants) and cost of production (municipal plants):" p. 934-975.
- Wilcox, D. F.
 Municipal franchises; a description of the terms and conditions upon which private corporations enjoy special privileges in the streets of American cities Rochester, N. J.: The Gervaise press, New York. Engineering news book department, 1910-11. 2 vols. HD2766.W6
 See indexes under Fares, Rates, etc.
- Cab Service
- Gr. Brit. Home dept. Committee on metropolitan cab service.
 The cab service of the metropolis. London: Printed for H. M. Stationery off., by Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1895. 2 vols. in 1. (Parliament Papers by command C. 7607) HE5663 LSA4 1895
 "Digest of reports on the cab services in Berlin, Hamburg, New York, Paris, St. Petersburg, and Vienna:" v. 2, p. 305-311. Reports on the cab service in the cities of Great Britain: v. 2, p. 311-314. The foregoing reports include rates charged.
 Parliament. House of commons. Select committee on cabs and omnibuses (metropolis) bill. Report. London: Printed for H. M. Stationery off., by Wyman and sons, 1906. 295 p. (Parliament, 1906. H of C. Reports and papers, 295.) HE5663 LSA4
- Electric Light and Power
- *Clowell, H. H.
 Report of an investigation of the electric companies of Detroit, with special reference to rates and methods of charging. Sept. 28, 1907. 22 p.
 Contains a tabulation of electricity rates in sixteen large cities.
- Holcombe, A. N. The electric lighting system of Paris. Political science quarterly, Mar. 1911, v. 26: 122-132. H1.P8,v.26
 Includes information concerning rates.
 McGraw electrical directory. Lighting and power edition. (Published semi-annually)
 Contains price charged under city contract for electric street-lights by each company. Massachusetts. Board of gas and electric light commissioners. Annual report, 25th, 1910. Boston, 1911, 211 p. TP,24.M4A3 1910
 Prices for commercial lights and power, June 30, 1910: p. 98-126.
 National electric light association. The National electric light association's report on rates for commercial lighting and power service. 2d. ed. (New York): National electric light association, 1904. 88 p. HD9635.U5N3
 United States and Canada.
 *—1906. 127 p.
- Preliminary report of municipal lighting statistics. (New York): National electric light association, 1896. 14 p. HD4491.N2
 United States and Canada.
 New York (State) Public service commission. First district Report, 1909, v. 1. Albany: J. B. Lyon co., state printers, 1910, 1 vol. HD2767.N7A2 1909,v 1
 Electricity rates in New York City, 1909: v. 1, p. 491-498.
 Prices paid in certain cities for electric lighting, compiled by officers of the city of Duluth by correspondence. (In Bulletin of the League of American municipalities, v. 9, p. 143-4. May, 1908)
 Table showing rates, candle power, whether competition exists, and kind of power used, in about 100 cities.
- St. Louis. Public service commission. Analysis of rate calculations for electric light and power. (St. Louis? 1910) 39 p. TK25 S2A3 1910
 Rates: p. 77-81.
- Whitten, Robert H.
 Brief list of references to material containing comparative summaries or tabulations of prices charged for gas and electricity in various cities. (In Special Libraries, Mch., 1910. p. 23).
- Gas
- Adams, A. D.
 Cost of light in municipal and private gas and electric plants (in Massachusetts) Municipal engineering, Sept. 1902, v. 23: 160-164 TD1.M9,v.23
- Gas rates in the United States. Municipal journal and engineer, Aug., 1902, v. 13: 63-65. TD1.M95,v.13

- Brown's directory of American gas companies. Gas statistics. New York: "Progressive age," 1910. 508 p. TP714.B8
Includes prices charged for gas in American cities.
- Gas works directory and statistics, 1908-9. (Revised to July, 1908) London: Hazell, Watson & Viney, 1908. 465 p.
Includes prices charged for gas in cities of Great Britain and its colonies, with rates for foreign cities supplied by companies with London offices. TP733.G3G3
- Massachusetts. Board of gas and electric light commissioners. Annual report, 26th, 1910. Boston, 1911. 211, cccl p. TP724.M4A3 1910
Rates charged for gas in Massachusetts, 1908-10: p. 86-91.
- *Milwaukee gas light company. Prices charged for gas in various cities of the United States from 1889 to 1907, inclusive. 1907. 28 p.
Shows for each city changes in price from 1885, and gives a tabulation of cities selling gas in 1907 for \$1 or less.
- Prices for gas charged in the named European cities. American gas light journal, Jan. 11, 1904, v. 80: 44 TP700.A5,v.80
includes: Paris, Thoune, Olten, Neufchatel, Fribourg, Berne, Milan, Biarritz, Lourdes, Brussels, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hague.
- Whitten, Robert H. Brief list of references to material containing comparative summaries or tabulations of prices charged for gas and electricity in various cities. (In Special Libraries, Mch, 1910. p. 23.)
- Street Railways**
- Durand, E. D. Street-railway rates in the United States. American review of reviews, Feb., 1905, v. 31: 171-176. AP2.R4,v.31
- Financial results of electric railway operations in Germany. By a German engineer. Street railway journal, May 7, 1904, v. 23: 704-706 TF701.S65,v.23
Table showing the average fare per passenger in Breslau, Frankfurt, Dresden, Munchen, Berlin, Leipzig, Magdeburg, Dusseldorf, Coln, Hamburg, Hanover, 1901, 1902: p. 706.
- Howes, Osborn, jr. Report on the transportation of passengers in and around the cities of Europe, to the Rapid transit commission of the state of Massachusetts and the city of Boston. Boston: Press of Rockwell and Churchhill, 1891. 68 p.
"Rates of fare." p. 43-46 TF710.H8
- Knowlton, H. S. Street-railway fares in large cities. American review of reviews, July, 1905, v. 32: 80-84. AP2.R4,v.32
- Martin, John. Street-railways. (In Bliss, W. D. P., ed. The new encyclopedia of social reform, New York, 1908. p. 1164-1167.) H41.B62
Fares on German municipal street railways: p. 1167.
- New York (State) Public service commission. 1st district. Supervision of street railways in England and Prussia. Albany: J. B. Lyon co, state printer, 1909. 76 p. HE4715.N7
Rates (England): p. 26-29
Fares (Prussia). p. 49-51.
- U. S. Bureau of the census. Street and electric railways, 1907. Washington: Govt. print. off., 1910. 575 p. (Special reports) HA201.1900.B2
"Street railway fares:" p. 39-41.
- Vellguth. Neuere Grundsätze über Tarife bei Strassenbahnen. (Berlin: Druck von H. S. Hermann, 1903?) 38 p. HE4774.A3V5
"Sonderabdruck aus Mitteilungen des Vereins deutscher Strassenbahn-und-Kleinbahn-Verwaltungen (Beilage zur Zeitschrift für Kleinbahnen) 1903"
- Weiss, Lothar. Die Tarife der deutschen Strassenbahnen, ihre Technik und wirtschaftliche Bedeutung. Karlsruhe: G. Braun, 1904. 139 p. (Volkswirtschaftliche Abhandlungen der Badischen Hochschulen, hrsg. von C. J. Fuchs, K. Rathgen, G. von Schulze-Gavernitz, M. Weber. VII. Bd., 3. Ergänzungsbd.)
"Gewöhnliche Tarife " p. 116-123. HE4776.W42
- Telephones**
- Chicago. City council. Committee on telephone service and rates. Report. Sept 3, 1907. Chicago, 1907.
Report of telephone rates and service in American cities and of the foreign situation: p. 1309-1392.
- Gunther, Erwin. Die europäischen Fernsprechgebührentarife. Jena. G Fischer, 1910, 263 p. (Sammlung nationalökonomischer und statistischer Abhandlungen des staatswissenschaftlichen Seminars zu Halle a. d. S. hrsg von Dr. Joh. Conrad...61 Bd.) HES777.G9
"Tariftabellen:" p. 121-263.
- Hemenway, J F. Municipal telephones. Successful operation in European and English cities at much lower rates than afforded by the American monopoly. Municipal journal and engineer, Nov, 1903, v. 15: 189-191. TD1.M96,v.15

- Jackson, D. C. and Wm. B. Jackson.
Report to the Massachusetts highway commission on telephone rates for the Boston and suburban district. Boston: Wright & Potter Printing co., state printers, 1910. 66 p. HE8778.U6M5
- Merchants' Association of New York.
Inquiry into telephone service and rates in New York city. (New York): 1905. 57 p. HE8778.U6M4
Rates, p. 51-53
- Meyer, H. R.
Public ownership and the telephone in Great Britain. New York: The McMillan co, 1907. 386 p. HE9145.M4
Rates: p. 110-113.
- New York (state) Legislature. Joint committee to investigate telephone and telegraph companies.
Report. Albany: J. B. Lyon co., printers, 1910. 2 v.
Telephone rates: v. 1, p. 166-168, 1225-1231 HE7765.N7A5 1910a
- Paisons, Frank.
Telegraph and telephone services. (In Bliss, W. D. P. The new encyclopedia of social reform. New York, 1908, p. 1207-1212.) H41.B62
"Annual telephone rates-Direct unlimited service (Austria, Belgium, France, Great Britain, Germany, Holland, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United States)": p. 1212.
- Schwaighofer, Hans.
Die Grundlagen der Preisbildung im elektrischen Nachrichten-Verkehr. (Munchen: Buchdruckerei Gebrüder Haertl, 1903?) 162 p. HE7681.S3
- (Sears, V. A.)
Telephone development; status of the industry, scope and effect of competition. 2d ed. Boston: The Barta press, 1905. 121 p. HE8846.I3S5
"Rates and subscribers in some of the principal cities (of the United States)": p. 121.
- U. S. Bureau of labor.
Investigation of telephone companies. Feb. 24, 1910. Washington: Govt. print. off., 1910. 340 p. (61st Cong 2d sess. Senate doc. 380.) HD8039.T25U5, 1910
"Rates charged for service": p. 97-98, 136-144.
- Where telephoning is cheap (Sweden).
Scientific American, Jan. 3, 1903, v. 102: 10. T1.S5,v.102
- Water Supply**
- Brossman, Charles
Public water supply of Indiana, paper read at recent conference on water plants, sources of supply and conservation. (In 412-418).
(Contains tabulation of all water rates in the state.)
- Brown, C. C.
Water rates and rentals. (In Municipal engineering. v. 35, No. 2. p. 73-8. Aug. 1908).
- Grahn, E.
Die städtische Wasserversorgung im Deutschen Reich. München: R. Oldenbourg (1898)-1902. 2 vols. TD273.G8
Covers only the cities of Germany. Under each city will be found a statement of water rates paid there.
- Gwinn, D. R.
Water rates charged in 375 cities (of United States). (In American water works association. Proceedings, 1908. (Charleston, S. C., 1909) p. 209-222.) TD201.A5, 1908
"List of water rates charged in cities where water is furnished by private companies, 1907": p. 216-218.
"Water rates charged in cities where water is furnished by public-owned plants, 1907": p. 219-222.
- Herrmann, August.
Water rates (in the larger cities of the United States). Engineering record, Oct. 14, 1899, v. 40: 459-460. TA1 E62,v.40
A report submitted to the American society of municipal improvements.
- Johnson, C. O.
Water supply and prevention of waste in leading European cities. (New York: Economist press) 1903. 289 p. TD255.J67
Rates: p. 10, 16, 43, 65, 83-85, 89, 250-251. Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, London, Paris, Cologne, Berlin.
- Jordan, Frank C. Water rates (in the United States). City hall, Mar. 1909, v. 10: 332-333. JS39.C6,v.10
From a paper read before the Indiana sanitary and water supply association.
- London. County council. Local government and statistical dept.
Municipal water works. (London: Printed by J. Truscott and son), 1898. 51 p. TD264.L8A6
"Comparison of the charges for water by the corporations of county boroughs with the charges made by the London water companies": p. 11-13.
- Meter (water) rates in (38 American) cities of 100,000 population.
Municipal journal and engineer, Jan. 1905, v. 18: 29. TD1.M95,v.18

*Not in Library of Congress.

INVESTIGATIONS UNDER DIRECTION OF STATE LEGISLATURES.

The following list compiled by the legislative reference department of Indiana gives the subjects on which the legislatures of the various states have directed investigations to be made and reports submitted to the legislature at their next or subsequent sessions.

The year when the reports are to be made is given and where the investigation is to be made by an administrative officer or commission, that fact is noted. In all cases where no reference is given, the work is to be done by a special commission.

Investigations of a local character have not been included unless the subject seemed to be of great importance.

Banking and insurance laws, Codification and revision of. Georgia 1912. Two commissions

Building laws. Illinois, 1913.

Building laws and conditions. Pennsylvania, 1913.

Capital punishment—Methods of inflicting and the expediency of a central prison for inflicting death penalty. Pennsylvania, 1913.

Chestnut tree blight. Permanent commission to study for its prevention and control. Pennsylvania. Created 1911.

Child Labor. Delaware, 1913.

Children. Commission to consolidate and reform laws relating to. Ohio, 1913.

City and county government of Albany, New York. New York, 1912

Coal mining laws. To revise and codify the anthracite coal mining law. Pennsylvania, 1913.

Cold storage. Massachusetts, 1912

Commutation tickets and practices. Massachusetts, 1912. Railroad commission.

Convict camps. Georgia, 1912. Sub-committees.

Convict labor, Utilization of products of. Massachusetts, 1912. Prison commission.

Corporations and revenue. Pennsylvania, 1913. The commission reported in 1911 and was continued.

County and township organization—Roads, highway and bridge laws, Illinois, 1913.

Defectives—Condition of blind, deaf and dumb. Delaware commission for the blind, 1913.

Defectives—Feeble-minded and epileptics—segregation care and treatment. Pennsylvania, 1913.

Dependent and wayward children, Commitment of. Connecticut, 1913. State Board of charities.

Drainage laws and practice. Illinois, 1913.

Education—Local and state share of cost. Massachusetts, 1913. State board of education.

Election and registration law. Oregon, 1913.

Election law—Revision and codification. Pennsylvania, 1913. Commission appointed in 1909,—continued in 1911.

Employers liability. Delaware, 1913.

Employers liability and workmens compensation. Iowa, 1913.

—, Michigan, 1913.

—, Nebraska, 1913.

—, New Jersey. Annually Commission is permanent and reports on works of the law of 1911.

—, West Virginia, 1913.

Fire insurance methods, rates, etc. Wisconsin, 1913.

Foods and food stuffs—Prices, purity, production, distribution and consumption. New York, 1912

High school education. Massachusetts, 1912. State board of education.

Indebtedness and finance of cities and towns. Massachusetts, 1912. Director, Bureau of statistics.

Infantile paralysis. Massachusetts. State board of health, 1911.

Industrial accidents—Causes and results and methods of safeguarding. Pennsylvania, 1913.

Industrial and agricultural education Indiana, 1913.

Industrial education—Part time schools. Massachusetts, 1913. State board of education.

Industrial education—Textiles. Massachusetts, 1912. State board of education.

Insurance—Fire rates and classification and old age insurance. Illinois, 1913.

Judicial system of Georgia. Georgia, 1912.

Lobbying—Investigation of violations of the Wisconsin law. Report made 1911.

Local government—Uniform methods. Georgia, 1912.

Manufacturing—Conditions under which manufacturing is carried on in cities of the first and second class. New York, Feb. 15, 1912.

Metropolitan plan to co-ordinate civic development of Boston and vicinity. Massachusetts, 1912.

Occupational diseases. Ohio, 1913.

Old age pension and insurance. New Jersey. Annually. Permanent commission of advice and investigation.

Penal farms and state workhouse. Indiana, 1913.

Port conditions and pier extensions in New York. Joint committee with New Jersey and U. S. government. Appointed, 1911.

Public utilities. Illinois, 1913.

Recording titles to property. Methods in use regarding the recording of deeds and mortgages. Pennsylvania, 1913.

Rivers and lakes and other waters. Illinois Permanent commission.

Rural life conditions. Nebraska, 1913.
Schoolbooks—Prices, and text-book situation. Wisconsin, 1913.

State engineering expense and organization. Massachusetts, 1912. Ex-officio board, Chairman, railroad commission; board of health; metropolitan park commission; metropolitan sewerage commission; harbor and land commission.

State insurance for workmen. Connecticut, 1913.

State supervision of schools securing state aid. Massachusetts 1912 State board of education.

Street railways—Equipping with fenders and wheel guards. Massachusetts, 1912. State railroad commission.

Taxation—General system. Michigan, 1913.

Taxation—General system and exemptions. Oregon, 1912. For election purposes. Tax commission and special commission.

Taxation of foreign corporations. Massachusetts, 1912. Tax commissioner.

Taxation of forest lands. Connecticut, 1913. State forester, tax commissioner and three appointed members.

Taxation of railways and street railways. Connecticut, 1913.

Teachers' pensions. Massachusetts, 1913. State board of education.

Transportation system of Boston. Massachusetts, 1912. Railroad commission and Boston transit commission.

Trusts—Ice and coal in Madison. Wisconsin. Attorney general.

Voluntary associations. Massachusetts, 1912. Tax commission.

Wages of women and children and advisability of establishing minimum wage board. Massachusetts, 1912.

Water storage and conservation. Development, utilization and distribution of water power. New York, Feb 1, 1912.

Women and minors. Conditions under which women and minors are employed and wages, hours of labor, etc., of women and minors in state institutions. Conn., 1913.

Women, Higher education of. Delaware, 1913. State Board of Education.

Workmens compensation for industrial accidents. Massachusetts, 1912. Commission continued from 1911.

NOTES

The Secretary's office has on file application of a young man, college graduate, library school graduate, with 2½ years' experience at Library of Congress, and as librarian of a University with reading knowledge of Latin, French and German, as well as cataloguing knowledge of Spanish, Dutch, Italian and several other modern languages. This applicant is open for a new position.

Another applicant is specially interested in establishing or assisting in a library of engineering, industrial, manufacturing or financial character. She is well qualified in reference and bibliographical work, a graduate of State Normal School, has also taken library school courses. List of published bibliographies which she has prepared furnished on request. Open to advancement.

The certified public accountants, Ernst & Ernst, with offices in New York City, Cleveland, Ohio and Chicago have employed Miss Laura E. Babcock to establish an accountancy library. This should be of interest to our readers.

A bill has been introduced into the U. S. House of Representatives by Congressman John M. Nelson of Wisconsin, providing for a department of legislative reference in the Library of Congress. The bill carries an appropriation of \$50,000

Mr. Robert A. Campbell, formerly head of the legislative reference department of the California state library, has been appointed secretary of the newly created board of public affairs of the state of Wisconsin.