Winter 1979


Syracuse University Library Associates

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ARCHIMEDES RUSSELL, 1840 - 1915
from *Memorial History of Syracuse, New York, From Its Settlement to the Present Time*,
by Dwight H. Bruce, Published in Syracuse, New York, by H.P. Smith, 1891.
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News of the Library and Library Associates

The program for the 1979-1980 season promises to be outstanding. Starting the season in September, Dr. Harvey H. Kaiser, vice president for Facilities Administration at Syracuse University, spoke about the architecture of the great Adirondack camps. The rustic decorations of the mansions in their secluded settings and the life-style of their owners were part of a larger discussion of the architectural forms.

In October, Dr. Richard Fallis presented a sensitive and revealing lecture on the continuing violence in Ireland as perceived by some of its great writers in this century.

The Fall Members’ Luncheon featured Christopher Keene, Music Director of the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Keene is one of the outstanding young conductors from the United States. His speaking ability is outstanding as well. He presented an interesting and amusing lecture on his adventures as an international conductor. He remarked on the place of the symphony orchestra in today’s hectic world where audiences go, in part, for the respite found in the familiar beauty of past musical forms.

In January, Dr. Sidney Thomas will speak on “What We Know About Shakespeare’s Texts.” Eva Hardin will give a lecture in February on the Syracuse architect, Archimedes Russell, designer of Crouse College. Jean Cocteau is the subject of Dr. Paul Schneider’s talk in March. The Annual Meeting in April will present H.J. Swinney, Director of the Strong Museum in Rochester, New York, speaking on the collection at the new museum.

This year the Board of Trustees of Library Associates met early to consider reports from the various committees, in particular those of the Membership Committee. Plans are being made for a strong effort to increase membership, a continuing need if Library Associates is to find significant funding for special acquisitions.

A brochure is being used to appeal to a wide range of interests. All our members should have received one by the time this appears. Beyond the interesting programs presented for members in Syracuse, and beyond receiving The Courier, the trustees feel that support of the libraries is a worthwhile investment in itself.
The Board of Trustees and the membership, by voice vote on November 9, approved an amendment to Library Associates' constitution which allows the Board to set a membership donations schedule. With more categories to choose from, some members may decide to raise their yearly gifts. The five-dollar donations for students and senior citizens will not be changed. (See inside back cover.)

The amendment of Article II, Membership, Section I, reads as follows:

Membership is open to any individual interested in the Syracuse University Libraries. Categories of membership shall be established by the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Snow Memorial Foundation Grant

Of special interest to Library Associates is a matching grant from the Snow Memorial Trust for the construction of a new building to house the Syracuse University Audio Archive and Thomas Alva Edison Recording Laboratory. The grant, which must be matched by Syracuse University, is for $300,000.00 to be paid over a period of five years. The foundation has already granted $60,000.00 toward the cost of architectural plans and site selection.

The need for a special building is apparent, not only because the present quarters are to be demolished, but also because the size and importance of the collection and the laboratory warrant accessibility plus modern storage and acoustical design.

Errata

In the last issue of The Courier (XVI, 2, Summer 1979), Marian Borst was mistakenly named Marian Forrest in the talk by St. Lawrence University President Frank P. Piskor. Mrs. Borst was secretary to Dr. Piskor when he was vice-chancellor of Syracuse University. He remembered that she had given him a Marianne Moore letter for his collection. Mrs. Borst is now secretary to Chancellor Melvin A. Eggers at Syracuse University.

Our apologies to Mrs. Borst. Perhaps we do need to be reminded often that tape-recordings are not to be trusted!

In Memoriam

Dr. Florence Ruth Van Hoesen, professor emeritus in the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University, died on August 24, 1979. She was valued highly by her students as a teacher and a friend. In 1958 she received the Beta Phi Mu award for Distinguished Service to Education in Librarianship. She was honored with a Life Membership in Library Associates in 1960.
The Syracuse University Libraries have lost one of their staunchest supporters. Mr. Elmer G. Quin of Rochester, New York, died on August 8, 1979. Mr. Quin was president of the Syracuse University Alumni Class of 1912. Through his leadership the class gave over $50,000.00 to the libraries. Mr. Quin was a member of Library Associates Board of Trustees from 1967 to 1969, when he became a member of the Advisory Council.

Another Gift from Germany

The Leopold van Ranke Collection continues to receive support from West Germany’s Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. Dr. Marie-Cecile Schulte-Strathaus, cultural affairs officer of the West German consulate in New York City, presented the von Ranke Cataloging Project a check for $5,000.00 from the City of Berlin. In addition, several backsets of scholarly periodicals from the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were given by the German research agency. The periodicals, some original copies and some in reprint, are worth nearly $10,000.00. They will make the holdings of the period more nearly complete in the collection’s subject areas. The following is a list of the titles and dates of the periodicals:

Akademie der Wissenschaften, Göttingen Nachrichten, 1845-1874, 1881-1886, 1888-1889, 1892-1893, 40 volumes.
Annalen der leidenden Menschheit. 1795-1801. 10 volumes.
Der Genius des Zeit. 1794-1800, 21 volumes.
Das neue graue Ungeheuer. 1795-1797, 10 parts in 3 volumes.
Das neueste graue Ungeheuer. 1796-1798, 2 volumes.
Forschung zur brandenburgischen und preussischen Geschichte. 1915, Volume 28; 1920, Volume 33.
Zeitschrift für Kirchengeschichte. 1877-1936, 49 volumes.

The importance of the great historian’s collection is keenly appreciated by the official German research agency. At the presentation ceremony at the Bird Library, Dr. Schulte-Strathaus remarked that the funding assistance and the periodicals were more than a gift, almost an obligation to aid in the development of the collections for scholarly use.

Other sources of financial support are still being sought to complete the project, which includes the preservation of important materials as well as the cataloging of the collection. The von Ranke library was most recently discussed in The Courier, XV, 2 and 3, Summer 1978.
Meeting in New York City

Library Associates is sponsoring a meeting for members, alumni, and friends in New York City at Syracuse University’s Lubin House, 11 East 61st Street, on Wednesday, March 12, 1980. The meeting will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. in the library. Light refreshments will be served preceding the talk which is scheduled for 7:40 P.M.

The speaker will be Mr. Edwin Wolf II, librarian of The Library Company of Philadelphia. His talk is titled “Books as Physical Objects, a Heavy Subject in a Light Vein.”

Some of our readers may not know that The Library Company, founded in 1731 by Benjamin Franklin, is the oldest subscription library in the country. There are many important historical items in its collection. Library Associates is honored to have Mr. Wolf as speaker. Perhaps this lecture will be the start of a regular program for New York area Library Associates.
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

Founded in 1953, Syracuse University Library Associates is a voluntary non-profit organization associated with Syracuse University. Its purpose is to promote interest in the Syracuse University Libraries, to encourage gifts and bequests which support the programs of the libraries, and to publicize the resources and facilities of the libraries through publications, programs, exhibitions, and other means. Through such activities our members share in the resources of the Syracuse University Libraries and contribute to their excellence. Members are invited to participate in meetings, special lectures, and programs; they receive The Courier, which disseminates information about the collections at the Syracuse University Libraries.

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*Students and Senior Citizens