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## Special Libraries, December 1910

Special Libraries Association

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# Special Libraries

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The meeting of the Special Libraries Association in Boston, November 11, adds another chapter to the significant progress which the association is making. The program was practical and comprehensive, the attendance was good; and the publicity given to the meetings by the press shows the lively interest being taken in the work.

A full digest of the papers and addresses will be published in the January issue of Special Libraries

The constitution of the association was amended to make the dues one dollar per year. The subscription price of Special Libraries will remain at two dollars, but to members the price will be one dollar. This action was necessary to conform to the rules of the postoffice department regarding second class mail matter.

A second meeting will be held the first week in January in Chicago, the program and exact date of which will be later announced.

## THE LIBRARY SIDE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE, BALTIMORE.

MARY S. WALLIS, Cataloger.

The mere details of library routine work make rather dry reading for those not especially interested in the kind of work discussed; but special libraries have little problems of their own arising, and such information as to what others are doing to solve them will be welcome to each one in its development. As legislative reference libraries are increasing so rapidly, we may expect before very long an interchange of bibliographies, digests of laws, and discussions of common interest published by the departments themselves. Some libraries are already doing such valuable service. It would be well, however, to have more cooperation in the organization and methods of such libraries; and the freer the discussions, the better for the libraries.

The Baltimore department occupies three small rooms adjacent to the second branch council chamber. It is in no way connected with the state, city or public library, and all the material required for its use must be collected and kept on file by the department itself. As quite as much attention is given to state as to municipal matters, the constant accumulation of material along both lines gives rise to the problem of shelving room and storage. New sections of six shelves each have just been ordered, which will require a shifting of almost the whole library, consisting of 1,315 books and 5,416 pamphlets, excluding bills, clippings and articles of four pages and less. At the same time an inventory will be taken and there will be a careful weeding out process, for as yet nothing has been discarded but unimportant duplicates. Some of our volumes to which reference is seldom made, such as out of date financial reports, United States labor reports and bulletins, have been stored away in a corner of a council committee room, arranged systematically, and the place of each volume designated upon the catalog cards by a small red cross

The special scheme of the Dewey decimal classification, as devised by the Wisconsin department, has been found to be a very satisfactory basis, with, of course, additions and changes to suit individual needs of the library. Each special library must devise its own scheme or else adapt another which serves as a basis, for the de-

mands of each differ considerably. The number for taxation in Baltimore was expanded to include tax on city stock, department stores, manufactures, taxation in the annex, etc., as these questions came up for discussion. The number for commission government was changed to take its place before the city charters in the executive's room, where it was in demand. Many changes and additional subject headings were made and are being made continually, for investigations along new subjects are ceaseless. The aim in classifying is to place all material on a given subject in one place. Although this necessitates filing papers, clippings, bills, and pamphlets among the books upon the shelves, the convenience in knowing what may be had at a glance, justifies the method. Large manila envelopes and pamphlet boxes of two sizes are used for the preservation of the scrappy material. Separate bills from other states are classified according to subject and tied with red tape between cardboard in pamphlet form. Clippings from newspapers are mounted upon cardboard, tied together with tape, or, if over size, placed in large envelopes, while pages cut from books and magazines are made into pamphlets by the Hotchkiss pamphlet machine. All these are classified according to subject. The clipping method is used freely upon magazines, newspapers and some duplicates, requiring so much time that outside help had to be engaged several times to get through with the mass of it. The most useful of our magazines, such as *The City Hall*, *The American City*, *Municipal Journal and Engineer* and *The Survey* will be sent to the binder's, but cards are made for all articles in them to which reference may be made. Duplicates are kept separate, classified and arranged on top of the shelves, except those which are in constant demand, such as the Maryland public service commission law, which are placed with the library copy; no record is kept of them, as they are given freely to those who wish them.

Letters, in answer to circular inquiries upon specific subjects are placed in the letter file under the subject, these forming an entirely separate file from the general correspondence which is arranged by city and state. Typewritten reports of investigations made by the department are placed in the subject file under "General Information." All Baltimore material is placed together in one room upon separate shelves, covering almost the whole scheme of classification in itself.

The dictionary catalog is now composed of about 15,000 cards. The weeding out process upon the shelves will necessitate a corresponding weeding among the cards, yet the daily increase of material means an

ever-growing catalog. Condensation in certain cases is helpful to the investigator as well as a saving of labor on the part of the cataloger; for example, references to laws or ordinances on a certain subject are arranged in a list on one or two cards, instead of a separate card for each one. The catalog tells, among its other detailed information, what subjects may be found in the letter file; thus the catalog is a key to the whole library, and in minute analysis scarcely an article of importance, if only a page, is allowed to escape. The hard and fast rules of cataloging a large public or college library may be boiled down or dispensed with in a library of this kind. Thus, the author's full name, date of birth and death are not necessary, and a name list is of little value, while a subject list is of great value to the cataloger. Accuracy, however, regarding rules adopted must be observed.

During the session of the legislature the bills are indexed as fast as they are sent up from the printers. At the last session twelve copies of each bill were received, one each for our permanent file, six for complete sets to exchange with other states, and the rest for general distribution. The proceedings as printed in the newspapers are clipped and preserved. When the list of bills as signed by the governor appears, it is indicated on the cards by the letter "P," meaning "passed." In case of amendments, notes are added on the cards referring to pages in the journal proceedings or perhaps to typewritten copies in the letter file. Ordinances are received from the city register soon after they are passed by the council and approved by the mayor, and are also indexed under specific subjects. Thus we have four card indexes, the regular dictionary catalog, legislative bills, ordinances and the bills of the different states received from the Law Reporting Company.

The checking up of all the cards as published by the Law Reporting Company is too great a task for the cataloger during the busy time of the legislature, but the sheets were found very useful in tracing up Maryland bills and in checking up those that had been passed. After reviewing and discarding all local and unimportant bills, they were filed under our own subject headings which were typewritten in the upper left-hand corner. This, however, had to be discontinued under pressure of other work. We think the experiment of the Law Reporting Company a success, though its value will become greater as it develops into more perfected service. To keep in touch with legislation all over the country should certainly be the aim of legislative reference libraries.

A careful selection of public documents

is kept on file, and is of much value for statistical purposes. They include reports and bulletins of the Department of Labor, Department of Agriculture, Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Statistics.

Besides legislators and councilmen, to whom preference is given, the library is utilized by reporters looking up information for their "stories," heads of departments, lawyers, students and many others who generally come for some definite information. If it is not on hand, it is immediately procured if possible. A careful record is kept of material loaned, but there are no strict rules as to their return. If in demand from another source, or we have good reason to think that the borrower has finished with it, notice may be sent by letter or telephone.

As the latest information on any subject is in most demand, the material is kept as strictly up to date as possible. Bulletins and reports of municipal leagues, city clubs and other organizations often give information as to recent publications.

A wise selection of material, a thorough system of preserving it, and a cheerful spirit of helping each visitor as completely as possible, often bring to the legislative reference department those who have searched in vain elsewhere, and they often find what they want but did not expect. So such libraries will grow in the public confidence, and they will be the first ones to which such investigators will turn every time.

#### SOURCES OF MUNICIPAL INFORMATION.

FREDERICK REX, Assistant Statistician Municipal Library, Chicago.

The sources of municipal information are chiefly documentary, secured in the reports and publications issued by the numerous boards and departments of the federal, state and local governments.

The United States Census Bureau issues publications relating to municipal government in its various phases. Among its annual publications the "Mortality Statistics" and "Statistics of Cities Having a Population of Over 30,000" may be cited as bearing on municipal affairs. The former annually gives statistics of mortality in the "registration area," while the latter each year contains the financial statistics of municipalities, and in alternate years includes their social statistics. The preparation and printing of the last named report usually takes from one year and a half to two years, and includes monographs on special topics, such as water supply, sewerage systems, milk, etc. Among the bureau's less frequent publications are reports on public utilities, viz.: electric light and power stations, street railways, telephones

and telegraphs, taxation and allied topics. A considerable mass of data bearing on municipal activities is scattered through the various census reports and bulletins, and is readily available upon proper search being made.

The bi-monthly bulletins of the United States Bureau of Labor from time to time contain comparative material on municipal functions in this country and in Europe. The reports of the United States commissioner of labor are replete with matter covering municipal topics, viz: public utilities, education, hours of labor, liquor problem, housing, etc.

The Bureau of Manufactures of the Department of Labor issues reports on city affairs and government. The scope of these reports may be instanced by the following titles taken at random, viz.: "Municipal Markets and Slaughter Houses in Europe" and "Municipal Taxation in Europe." The daily and monthly consular reports are also useful.

The reports of the federal commissioner of education contain the educational statistics of cities. The Geological Survey and the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Labor issue matter periodically, bearing on municipal questions. The hearings before the committees of the House of Representatives and Senate and of the special government commissions are often very elaborate and contain discussions of city problems at the hands of experts.

The bibliographies most widely attempting to cover the field of municipal information are Brooks' "Bibliography of Municipal Problems" and Brown's "List of Titles on Municipal Government," prepared for the use of the Chicago charter convention. The usefulness of the first is limited by the period of time elapsed since its publication. Brown's bibliography contains much material on the legislative and administrative functions of cities. There are also many special bibliographies treating on certain phases of civic problems.

The city charters and ordinances, as a rule, can be obtained for the asking, and are helpful as aids in comparative legislation. Hatton's "Digest of City Charters" readily gives the seeker the information which otherwise can only be compiled after painstaking search. The annual municipal departmental reports must be thoroughly indexed to make them available as sources. Here lie hidden amidst a mass of irrelevant material data on street cleaning, refuse and sewage disposal, paving, harbors, traffic regulation, public baths, the milk problem, municipal finances, and the like, which taxes the skill of experienced index clerks in the attempt to garner the wheat from the chaff.

Extended studies are made occasionally

by acknowledged experts in their respective fields for cities seeking ways and means to solve vexing problems, among a number, the following being instanced: Parsons-Hering-Whinery report on street cleaning and waste disposal, Arnold's reports on traction matters, Burgess and Jackson reports on the telephone, and Haskins and Sells on municipal accounting.

As a means of keeping abreast with current municipal legislation, it is essential that the published proceedings of boards of aldermen and city councils be obtained regularly and indexed carefully. Reports made by state boards and commissions having jurisdiction over municipal matters can be obtained upon payment of express charges or postage, if not gratis. Clippings from newspapers and magazines furnish a fund of information hard to procure otherwise. The local public and special reference libraries are additional sources and frequently the working libraries of specialists, experts and corporations furnish the data for which an unavailing search has been made. Other methods failing or proving unsatisfactory, questionnaires may be sent out to those able to furnish information, and the replies duly summarized and tabulated.

It is not here intended to demarcate the sources of municipal information. On the contrary, they may be defined as being entirely dependent on the ingenuity and originality of the librarian and his staff.

#### STATE LEGISLATION.

The subjects which will be most prominently before the legislatures of the states this winter are here given, listed under the names of the states. This list is not complete for some states, and does not include all of the states; but it is believed the list given will greatly aid co-operation.

Several matters will come before all the legislatures in session. Employers' liability and workmen's compensation will be considered everywhere. The reports of seven state commissions will be made. A uniform law for the control of fraternal insurance companies and for the control of casualty and health insurance companies will be presented.

The uniform divorce act of the commissioners on uniform laws will also be presented.

The sanitary factory measure advocated by the Association of Food and Drug Commissioners, and passed in several states two years ago, will be presented to all the remaining states.

The income tax amendment to the federal constitution will be presented to all states which have not yet adopted it.

Congressional apportionment and legislative apportionment following the recent

census will be considered in nearly every state.

**California:** Uniform accounting and examination of accounts; General act for commission plan of government for cities, Fee system, County home rule; Improved business methods in cities and counties; Civil service and merit system; Conservation of natural resources, Waterpower; Irrigation and reclamation districts; Mineral lands; Initiative; Recall, Referendum; Elimination of party circle and party column from the ballot; Non-partisan judiciary; publicity of campaign expenses, Regulation of lobbyists; restoration of Australian ballot; Short ballot, Simplification of direct primary laws generally and providing for statewide advisory vote on U. S. senators; Enforcement of anti-trust laws; Employers' liability act; Injunctions in labor disputes, Exclusion of Oriental labor; Improvement of harbors, Improvement of public roads; Child labor law; Eight-hour law, Factory inspections, Labor unions, Simplification of the law of criminal procedure, Public service commission; Railroad commission; Legislation prohibiting free passes; Reformatory for first offenders; Physical valuation of railway property; Woman suffrage, Marine tax, Inheritance tax, Separation of the sources of state and local revenues.

**Connecticut:** Public utility commission; Primary elections; Employers' liability and workmen's compensation.

**Illinois:** Civil service, Cook county; Initiative and referendum, Repeal of cumulative voting provision of constitution, Corrupt practices act; Occupational diseases, Employers' liability and workmen's compensation, Industrial education, Safeguarding of mines, Regulation of fire insurance rating and classification.

**Indiana:** Repeal of county option law; Township and ward option and regulation of liquor traffic; Registration of voters; Interurban railways, safety regulation, Teachers' pensions, state highway commission; Employers' liability and workmen's compensation; The uniform commercial acts, Primary elections, Statewide extension, Convict labor; Commission government for cities; Corrupt practices, Governor's power of removal of state and local officials, Law's delays; Abolition of township advisory boards and county councils; Recall, Certified public accountants, Child labor; Night messenger service, Weights and measures; Capitalization of corporations.

**Iowa:** Agricultural teaching in high schools; Automobile law, Conservation of natural resources, Employers' liability and workmen's compensation; Inheritance tax, Fire marshal (state); Health laws; Intoxicating liquors; Publicity of the state's advantages for residence and business; Private banks; Peddlers, especially vendors of drugs, School laws, Woman's reformatory, Road laws; Taxation in general, Tax commission, Primary laws, Convict labor, Pure foods; Public service commission; Civil service; State publicity bureau; Temporary tax commission; Repeal of tax on moneys and credits; Public utilities commission; Commission plan for schools in cities over 25,000, Epileptic hospital, Woman suffrage; New drainage laws, Creation of five water storage basins, Provision for women factory inspectors, New insurance department; Transfer of banking department to state treasurer's office; New good roads law; Non-partisan judiciary.

**Kansas:** Assessment and taxation, revision of laws; Automobiles, regulation of, Campaign expenses, publicity of; Drainage, ditches and dikes; Employers' liability; Fees and salaries of town and county officers, Inheritance tax, Initiative and referendum; Insurance laws, revision with special reference to fees charged foreign companies; Jury law, revision of; Labor disputes, arbitration of, Land registration; Mortgage taxation; Moving pictures, regulation of; Primary elections, Public utilities, state regula-

tion; Recall; Removal of cause to federal courts; Schools, centralization, medical examination of pupils, minimum term, state aid to weak districts, state publication of text-books; Short ballot; Slaughter-house regulation; State officers, four year terms, Sunday amusements (baseball, theater, etc.); Teachers' pensions; Uniform municipal and county accounting; Ventilation of public buildings; Weights and measures—law to require standardized barrels, boxes, baskets, sacks, etc.

**Massachusetts:** State income tax; Free mill tax; Unearned increment tax; Foreign corporation tax; Workingmen's compensation for injuries; Eight-hour bill; Fifty-four-hour bill; Labor union fines bill; Injunctions; Child labor; Strike law, Initiative and referendum; Direct nominations; Direct election of United States senators; Woman suffrage; Corrupt Practices act, especially in regard to limited expenditures by candidates; Tuberculosis; Milk inspection; Meat inspection; Cold storage freight rates on milk; Industrial and technical education; uniform accounting; Local government board; Civil service as applied to cities and towns; Municipal charters, especially commission form of governing; Civil pensions, especially teachers' pensions.

**Michigan:** General taxation; Taxation of credits; Employers' liability and workmen's compensation; Convict labor; Woman suffrage amendment to the constitution; Industrial education; Liquor, including treatment of drunkenness.

**Minnesota:** County option; Taxation of iron ore; Employers' liability and workmen's compensation; Protection against forest fires; Reforestation; Woman suffrage; Sale of state lands; Good roads; Primary election law and amendments.

**Missouri:** Taxation; Highways; Public utilities regulation; Control of elections and police in large cities; Divorce; Convict labor; Crimes generally; Regulation of sale of intoxicating liquors.

**Montana:** Road laws, considering especially convict labor on highways; Employers' liability and workmen's compensation; Free employment bureaus; Commission government for cities; Direct primaries; Income tax; Creation of public utility commission; Conservation of natural resources.

**Nebraska:** County option; Initiative and referendum, constitutional amendment; Good roads; Non-partisan boards of control for state institutions; Employers' liability and workmen's compensation; Taxation; Amendment to constitution; Trust company regulation; Automobiles; Bridge construction, safeguards for public; Board of pardons; Consolidation of country schools; Industrial education; Bank guarantee amendment.

**New Hampshire:** Express and freight rates; Public utilities commission; Good roads and their maintenance; Employers' liability; Campaign expenditures and contributions by corporations; Direct primary, delegates to national conventions; Free pass; Permanent tax commission; Anti-lobby law; Constitutional convention to deal with taxation and representation; Liquor, protection of dry territory; Highways and automobiles.

**New Jersey:** Governor's power of removal of public officers; Primary elections; Corporation control; Liquor licensing; Automobiles; Industrial education; Employer's liability and workmen's compensation.

**New York:** Direct nominations; Personal registration of voters; Corrupt practices; Regulation of elections in New York City; Sunday baseball; Race-track regulation; Income tax; Conservation of forests and water power; Agricultural education; Tuberculosis—local preventive measures; Labor legislation; Local regulation of public utilities in New York City.

**North Dakota:** Good roads; State tax commission; Initiative and referendum; Board of control of state charitable, penal and reformatory institutions; Board of regents for state ed-

ucational institutions; Primary laws—extension; Non-partisan judiciary; Free passes; Classification of property for taxation purposes; Fellow-servant rule; Uniform accounting; Freight and express rates; Civil service; Four year term for governor and state officers.

**Ohio:** Public utility commission; Single board of control for state institutions; Maximum tax rate of ten mills, to be increased only by vote of the people; Employers' liability and workmen's compensation; Canal improvement; Local option, probable amendment of county option law; Necessary action for a convention of the states to elect United States senators by popular vote; Uniform school book law; Initiative and referendum; Extension of the teaching of agriculture; Non-partisan judiciary; Limiting the hours of labor of employed women; Competitive bidding by banks for state deposits.

**Oregon:** Employers' liability; Constitutional convention; Extension of direct primary law; Normal schools; Board of people's inspectors of government; Proportional representation; Liquor legislation; Initiative, modification of law; Income tax; Cabinet system of state government; Road legislation; Water power legislation.

**Pennsylvania:** Saving bank annuities; Old age pensions; Attachment of wages; Cold storage; Commission form of government; Compulsory arbitration of labor disputes; Taxation of corporations; Graduated direct inheritance tax; General election law; Direct nominations, especially of United States senators; Regulation of expert testimony; Jury system; Juvenile courts, extension of jurisdiction; Oil and gas well legislation; Extending power of the railroad commission, over public utilities; Weights and measures; State wide improvement of roads.

**South Dakota:** One of the chief legislative measures will be the complete revision of the school system from district schools to state university.

**Texas:** Regulation of weights and measures; Regulation of bakeries; Regulation of automobiles; Management of county and city jails and poor farms; The institution of county boards of education; A constitutional amendment separating the state university and the agricultural and mechanical college; A special statutory tax for the support of the university; A tax probably by constitutional amendment for the support of the agricultural and mechanical college; Indeterminate and suspended sentence and parole; Employers' liability; Compulsory attendance; Branding of convict-made goods; Child labor; Compelling street car companies to furnish their cars with vestibules for motormen and conductors.

**Wisconsin:** Certified accountants; Apprentice laws; Assessment (Milwaukee property at full value); Automobile regulation; Ballot laws, Ballot—short; Child labor—presence in factory prima facie evidence of employment, Child labor—prohibit girls in factories under 16; Conservation; Continuation schools; Convict labor—binding twine plant; Corrupt practices—regulation; Co-operation commission—establishment; County hospitals for chronic tubercular patients; Court procedure—investigation; Election laws, second choice ballots, closed primary, corrupt practice act, registration laws, disfranchisement on account of moving; Employers' liability and workmen's compensation; Forest fires, protection; Fraternal societies—prohibited occupations; Home purchase—easy payment schemes; Home rule for cities; Income tax; Industrial education; Initiative and referendum; Industrial insurance; Limitation of election expenses; Liquor, manufacturers not to be interested in retail license, building, etc.; Meat inspection, state; Medical inspection of schools; Nurses—registration; Old age pensions—support of federal law; Recall—commission government law; Restraint of trade—repeal; Roads; Sanitary quarters for men working on construction work; Spring shooting—abolished; State lands to actual settlers; State

purchasing agent; Strikes—compelling employers to mention the fact that a strike is on when advertising for men during a strike; Suffrage—educational qualifications; Teachers' pensions; Text books, free; Township schools, with transportation, buildings, agricultural instruction, citizenship to be taught, playgrounds, etc

#### PUBLIC AFFAIRS, NOTES AND REFERENCES.

**Banking.** The general banking law of Nevada, passed in 1909 (ch. 191), was declared unconstitutional in *Marymont vs. Nevada State Banking Board*, 111 Pac. R. 295. Requires that banking be engaged in only by corporations chartered for the purpose. Denies inherent right of every citizen to engage in a lawful business.

**Child Labor.** Part VI of the fourteenth biennial report of the Wisconsin Bureau of Labor and Industrial Statistics is devoted to child labor in Wisconsin. Gives text of the law on child labor and a complete statistical report of its operation. Madison (1910). 73 pages.

**Child Labor.** Bulletin No. 89 (July, 1910) of the U S Bureau of Labor contains the results of an extended investigation of child labor in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland, by C. W. A. Veditz. This report gives a history of the legislation in each country and the practical workings. Bulletin No. 80 (January, 1909) covered the subject for Great Britain.

**Commission Government.** A digest with an excellent bibliography of the Des Moines plan of city government has been compiled by Edward C Lytton, secretary to the mayor 11 pages

**Employers' Liability and Workmen's Compensation.** The commission appointed in Illinois in 1910 to investigate this subject has issued its report, Chicago, Ill (317 Fisher Bldg.), 1910 249 pages. This commission disagreed upon the form of a bill, and the dissenting opinion is given. The report gives much valuable opinion and data. Commissions will report on this subject this winter in Wisconsin, Minnesota, New Jersey, Ohio and Massachusetts. Recent reports have been made in New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. The subject will come before practically every legislature in session. A recent work of great value by Frankel and Dawson has been issued by the Russell Sage foundation on workmen's compensation in Europe.

**Election Systems.** A royal commission in England investigated the systems of elections. The minutes of evidence just published is a blue book of 203 pages. It covers defects of present system, second ballot, alternative vote, minority representation, proportional representation, transferable vote. The question of transferable vote is extensively discussed. P. S King (1910). Price, 1s 8d.

**Food—Prices.** Report of joint committee of the Ohio legislature to inquire into the purchase, storage, sale of and traffic in food products, commodities and supplies. Columbus, 1910. 30 pages. Contains results of investigations and recommendations.

**Fire Losses.** The Insurance Press, New York City, published January 8, 1910, gives a ten years' fire record for the whole country.

**Game—Interstate Commerce.** The federal law prohibiting shipment in interstate commerce of game killed in violation of local laws was upheld in *Rupert vs. U. S.* in the district court for the western district of Oklahoma, March 5, 1910. 181 Fed. Rep. 87.

**Game Laws.** Farmers' Bulletin, No. 418, U. S. Department of Agriculture, contains a summary of the provisions relating to seasons, shipments, sale limits and licenses. Washington (1910). 47 pages.

**Good Roads.** The most useful publication to legislators on this subject is the bulletin of the legislative reference department of North Dakota, which gives an outline of the state road systems, with useful summaries and statistics. Prepared by S Johnson (1910) 96 pages

**Inebriates.** Report of departmental committee on operation in Scotland of the law relating to inebriates and their detention in reformatories and retreats. London, 1909. P. S. King. 3d.

**Initiative and Referendum.** The laws of Oregon require the publication of initiative petitions with arguments for and against, if any are furnished. The publication for 1910, issued by the secretary of state, contains 208 pages of proposed measures and arguments. This is invaluable in showing the initiative and referendum in practice.

**Marriage.** Second tentative draft of proposed uniform acts on marriages and licenses to marry and family desertion and non-support. Prepared by the commissioners on uniform state laws. Edward W. Frost, chairman of the committee. Milwaukee, 1910. 55 pages.

**Paving Laws.** The Indiana legislative reference department has made a digest of the laws of several states and cities on the subject of paving, covering principally the authority to determine whether a pavement shall be laid, the selection and approval of material, and the cost of intersections.

**Professional Requirements.** The laws regulating the practice of law, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary medicine, and surgery, certified public accountants, registration of nurses, and optometry in the State of New York are given in a series of handbooks published by the education department. Each handbook gives in concise form for its subject the requirements of all the states of the union having such laws

**Railway Superannuation.** Parliamentary report on railway superannuation funds. London. P. S. King. 10d.

**School Books.** The Indiana legislative reference department has several mimeographed copies of a complete digest of the laws relating to uniform text-books with short bibliographies on each phase of the subject, made in 1908. Copies may be had from the department.

**Sunday and Rest-Day Labor Laws.** The New York department of labor, by John A. Fitch, expert, has published a digest of laws and decisions on the subject of Sunday and rest laws to determine the legal and judicial basis for laws providing for a day of rest. Bulletin, September, 1910.

Parliamentary report relative to legislation in foreign countries on weekly rest day. Includes Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United States. P. S. King. 2½d.

**Taxation—Land Values.** Consular report on taxation of land values in New York, Boston, San Francisco and Cleveland. Parliamentary paper. P. S. King. 2½d.

**Liquor Sales—Evidence.** Laws of Tennessee, 1909 (ch. 479), making the record of the internal revenue tax competent evidence of a violation of the liquor law, was upheld in Tennessee supreme court in *Diamond vs. State*, October 22, 1910, 131 S. W. 666.

**Mining Laws.** The mining laws of Australia and New Zealand are discussed in a report by A. C. Veach, special commissioner of the U. S. Geological Survey, for the joint committee of Congress, to investigate the Department of Interior and Bureau of Forestry. Washington (1910). 180 pages.

**Municipal Ownership.** Three special reports by the U. S. Bureau of Manufactures from consular reports are of special significance; Municipal Slaughter Houses in Europe, 26 pages; Municipal Markets in Europe, 90 pages, and Municipal Lighting in European Cities, 16 pages.

**Prisons and Reformation.** A handbook issued by the prison department of New York gives information in concise form of the various prisons of the state of New York, together with excerpts from the prison laws. Albany (1910). 54 pages.

A similar publication by the state board of prison directors of California gives the history, development and management of California prisons. Sacramento (1910). 78 pages.

**Plumbing.** The official handbook of the Massachusetts Association of Plumbing Inspectors, Boston, gives all the statutes of Massachusetts on the supervision of plumbing and the ordinances of Boston, extracts from the ordinances of other cities and by-laws of boards of health.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

**Accountancy.** The legislative reference department of Wisconsin is preparing for early issue, a bulletin on certified public accountant laws.

**Boy Life.** Mimeographed bulletin No. 25 of the New York school of philanthropy, 105 East 22nd street, New York City, issued November 12, contains 24 references to books and articles on boy life and boys' clubs. Reference is made to a classified bibliography of 49 pages on boy life and organized work with boys, by J. T. Bowne.

**Building and Building Trades.** The Brooklyn public library has issued, recently, a reading and reference list of a part of the books in the library on this subject. Books only are listed and are classified under thirteen heads. 30 pages. A very useful bibliography.

**Insurance.** The Kalendar of the insurance society of New York issued in 1910 contains a classified list of books and other material in their library. This list is valuable in its classification to persons interested in any phase of insurance whether from the standpoint of the companies or the public.

**Prison Labor.** The National committee on prison labor, 23 West 44th street, New York City, has prepared a tentative bibliography on the subject of prison labor in three parts: articles in encyclopedias; general articles on penology; and reports of legislative committees, commissions and bureaus and executive documents, 14 pages, mimeograph.

**Rapid Transit.** A compilation of editorials and newspaper and magazine articles was recently published under the title "Transit in Greater New York by the Bronx Transit Association." Singer building, New York. This sheet contains a bibliography of rapid transit in New York, London, Paris, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia and Pittsburg.

**Reinforced Concrete Construction.** At the Thirty-fourth annual meeting of the fire underwriters association of the Pacific, Prof. Chas. Derleth, Jr., of the University of California, presented a lengthy paper with exhaustive references and a bibliography on reinforced concrete construction. Published by the society in annual proceedings, San Francisco, 1910.

**Signaling.** The railway signal association, Bethlehem, Pa., has issued a bibliography of 183 pages covering all phases of signaling, and educational institutions giving signaling courses. This is one of the most practical bibliographical undertakings. It consists of two sections, Section 1, an alphabetical list of books, pamphlets, catalogues, etc., listed under author's names; Section 2, a classified index to articles that have appeared in periodicals relating to railway signaling. Articles in 137 different magazines are listed.



Some of the headings in this classification as they relate to signaling are: accidents, automatic stop and cab signals, batteries, biographies, block signaling under different systems, grade crossings, telephone dispatching, education, electric railways, highway crossing alarms, interlocking, laws, maintenance, rules, signals of different kinds, subway signaling, track circuits, uniform signaling. An edition has been prepared for libraries, printed on one side so that the pages may be cut out and pasted.

The Kansas state library has been actively engaged in the preparation of bibliographies and digests for the use of the legislature. The following have been prepared and copies will be loaned to other libraries for copying:

Governors' Power to Remove or Suspend State Officers. Digest of laws in all states. 1910.

Initiative and Referendum. Laws and constitutional provisions. November, 1910.

Injurious Insects and Plant Diseases. Laws of states in force, 1906-1909. Supplementary to Bulletin No. 61, of the U. S. Entomology Bureau.

Insane. Laws of all states relation to. 1909.

(a) Liability of family for support of insane.

(b) State provision for care of insane.

(c) Voluntary commitment.

Mortgage Taxation. Laws of several states relating thereto. 1910.

Murder in the First Degree. Digest of laws relating thereto. 1910.

Removal of Cause to Federal Courts, by Corporations. Laws of various states 1910.

Subjects in preparation are:

Courts—District. Digest of laws relating to special phases of subject.

Juries. Digest of laws relating to selection, qualification and verdicts of juries and bibliography on the subject.

Normal Schools and Their Relation to the State. Laws and reference list.

The Indiana legislative reference department and the Kansas state library have undertaken to compile, co-operatively with other libraries and departments, a complete list of officers for each state, with their method of election, term of office and salary. The information for many of the states has been secured. Copies will be loaned to other departments for copying. It is hoped that this work may be completed for all the states at an early date.

The catalog of the municipal library, of Chicago, issued in 1908, is the only catalog of a municipal library of any considerable

size yet issued in this country. This library has for many years been collecting municipal documents and is probably the best equipped in documents of any special library of municipal subjects in the country. The catalog, although two years old, is of great value as a source book of information on municipal material. It is to be hoped that in the near future this catalog may be supplemented by the additions which have been made to the library during the last two years, which, in the municipal field, have been active ones.

The Wisconsin legislative reference department has recently prepared typewritten copies of the bibliographies on evening continuation schools; co-operative societies, State meat inspection; medical inspection of schools, and spring shooting.

The bulletin of the Studebaker Company, South Bend, Ind., published weekly, is one of the pioneer publications in the field of special commercial and trade libraries. It is designed to carry the latest information of publications to the officers and men of the company. The index is made of the articles of interest to any department of Studebaker's. It is very valuable as a partial trades index. The bulletin deserves praise for its useful index and for the pioneer work which it is doing.

The office of the secretary of the Special Libraries Association is at the service of librarians and employers as a clearing house of information concerning positions in special library work. Librarians seeking positions in this field, and those seeking the service of librarians, may be thus brought together by listing their wants with the secretary.

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