

Lincoln, 10 Ap. 1903.

To librarians of Nebraska libraries:-

You will receive from this office, some literature describing several summer library schools. I have notified your Board that such literature has been sent, and asked the members to examine it with a view to giving the librarians of the several libraries opportunity to attend some of these schools.

I have called their attention to the insufficient wages paid librarians, and asked them to benefit their communities by giving the librarians a chance to get some technical training. It is assumed that all library workers, whether poorly paid or not, appreciate the value of training and contact with the professional side of librarianship, and realize the obligation that rests on everyone who accepts a public trust to unceasing endeavor for the betterment of the service. The librarian who says to herself--"They pay me next to nothing. I'll give them what they pay for and no more"-- is dear at any price.

By suggesting a summer school, it is not intended to recommend such study as a short cut to librarianship. There is no such short cut to that or to anything else worth doing. When you find a person who desires to reach a given place in professional life without honestly working up to it, you find a person who is willing to get more than he is willing to give. The summer schools are intended for those in actual library work, for the sole purpose of bettering library service, and with no idea of turning out trained, professional librarians. The latter field belongs to the regular library schools and is open only to those who have completed college courses in colleges of recognized standing, or can offer acceptable equivalents. The summer school is a great help to those who find it impossible to get the complete professional training, and we hope that Nebraska

may be well represented in the summer schools at Iowa City, Madison, Chautauqua and Albany.

Kindly call the attention of your board to the printed matter sent to your library from this office. I have met members of library boards who were not aware that their libraries had received our "Handbook" and "Suggestive list"--an evidence of remissness on the part either of the librarians or the members of the boards.

I suggest a box or tray, in which may be placed any printed matter or correspondence that is of interest to the board, and at intervals, some member or the librarian can review this material at board meeting.

If there is anything that I can do to make entrance to the summer school easier for you, command my services.

Address inquiries concerning the Chautauqua summer school to Miss W.E. Hazeltine, Jamestown, N.Y., and for the Indiana summer school at the Winona assembly to Miss Merica Hoagland, Library commission, Capitol, Indianapolis, Ind. For the N.Y. state summer school at Albany, write to Melvil Dewey, Albany.

Respectfully,

Edna D. Bullock, Sec'y.