

# *The* JOURNAL

OF THE RUTGERS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

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## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

**A**LL friends of the University have the interest of the University Library at heart. In a very real sense the intellectual life of the University centers around the Library. Certainly it is true that a college or university which lacks an adequate library is poor indeed. We are proud of ours, in all its branches, and we have confidence that its future is to be one of steadily increasing enrichment and usefulness.

Very significant is the creation of the Associated Friends of the Library of Rutgers University. Its leadership and the character of its membership assures us that it will be as effective in building up the resources of the Library as similar organizations have been in other institutions. I am sure that the Associated Friends of the Library will have the cooperation and support of all the friends of the University, including those citizens of the state who, although having no direct association with the University, appreciate its importance in the life of the state.

The Rutgers Library houses priceless treasures; many of its collections could not be replaced. Although not as large as the libraries of some of our greatest universities, and although crowded for space, it occupies a high place among the libraries of our best known institutions. Gifts of splendid collections of books such as the Spader and the Jones libraries, many rare



THE RUTGERS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

*specimens, many fine collections of papers and documents, have come to the Library through the interest and the generosity of alumni and of others who appreciate its importance in the life of the University. It is what it is largely because of its friends.*

*The spirit of the Rutgers Library is not impersonal as is that of many great libraries. The maintenance of the right atmosphere in a library is especially essential in an environment such as ours, where young men and young women are carrying on their studies and are working in a personal relationship with their teachers.*

*Under the direction of our librarian the number of volumes in the Library has increased ten-fold. This development is encouraging, but it has given rise to problems too. The demands upon the library increase daily. New books are constantly needed; certain departments should be strengthened; rare items and special collections must be acquired when offered, or the opportunity will be lost forever. The Friends of the Rutgers Library will help meet these problems. They will help crystallize friendly interest. They will widen the circle of interested persons and strengthen ever more and more the generous support that has made the Rutgers Library what it is today.*

*It is gratifying to welcome this first issue of The Journal of the Rutgers University Library. Through the Journal we shall come to know our Library better. We shall "discover" the real treasures it holds. We shall understand better the great opportunities which lie before us.*

*A library is never completed. It must grow with the university of which it is a part, with the society which it continues to serve. It must keep abreast of educational and scientific progress. Happily those who have been in charge of the Rutgers Library during the past half century have built wisely and well. The Associated Friends and the Library Journal will help to carry this great work forward.*

*Sincerely,*

ROBERT C. CLOTHIER