

THE ASSOCIATED FRIENDS

ON March 5, 1937, a few friends of the Rutgers University Library, led by the Librarian, Mr. George A. Osborn, and the chairman of the Library Committee of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Richard T. Greene, met in the Trustees' Room of Old Queens to organize the Associated Friends of the Library of Rutgers University. Dr. Jacob G. Lipman was made temporary chairman in charge of plans for the permanent organization of the Associated Friends.

This meeting was by no means the beginning of the movement for an association of those many persons who have for years been friends of the Library and who in every way have assisted it to increase its materials and its usefulness. Two official groups in particular have constantly been building the Library. The Trustees' Committee—which includes besides Mr. Greene, the Hon. Clarence E. Case, Dr. William H. S. Demarest, Mr. Roy M. D. Richardson, Mr. William H. Waldron, Mrs. Wells P. Eagleton, and Mrs. Edward L. Katzenbach—has always taken particular pains to acquaint itself with the needs of the Library and to plan for its future development. Its work has been going on for years, and to it the Library again and again has been indebted for opportunities to extend its services.

Another active group helping to promote the strength and usefulness of the Library is the Library Advisory Board. In addition to the Librarian, Mr. Osborn, the Board consists of the following members of the faculty, representing every division of the University: Dr. Jacob G. Lipman, Dr. Ernest Little, Dr. Clarence E. Partch, Professor George H. Brown, Professor Donald F. Cameron, Dr. Anna M. Campbell, Dr. Oral S. Coad, Dr. L. Ethan Ellis, Dr. Max Gideonse, Professor David P. Gilmore, Professor Alice G. Higgins, Dr. Albert W. Holzmann, Dr. Rudolf Kirk, Professor Irving S. Kull, Dr. Walter C. Russell, Dr. George P. Schmidt, Professor James J. Slade, Jr., and Dr. Carl R. Woodward. Not only when acting as a whole but singly and in twos and

threes, the members of the Board are constantly occupying themselves with the needs of this real center of the University. Sometimes they are ordering books for their departments, sometimes arranging materials already in the Library so that they will be more usable, and sometimes making plans for further extensions of the facilities of the Library.

But the Library has many other very real friends who do not happen to be in these two official groups. Dozens of members of the faculty of the University are always at work in one way or another helping to increase the collections of the Library and to use effectively those already at hand. And working with the Librarian, the Advisory Board, and the whole faculty, at all times, are the members of the Library Staff, whose steady helpfulness can only fully be realized by those who frequent the Library every day. These friends are friends indeed.

By the help of these groups—official and unofficial—then, the Library has grown in its materials and in its services. With its growth, the number of its friends has increased both within the student and alumni bodies and also beyond their circles to the residents of New Brunswick, of the State of New Jersey, and of adjoining states. The necessity for some kind of association which would bring to these hundreds of supporters some knowledge of the plans and needs of the Library became clear. To meet this need, the Associated Friends was instituted.

Some weeks of conferring and arranging followed the initial meeting of March 5. Then May 21 was set as the day for the formal business meeting and dinner in the Alumni House at which the "Friends" were to be launched. The first duty of the friends who assembled that afternoon was to adopt a constitution. Since a committee had already drafted a tentative constitution, the final instrument was easily settled upon. The purposes of the Associated Friends, as set forth in the Constitution, were declared to be "to maintain an organization of persons interested in books; to assist in bringing to the Library of Rutgers University funds for special needs beyond the command of the Library Budget;

to encourage gifts of books and manuscripts; and to cooperate with the Librarian and the Library Advisory Board in the development of the resources of the Library under the direction of the Library Committee of the Board of Trustees of Rutgers University."

Although many friends of the Library have always given it materials, often of great value, many others either have not realized its needs or have not understood precisely how to go about rendering assistance which in their hearts they wanted to give. With the establishment of the Associated Friends, it is hoped that more people who are interested in libraries in general and in the Rutgers University Library in particular will be enabled to learn of ways in which they can help to strengthen the already important collections of the University.

The now established Associated Friends of the Library of Rutgers University elected Dr. John W. Mettler, of the Class of 1899, President. Dr. Gabriel Wells, the well known New York bookdealer and honorary Litt.D. of Rutgers, was made Honorary President. Dr. Ralph G. Wright, Mr. Duncan D. Sutphen, Dr. William H. S. Demarest, Mrs. Edward L. Katzenbach, Mr. Richard T. Greene, and Mr. Drury W. Cooper were chosen Vice-Presidents. Professor Donald F. Cameron was elected Secretary and Mr. Nelson Dunham, Treasurer. The Associated Friends decided to publish a journal, and Dr. Rudolf Kirk was elected its editor. In addition to these officers, an Executive Committee was elected, consisting of Mr. Clifford P. Case, Mr. J. Harold Johnston, Miss Alice G. Higgins, Dr. Carl R. Woodward, Dr. Jacob G. Lipman, and Mr. Ernest E. McMahan.

After the business session, a buffet supper was served in the Alumni House. Dr. Victor Paltsits, of the New York Public Library, spoke on "The Miracle of Books." He told of the enthusiasm for books and libraries which has led to the formation in several colleges of groups of friends of the libraries. Then he described some of the problems connected with establishing a similar group for the New York Public Library, with its enormous holdings and wide circulation, throughout New York, the Bronx, and Richmond. Finally,

he urged on the Associated Friends of the Rutgers Library three essentials for building a great library. "The alliteration," he said, "is Men, Money, and Material, each equally important and inseparable."

Dr. Paltsits warmed the hearts of the Associated Friends by a story of an encounter he had had shortly before coming to speak to them. He told of a young man engaged in writing a thesis on New Jersey history who had come to the Rutgers Library for some of his material. This student, according to Dr. Paltsits, "spoke enthusiastically of the cordiality and helpfulness of the Rutgers Library and declared that of all the libraries he had visited, Rutgers used the least red tape." When we remember the barriers to learning erected by some librarians, we may take especial pleasure in this praise. Nor need we fear that the absence of red tape is to be attributed to the meagerness of our collections. Dr. Paltsits concluded his address, referring to the present needs of the Library, "Already this collection, that has grown marvellously during the life of Librarian Osborn, from some thirty-four thousand to more than four hundred thousand items, is known to scholars far and wide. But the treasures you have should become better known—and your resources of Men, Money, and Materials be extended." It was the hope and confident belief of all present that Dr. Paltsits' words would be fulfilled through the efforts of the Associated Friends.

Soon after his visit to New Brunswick to address the Associated Friends, Dr. Paltsits gave the Library a very rare book which he edited many years ago, *A Narrative of the Captivity of Nebemiah How in 1745-1747*. The inscription reads: "This copy, one of twenty-seven printed on Japanese vellum paper, is presented in regard for the organization of the Associated Friends of the Library of Rutgers University on Friday, May 21, 1937 by its guest speaker on that happy occasion, by Victor Hugo Paltsits." The Associated Friends are delighted that Dr. Paltsits thus joined the association which he had helped to found.

The organization meeting and dinner were attended by seventy-three old friends and prospective Associated Friends of the Rutgers Library. Their names follow: Mr. Charles S.

Aitkin, Mr. and Mrs. Asher Atkinson, Misses Margaret B. and Elizabeth R. Baldwin, Mr. G. V. N. Baldwin, Jr., Mr. Henry C. Berg, Mr. Welcome W. Bender, Colonel and Mrs. Philander Betts, III, Professor George H. Brown, Mr. Samuel E. Burr, Professor Donald F. Cameron, Professor Anna M. Campbell, Dr. Robert C. Clothier, Professor Oral S. Coad, Mrs. Ada J. English, Professor David Fales, Mr. Russell Fleming, Mr. J. B. Fogg, Professor M. Gideonse, Mr. Richard T. Greene, Mrs. Frances N. Hall, Mr. Montagu Hankin, Mr. Alan E. James, Professor E. F. Johnson, Mrs. Edward L. Katzenbach, Professor Irving S. Kull, Dr. J. G. Lipman, Professor George E. Little, Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Littell, Mr. Henry Marelli, Mr. Luther H. Martin, Professor W. H. Martin, Dean Walter T. Marvin, Rev. Edgar I. McCully, Mr. Roger H. McDonough, Mr. Edwin C. McKeag, Mr. Ernest E. McMahan, Professor Richard Morris, Mr. W. J. Morrison, Professor Walter R. Newton, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Noe, Mr. George A. Osborn, Professor Kenneth E. Olson, Mr. Henry G. Parker, Dr. C. E. Partch, Dr. John H. Raven, Dean and Mrs. W. T. Read, Professor Walter C. Russell, Mr. Warren R. Schenck, Professor George P. Schmidt, Miss Catharine H. Schneeweiss, Mr. Morgan R. Seiffert, Professor J. Slade, Mr. Arthur E. Smith, Mr. Andrew J. Steelman, Jr., Mr. Frank H. Stobaeus, Miss Agnes W. Storer, Rev. Walter H. Stowe, Professor Robert T. Thompson, Mr. Russell Van Horn, Dr. and Mrs. S. A. Waksman, Mr. John P. Wall, Professor Charles H. Whitman, Mr. Gustav Wittig, Dr. E. S. Worcester, Dr. Carl R. Woodward, Dr. R. G. Wright.

From the time of the meeting of May 21 to the middle of November eighty-three persons joined the Associated Friends. Since it will be our custom always to record in the *Journal* the names of members, we shall give now the full membership list to date:

Dr. Joseph Quincy Adams, Mr. Charles S. Aitkin, '80, Mrs. Asher Atkinson, Mr. Asher Atkinson, '85, Miss Elizabeth Rutgers Baldwin, Miss Margaret Bayard Baldwin, Mr. G. V. N. Baldwin, Jr., '86, Mr. Henry C. Berg, '19, Colonel Philander Betts, III, '93, Dr. Louis F. Bishop, '85,

Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Boyd, Professor George H. Brown, Samuel Engle Burr, Ed.D., '19, Justice Clarence E. Case, '00, Reverend Lewis B. Chamberlain, '86, Dr. William I. Chamberlain, D.D., '82 (deceased), Professor Oral S. Coad, Mrs. John C. Conger, Mr. John C. Conger, '15, Mr. Drury W. Cooper, '92, Miss Edith Deerr, Dr. W. H. S. Demarest, '83, Mr. Nelson Dunham, Mr. Charles D. Deshler, Jr., '85, Mr. F. K. W. Drury, '98, Mrs. Wells P. Eagleton, Professor Hubert R. Ede, Professor L. Ethan Ellis, Mr. George S. Ferguson, '97, Mr. James L. Garabrant, '01, Mr. Alexander Stuart Graham, Professor T. E. Gravatt, '97, Mr. Richard T. Greene, '89, Mr. John B. Guthrie, '98, Professor Charles Hale, Mrs. Frances N. Hall, Dr. George W. Hervey, '15, Professor Alice G. Higgins, Mr. Alan E. James, '28, Professor Edward F. Johnson, '01, Mr. Harry L. Janeway, '17, Professor Rudolf Kirk, Professor Irving S. Kull, Professor Ernest Little, Mr. Ernest E. McMahan, '30, Mr. Henry Marelli, '97, Mr. Harry J. March, '87, Mr. J. O. Marsh, '12, Mr. Roger H. McDonough, '34, Mr. Douglas C. McMurtrie, Dr. Walter T. Marvin, Mr. John Wyckoff Mettler, '99, Reverend Andrew J. Meyer, '97, Professor Richard Morris, '99, Mr. William J. Morrison, Jr., '97, Professor Thurlow C. Nelson, '13, Professor Walter R. Newton, Mr. George A. Osborn, '97, Dr. Victor Hugo Paltsits, Colonel Ralph B. Parrott, '97, Mr. Henry G. Parker, Judge H. E. Pickersgill, Mr. Ernest H. Rapalje, '00, Dr. John H. Raven, '91, Professor W. T. Read, Mr. Roy M. D. Richardson, '15, Professor Walter C. Russell, Miss Catharine H. Schneeweiss, Mr. Arthur E. Smith, '03, Reverend John L. Stillwell, '79, Mr. Frank H. Stobaeus, '08, Miss Agnes W. Storer, Reverend Walter H. Stowe, Professor Robert T. Thompson, Professor Willard C. Thompson, '15, Mr. J. E. Torrey, '97, Mr. Russell Van Horn, Professor Selman A. Waksman, '15, Mr. John P. Wall, Professor C. H. Whitman, Mr. Percival Wilde, Mr. G. F. Wittig, '96, Dr. Carl R. Woodward, '14.