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MANY OPPORTUNITIES IN LIBRARY WORK

(Continued from Page Three)

A specialist in charge of a collection devoted to economics, art, technology, or some other particular subject, a branch librarian in a children's library or a cataloguer or an assistant in any one of many divisions, and may look forward perhaps to a head position in which he will not only carry the administrative responsibility, but will represent the institution before his community. It is not unusual for a public library worker to enjoy a similar range of activity as a school or college librarian, adopting his methods to the peculiar needs of his pupils and investigators, quietly encouraging the taste for good reading in students, and instructing them in the use of books and organized collection of books. He may find himself in charge of the library of an insurance company, a chemical plant, a utility company, or a publishing house, in which the standards and methods must be those of the business world. He may be called upon to gather and administer a collection for a settlement or a foundation, in which the file is not those of civic betterment, but in which the problems are utterly unlike those of the public library. Finally, he may ally himself with some agency of more than local influence, directing for a state library or for a library commission the library interests and activities of an entire state, organizing some form of nation-wide

library service, or assisting to prepare new volumes by teaching in a library school.

Compensations.

It is obvious that special knowledge, technical efficiency, administrative skill and high personal qualities are important factors in the librarian's success. His reward consists in the satisfaction of doing well a task requiring the best abilities, in the opportunity to deal with vital things and to serve his own and his community, in the daily contact with books and with people, and in the individual development incident to this. In the consciousness that his first function is to promote knowledge, without fear or prejudice of favor, and in a salary which will compare favorably with any form of educational work.

Preparation.

Every bit of equipment counts in the librarian's favor, and his general preparation should be as well-rounded

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and extensive as possible. A high school education or its equivalent is the minimum, and four years of college work are desirable. Wide reading, travel and specialized study will increase his fitness for particular positions.

In addition, the librarian should know his books—both those which actually guide him to it. He must know how to select them wisely and how to buy them economically. He needs familiarity with systems of classification and with methods of cataloguing. He should be able to plan and arrange a library building or room, know what equipment is necessary, and how this may be advantageously secured. He should be skilled in learning quickly the information resources of his community other than those of his own library. He should have knowledge of the methods in staff and budget management which have been found successful in libraries generally. All this can be gained most quickly and most effectively through attendance at a library school. The curricula of the various library schools aim to present those methods which have been found essential as a basis for library work, to do this in a comparative and comprehensive manner, and to fit the student for a position wherever an opening may occur.

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SHORT BUSINESS MEETING HELD BY CLASS OF 1923

A short meeting of the Sophomore class was held last Wednesday evening in the Old Chapel immediately preceding the 1924 class meeting in order to acquaint the members of the class with the plans of the evening and to get them together for the Freshman reception. Due to the absence of President Schuster and Vice-President Adams, "Phil" Payne took charge of the meeting and spoke for a short time on the easy manner in which Freshmen have escaped punishment for the breaking of customs through the lack of evidence presented and on the poor turnout at class meetings this year.

Varsity lacrosse manager Jennings also spoke making a plea for more lacrosse candidates. The names of twenty-five members of the class were read as those who were elected by the class for scholarship competition and out of this number, five will be selected by the faculty for the scholarship.

PLEA RECEIVED FROM AUSTRIAN SUFFERERS

A pitiful plea has been received by Dent Sackett from an Austrian engineer in behalf of all engineers in that country. The war, which has had such a damaging effect on all of the European countries, has left Austria destitute and the engineer

asks for aid of some kind in order that he and his mother might be able to secure food. He not only speaks for himself but for thousands of others in the same profession who find themselves in practically the same circumstances.

His plea "I beg of you and your colleagues in America to help along with some food" has made a deep impression on many of the largest engineering societies.

LOST

An envelope containing checks and a sum of money, between the Women's Building and Park Ave. Reward. Eleanor Gibbons.

ladies in the country who are at present considering this question of help to the unfortunate victims of the war.

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