

PACIFIC NORTHWEST AMERICANA

The Pacific Northwest Library Association

The Nineteenth Annual Conference of the Pacific Northwest Library Association was held at Vancouver, British Columbia, on August 30, 31, and September 1, 1928. A number of papers and projects were presented in the field of Pacific Northwest history and bibliography.

Best Sources on History of the Pacific Northwest

On Friday morning, August 31, under the leadership of Miss Mirpah G. Blair, of the Oregon State Library, a Round Table of catalogers and reference librarians was largely given over to local history. Miss Alma M. Russell, of the Provincial Library of British Columbia, read a paper entitled: "Best Sources of Historical Information on the Early History of the Pacific Northwest: Canadian." This paper gave in addition to the more usual and better known printed sources an illuminating account of manuscript logs and journals including recently discovered sources. Its publication in the *Proceedings* of the Association will be awaited with interest.

Miss Ruth Montague, of the Library Association of Portland, gave a paper on "Best Sources of Historical Information on the Early History of the Pacific Northwest: American." The treatment in this paper was from the point of view of the librarian of a branch or small library. It was devoted to answering the question: "What are the best books available for general reading along the lines of local history and biography?" A mimeographed list of books mentioned by Miss Montague was distributed at the Conference by the J. K. Gill Company of Portland.

A Cooperative Name List

At the Round Table above mentioned, Miss Luella C. Larsen of the University of Washington Library proposed "The Cooperative Compilation of a Biographical List of Early Explorers, Pioneers, and other Builders of the Pacific Northwest." The need for such a compilation has arisen with catalogers, particularly, who wish full names and dates of the authors who have resided in and written about the Pacific Northwest. In a lesser degree they have wished also, for use in assigning subject headings, the essential biographical data relating to the "strong men" who

have not written about the Northwest, but who have contributed vitally to its upbuilding. On motion, the Round Table passed a resolution requesting the Executive Committee of the Association to take under advisement ways and means of providing for such a compilation.

A Census of Manuscripts

Another project for the Association was proposed by the Chairman of the Committee on Pacific Northwest Bibliography, namely, a Census of Manuscripts to be found in the libraries of the Pacific Northwest. He suggested that a complete inventory of all manuscript holdings together with descriptive notes might prove too extensive to undertake. He was of the opinion, however, that a list of the important manuscript diaries, journals, log books, narratives and the like, might be rather easily prepared and inexpensively published. Libraries in a position to contribute were requested to give suggestions as to the character and scope of such a compilation.

Exhibit by J. K. Gill Company

One of the most interesting and valuable features of the Conference was the series of exhibits shown in the main reading room of the University of British Columbia Library. Notable among these were the volumes relating to the history of the Pacific Northwest selected and displayed by Miss Allen of the Library Department of the J. K. Gill Company of Portland.

Judge Wickersham's Bibliography of Alaska

A review of Judge James Wickersham's *Bibliography of Alaskan Literature* appeared in the July issue of this *Quarterly*. Information in regard to the price was at that time not available. The volume is being distributed by the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines, College, Alaska, and the total cost per copy is \$5.55 including postage, insurance, and handling charge. This important bibliography will be appreciated by all librarians and collectors of Pacific Northwest Americana.