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# THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION



## THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES 1991

A PRE-CONFERENCE SYMPOSIUM

May 23, 1991  
Cosmos Club  
Washington, D.C.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                                              |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| PROLOGUE .....                                               | 1  |
| INTRODUCTION.....                                            | 2  |
| SYMPOSIUM SCOPE AND SUBSTANCE .....                          | 3  |
| SYMPOSIUM AGENDA .....                                       | 4  |
| BIOGRAPHIES OF KEY SYMPOSIUM LEADERS.....                    | 6  |
| 1979 PRE-CONFERENCE SUMMARY OF FINDINGS .....                | 9  |
| SUMMARY OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES' RESOLUTIONS<br>(1979) ..... | 10 |
| SELECTED READINGS .....                                      | 12 |
| EPILOGUE .....                                               | 13 |

This "Background Report," designed to furnish a context for the special symposium on "WHCLIS '91: The International Dimension," was prepared at the direction of Jean M. Curtis, Executive Director of the White House Conference on Library and Information Services. The author of this volume is Robert Lee Chartrand, formerly Senior Fellow in Information Policy and Technology for the Congressional Research Service (Library of Congress), and currently senior advisor to the Executive Director. The cover was designed by K. C. Chartrand, Director of Publications for Research Alternatives, Inc. This contribution was performed in accordance with guidance provided by Mark F. Scully, the WHCLIS Director of Administration.

## PROLOGUE

The rationale for convening a special symposium to explore "The International Dimension" of library and information services in our time was twofold. First, it was unthinkable that in an age when, as Dr. Edward Wenk noted in *Margins for Survival*, "events anywhere exert effects everywhere," that this critical focal area could be ignored. Secondly, the ever-expanding roles and responsibilities of libraries and information services must be fathomed far more explicitly than before, and leadership in all quarters of our civilization must utilize these resources to the fullest.

Twelve years ago, in his pre-Conference luncheon on international information exchange remarks, Thomas R. Pickering—now the senior U.S. Representative to the United Nations—shared his perception of why this nation must concern itself with this vital area. The validity of his observation, it must be noted, has not changed.

The information age is greeted by all of us with expectancy and hope . . . that are tempered with concern that the opportunities of the information age should not be lost by failure to predict and take into account its consequences. . . . Several issues involve fundamental values of morality and individual liberty, of national pride, and of national sovereignty which are factors in the regulation and control of information processing and exchange. These issues of the information age justify a strong national commitment to international discussion and open debate.

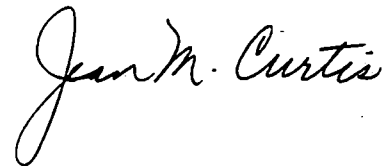
Assembled here at the Cosmos Club is a remarkable collection of talents, bound together by their dedication to strengthening the information resources which serve all mankind. There is little question today that information is becoming our country's most important national resource. President Bush phrased this development within this context:

If the United States is to remain a global leader in the 21st century, we must keep pace with rapid advances in technology, as well as with increasing trade and commerce between nations. Our ability to stay ahead depends, in large part, on our ability to stay informed.

The value of your individual and collective contributions at this time cannot be overstated, for the findings and recommendations emerging from your deliberations will impact the thinking of this Nation's leaders as they delineate our policies and strategies for the future.



Robert Lee Chartrand  
*Symposium Chairman*



Jean M. Curtis  
*Executive Director*

## INTRODUCTION

In mandating the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science to organize and conduct a second White House Conference on Library and Information Services, the Congress once again was manifesting its serious interest in this focal area. Just as the first (1979) such Conference built a momentum in recognizing the importance of these services, this second Conference would "strive to find pathways to meet the informational needs of the United States and the world in the 21st century."

Three topical themes were selected, after intensive deliberation, which would reflect the perceived needs of the populace and help shape a national posture for the future: furthering literacy, increasing productivity, and strengthening democracy. Each of these in a very special way encompasses an international dimension. Even the most cursory analysis of recent international developments attests to the criticality of "information" in the exchange of ideas, competitiveness, raising the ability of human beings to understand and communicate, and develop more responsive forms of governance.

During the state, territorial, and special pre-conferences, hundreds of resolutions were passed which dealt with virtually every imaginable topic of concern to the library and information professionals. These identified needs and issues then were examined in depth by a group of highly qualified volunteers. Ten focal areas were selected in order to facilitate subse-

quent analysis and action at the Conference: access, governance, marketing, networking, national information policies, personnel, preservation, services/programs, technology, and training of end-users. Every one of these categories holds a potential international aspect, and it is an aim of this Symposium to consider which of these topics deserve to be presented for further treatment during the full Conference.

Yet another approach to pondering the international aspects of library and information services is to look once again at the priority issues which have drawn congressional attention, and resulted in the passage of more than 300 Public Laws in the past 15 years. A useful taxonomy, much employed in legislative publications, includes: telecommunications, broadcasting, and satellite transmission; international communications and information policy; library and archives policies; information disclosure, confidentiality, and the right of privacy; computer security, regulation, and crime; intellectual property; information technology for education, innovation, and competitiveness; Federal information resources management; and government information, clearinghouses, and dissemination.

The challenges inherent within this gamut of activities exist as unparalleled opportunities for those charged with ensuring the viability of library and information services in the years ahead.

## SYMPOSIUM SCOPE AND SUBSTANCE

In shaping this Symposium which focuses on "The International Dimension" of both contemporary and foreseeable library and information services, particular care was taken to bring together those experienced professionals whose philosophical insights and pragmatic findings can help chart a course for the future. Through a meld of oral commentaries designed to establish a common context for subsequent group discussions and those interlocutory sessions led by hand-picked teams of group leaders and rapporteurs, useful findings and recommendations can ensue.

Throughout the dozen years since the previous White House Conference on Library and Information Services (1979), an array of initiatives has been mounted within the public and private sectors touching on virtually every facet of the 64 resolutions emerging from that earlier assembly. In the realm of international information activities, the incredible changes wrought by political realignments and technological advances alone have brought with them concomitant alterations in the essence and offerings of library and information services. As the discussants engage in addressing their discrete focal topics, they may find themselves doing so against a backdrop of such macroconsiderations as:

- (1) Developments during the past decade affecting U.S. creation of internationally oriented "information policies," mechanisms, and programs.

- (2) A growing awareness within government(s) and private sector groups that redelineations of existing laws, international agreements, and unwritten working arrangements may be in order.
- (3) The remarkable and inexorable changes occurring in the world of information technologies.
- (4) The critical and often kaleidoscopic shifts and transformations affecting the "user" constituencies, as well as those responsible for information generation, collection, processing, and delivery.

The invaluable core of activity at the Symposium is found in the five discussion groups, for it is through their deliberations and determinations that the delegates and observers attending WHCLIS '91 will be afforded the means of grasping the vital international dimension. The Groups: I, Overview of International Information Activities; II, Impact of Technologies and Networks; III, Business and Economic Aspects; IV, Policies and Governance; and V, Programs and Services for Society. Group findings will be presented as 10-minute oral summaries at the final plenary session. Post-Symposium booklets will feature both presentation and group discussion highlights.

# SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

- 9:00-9:10 AM Introduction**  
Robert Lee Chartrand  
Symposium Chairman
- 9:10-9:30 AM Keynote Address**  
Dr. Toni Carbo Bearman, Dean  
School of Library and Information Science  
University of Pittsburgh
- 9:30-9:45 AM Presentation on "Productivity"**  
Dr. Joseph W. Duncan  
Corporate Economist & Chief Statistician  
The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation
- 9:45-10:00 AM Presentation on "Literacy"**  
Gary R. Rowe, Senior Vice President  
Turner Educational Services  
Turner Broadcasting System
- 10:00-10:15 AM Presentation on "Democracy"**  
Dr. Elizabeth L. Young, Vice President  
Aeronautical Services  
COMSAT Corporation
- 10:15-10:30 AM Break**
- 10:30-12:15 PM Breakout Group Sessions:**
- |                    |                                                     |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Group Focus</i> | I. Overview of International Information Activities |                       |
|                    | George M. Kroloff                                   | Melvin S. Day         |
|                    | <i>Group Leader</i>                                 | <i>Rapporteur</i>     |
| <i>Group Focus</i> | II. Impact of Technology and Networks               |                       |
|                    | Curtis L. Fritz                                     | James W. Morentz, Jr. |
|                    | <i>Group Leader</i>                                 | <i>Rapporteur</i>     |
| <i>Group Focus</i> | III. Business and Economic Aspects                  |                       |
|                    | Oswald H. Ganley                                    | James R. Trawick      |
|                    | <i>Group Leader</i>                                 | <i>Rapporteur</i>     |
| <i>Group Focus</i> | IV. Policies and Governance                         |                       |
|                    | Jane Bortnick                                       | Thomas J. Galvin      |
|                    | <i>Group Leader</i>                                 | <i>Rapporteur</i>     |
| <i>Group Focus</i> | V. Programs and Services for Society                |                       |
|                    | Joseph E. Clark                                     | Kenneth W. Hunter     |
|                    | <i>Group Leader</i>                                 | <i>Rapporteur</i>     |

## **SYMPOSIUM AGENDA**

- |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>12:30-1:45 PM</b> | <b>Luncheon</b><br><i>Speaker:</i><br>Kenneth W. Bleakley<br>Senior Deputy U.S. Coordinator<br>International Communications and Information Policy<br>U.S. Department of State |
| <b>1:45-3:45 PM</b>  | <b>Breakout Group Sessions</b>                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>3:45-4:45 PM</b>  | <b>Groups Report to General Session</b>                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>4:45-5:00 PM</b>  | <b>Closing Remarks and Adjourn</b>                                                                                                                                             |

## BIOGRAPHIES OF KEY SYMPOSIUM LEADERS

**Toni Carbo Bearman.** Dean of the School of Library and Information Science, University of Pittsburgh since 1986 . . . For six years, Executive Director, U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science . . . Senior consultant for strategic planning and new product development, Institution of Electrical Engineers (London) . . . headed U.S. delegation to Intergovernmental Council Meeting of the UNESCO General Information Program . . . Vice-Chair of U.S. National Committee for FID . . . author of more than 80 articles and speeches . . . AAAS Fellow . . . President of ASIS.

**Kenneth W. Bleakley.** Senior Deputy Coordinator and Director for International Communications and Information Policy . . . previously Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Refugee Assistance . . . foreign service assignments overseas included San Salvador (Deputy Chief of Mission), Panama, Bolivia, and Spain . . . served in various capacities with U.S. delegations to several UN entities . . . taught economics at The American University (San Salvador).

**Jane Bortnick.** Assistant Chief, Science Policy Research Division, and Specialist in Information Science and Technology, Congressional Research Service (Library of Congress) . . . prepares special reports and studies, provides consultations and briefings for Congress . . . author of such major reports as *International Information Flow: Forging a New Framework* and *The Impact of Information Technology on Science* . . . stint as special advisor to National Research Council . . . AAAS Fellow . . . Writer and lecturer in U.S. and abroad . . . on International Advisory Board of Atwater Institute.

**Robert Lee Chartrand.** Sr. Specialist, then Sr. Fellow, in Information Policy and Technology, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress (24 years) . . . author or editor of 20 books and major congressional reports (e.g., *Critical Issues in the Information Age*) . . . Fulbright appointee to work with Italian Parliament . . . senior lecturer for UNDP to People's Republic of China . . . Advisory Committee, WHCLIS '79 . . . ASIS Award of Merit . . . AAAS Fellow.

**Joseph E. Clark.** Deputy Director, National Technical Information Center since 1983 . . . four years with Office of Science and Technology Policy, responsibilities including scientific information, patents, and technological innovation . . . Acting Administrator of newly formed U.S. Fire Administration . . . developed widely recognized statistical models in private sector . . . Woodrow Wilson Fellow in Public and International Affairs at Princeton.

**Jean M. Curtis.** Executive Director, White House Conference on Library and Information Services . . . formerly special assistant and then Acting Director of the Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor . . . oversaw planning and management of a national Women's Bureau Conference (1990) . . . District Service Director for Congressman Thomas N. Kindness (five years) . . . served four consecutive terms as Butler County (Ohio) Recorder.

**Melvin S. Day.** An internationally known leader in information science activities both during his three decades in the U.S. government and now in the private sector . . . served as Director of the National Technical Information Center (1978-1982), following service as the Deputy Director of the National Library of Medicine . . . earlier headed the Office of Science Information Service at NSF . . . before that led the S&T Information Division for NASA . . . Chairman of the U.S. Delegation to the UNESCO/GIP Intergovernmental Council.

**Joseph W. Duncan.** Corporate Economist and Chief Statistician for The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation since 1982 . . . chairs D&B's Information Resources Coordinating Council . . . columnist on economic trends for *D&B Reports* magazine . . . author of the "Statistics Corner" in *Business Economics* . . . previously chief statistician for the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in OMB . . . U.S. representative to the UN Statistical Commission . . . past president and chairman of the National Economists Club . . . ASA Fellow.

**Curtis L. Fritz.** Management consultant to private/public sectors with emphasis on expert systems and IRM activities . . . with Federal government, led creation of early interagency systems for foreign intelligence (SCIPS), foreign affairs (FAIME), and the S&T information (NASTINS) communities . . . UNDP consultant and civil servant, headed training and management IT projects in Far East, Middle East, and Europe . . . Program Manager for White House sponsored interagency Decision Information and Display System (DIDS).

**Thomas J. Galvin.** Professor of Information Science and Policy, as well as Director of the new interdisciplinary Ph.D program in information science, at SUNY Albany . . . Served as Executive Director of ALA (1985-1989) . . . previously (1974-1985) was Dean, School of Library and Information Science, University of Pittsburgh . . . co-recipient of MLA Elliot Prize in medical librarianship literature . . . author or editor of 18 books and over 100 articles and reports . . . delegate to WHCLIS '79 . . . in 1980 appointed to U.S. National Commission on UNESCO . . . consultancies in Greece, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, and Spain.

**Oswald H. Ganley.** Executive Director, Program on Information Resources Policy, Center for Information Policy Research, Harvard University . . . directs Program's activities in international, trade, productivity, competitiveness, and national security fields . . . formerly Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Science and Technology . . . Vice Chairman, OECD Committee for S&T Policy . . . consultant to Department of State (CIP) . . . co-author with Gladys D. Ganley of *To Inform or to Control: the New Communications Networks*.

**Kenneth W. Hunter.** Senior Faculty Member of the U.S. General Accounting Office's Training Institute focusing on the public policy . . . participated in the design and implementation process and issues affecting changes in federal policymaking since the 1960s . . . Conference Chairman for the World Future Society . . . co-editor of *Futures Research Quarterly* . . . adjunct professor in political science at the University of Maryland—Baltimore County . . . authorship includes "Navigating the Nineties" in *The GAO Journal*.

**George M. Kroloff.** President, Kroloff, Marshall & Associates, a Washington, D.C. public relations firm specializing in international and domestic communications strategies . . . while Special Assistant to the Postmaster General, was in charge of introducing the ZIP Code . . . Administrative Assistant to the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee . . . created the public relations department for *The Washington Post* . . . President of the Washington division of the major PR firm which provided counsel for WHCLIS '79 . . . author of "The New World Information Order."

**James W. Morentz, Jr.** President of Research Alternatives, Inc., and an internationally recognized expert in developing advanced tools and techniques for emergency management . . . conceived the "Comprehensive Emergency Management (CEM)" philosophy and process in the late 1970s . . . originator of the PC-based "Emergency Information System," with 1,000 such systems in use world-wide . . . co-editor of *Information Technology Serving Society* . . . Bicentennial Conference Coordinator for "America in the Information Age" event.

**Gary R. Rowe.** Senior Vice President of Turner Educational Services, Inc., a division of Turner Broadcasting System . . . has led the development of video-based learning products and services originating TV programming . . . guided launch of CNN NEWSROOM, a daily news program designed for schools . . . led the development of NEWS ACCESS (1987) and Turner MultiMedia . . . formerly special assistant to Senator Charles H. Percy . . . taught media-related courses at Columbia College and Loyola University . . . principal weekend talk host for WIND radio.

**James R. Trawick.** Founder and President of Trawick & Associates, a computer services company . . . 15 years of management and technical experience in the computer science industry with such firms as IBM, Computer Science Corporation, Cordatum, Inc., Computer Data Systems, Inc., and Martin Marietta Corp. . . . served on several national commissions, including a group reviewing the National Information Issues of the 1990s . . . member of the organizing committee for the Polish High Technology Conference.

**Elizabeth L. Young.** Vice President for Aeronautical Services in COMSAT's Mobile Communications division . . . previously was VP for INMARSAT Policy and Representation . . . for five years, served as President of the Public Service Satellite Consortium, an organization which pioneered in the use of communications satellites for public service . . . held several positions in public broadcasting, including the directorship of radio and TV stations at The Ohio State University . . . longtime interest in the arts and humanities, with memberships on such boards as the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.

# 1979 PRE-CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Inherent in the findings and recommendations of the five discussion groups is an awareness, amply underscored in the identification of key issues and action options, of the complexities that shape and affect international information flow. Although official Government positions, where they exist, often are a strong if not overriding factor, the interests of multinational corporations and other private sector groups increasingly must be taken into account. Twelve major issues were identified during the deliberations of the five discussion groups.

- coordination of U.S. information policies with worldwide developments,
- creation of a mechanism for coordinating U.S. information policies,
- improvement of information flow to LDCs,
- improvement of acquisition of foreign materials for this Nation,
- overcoming restrictions on international data flow,
- addressing the problem of lag between technology and society's response to it,
- minimizing threatening aspects of new information technology,
- assessment of the impact of technology on the availability of information,
- improvement of standards for facilitating international information flow,
- improvement of U.S. economic standing through the use of information technology,
- identification of existing international information programs, and
- assessment of the impact on U.S. users of exporting information technology.

Considering the focal areas of the five groups, it is not surprising that there was an overlap of emphasis in certain areas, as shown by the reports of the discussion groups.

## SUMMARY OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES' RESOLUTIONS (1979)

At the conclusion of the 1979 White House Conference on Library and Information Services, delegates had approved 64 resolutions, 25 by voice vote and 39 by paper ballot. Of these, six dealt directly with international issues. Two were approved in general session, the texts of which follow:

### International Information Exchanges—E-1

Whereas, there is a need to start and expand dialogue among members of the international community for the sharing of all forms of information and

Whereas, for humanitarian purposes, the sharing between nations of all unclassified information should be encouraged, and

Whereas, there is a need to encourage dissemination of information of all kinds, and to encourage cooperation in the exchange of information and personnel among all countries, and

Whereas, the library and information community has an important role to play in achieving effective exchange of information,

Therefore be it *Resolved*, that a new Federal program be enacted and funded which would provide for an exchange and training program for library and information service personnel, and

Be it further *Resolved*, that protocol for library and information exchange in the United States support the participation in the Universal Availability of Publications and encourage the elimination of trade and other barriers to the exchange of library materials and information of all kinds, and

Be it further *Resolved*, that Federal and State Programs for networking are established, consideration for international communication and sharing be included within the framework of the networks which are created, and

Be it further *Resolved*, that Federal Funds should be made available for the implementation of international networking.

### Federal International Communication and Accountability—E-2

Whereas, many departments and agencies of the United States Government are involved in the international exchange of information, and

Whereas, there is no central coordination of activities, resulting in the possible duplication of effort, waste, and gaps of coverage, and

Whereas, the United States should examine its role in the information society and should formulate policies that are proactive rather than reactive,

Therefore, be it *Resolved*, that the President:

(1) Make a report on governmental agencies engaged in these activities and attendant costs;

(2) Make recommendations to eliminate duplication of effort and waste, and to expand coverage where appropriate and

Be it further *Resolved*, that on the basis of this report the President formulate necessary procedures to coordinate United States participation in international communication and information programs, both public and private.

Four additional resolutions were passed subsequently by paper ballot, including proposals for the establishment of specific mechanisms for enhancing international information exchange. They range from the convening of a one-time International Conference on Library and Information Services to the establishment of permanent facilities to improve coordination and exchange activities (e.g., an international youth library, and a center for international studies). Also, there was a proposal supporting the on-going improvement of international copyright protection. The actual proposals were passed in this form:

### International Conference—E-3

Whereas, recognizing that the unimpeded flow of information and published materials is essential to the promotion of international peace and security, and

Whereas, the need for an international standard for exchange programs in the fields of science, technology, and other cultural matters among nations and international corporations is acknowledged, and

Whereas, noting that the UNESCO, the United Nations University, and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations are interested in the enhancement of all cultures, the promotion of civil rights, and the status of women in all nations.

Therefore be it *Resolved*, that the White House Conference on Library and Information Services recommend to the President of the United States that an international conference on Library and Information Services be held.

#### **Center For International Studies—E-4**

Whereas, there is a need in the United States for knowledge of foreign languages and cultures, and

Whereas, the President's Commission on Foreign Languages and International Studies has reported in October, 1979, and recommended ways to address this need,

Therefore, be it *Resolved*, that the delegates to the White House Conference support the concept of regional and national centers to further international understanding, as recommended by the Commission.

#### **Establish an International Youth Library—E-5**

Whereas, the encouragement of appreciation of other cultures should start at an early age, and there exist few comprehensive international collections of children's literature in the United States, and

Whereas, a collection of this kind would be of great value to scholars in the field of children's service and could serve as a coordinating point and demonstration of such services,

Therefore be it *Resolved*, that a center, similar to the International Youth Library in Munich, be established in the United States, and

Therefore be it *Resolved*, that through this center, libraries throughout the country be encouraged to emphasize children's programming which recognizes the positive values of cultural differences and which promotes international understanding.

#### **International Copyright Agreement—E-6**

Whereas, the United States is a member of the Universal Copyright Convention, and

Whereas, the new United States Copyright Act allows the United States to move toward appropriate international copyright arrangements,

Therefore be it *Resolved*, that the United States should continue to seek improved international copyright accords.

In addition to those resolutions which emerged directly from the pre-conference group discussion there were other proposals that resulted in approved resolutions, such as those dealing with the creation of improved standards to facilitate the exchange of information both domestically and internationally: "Technology and Uniform Standards—C-1" and "Cooperative Standards and Networking—C-14."

Another area relating to the delegates' concern about increasing international cooperation was evidenced in two resolutions focusing on responsibilities within the executive branch. These suggested the creation of entities within existing governmental agencies which could support directly improvements in sharing and exchange of information and materials with other nations, and were entitled "National Clearinghouse in Department of Education—B-8" and "Institute for Scientific and Technological Cooperation—B-12." And finally, the Conference concentrated on upgrading information transfer to U.S. territories, both through direct supply of great amounts of materials, and the incorporation of the into regional, national, and international networking projects (see "Information Systems in U.S. Territories—D-3")

## EPILOGUE

In the half-century since Wendell Willkie popularized a "new" One World concept, an astonishing evolution of the human race's treatment of "information" has taken place. With the advent of cascading, startling new information technologies—especially in the computer . . . , video, . . . and telecommunications fields—innovators and users alike have come to agree that "imagination is the power of the mind over the possibilities of things," and nowhere does this seem more evident than in the realm of technologies supporting library and information services.

Major examinations of the "Information Revolution" have been undertaken with effect in such nations as France, Canada, Japan, and the United States. Corollary to these perceptive initiatives have been reports from such sources as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Brussels Mandate, UNESCO, and the United Nations.

A comprehensive look at the many facets and interrelationships involved in this ever-altered world of information was taken in 1976 by the U.S. Domestic Council Committee on the Right of Privacy. Featured in *National Information Policy* were the points of contact and linkages between and among information

communications, information technology, information economics, information privacy, information confidentiality, information science, information networks, and information management. In the intervening years, conceptual overlapping and interactive modes of operation have proliferated, often exacerbated by mankind's insatiable need for more data and information, and a desire to have these more quickly, susceptible to intricate manipulation, and available in diverse forms and formats.

It has been noted correctly that although the process has indeed been evolutionary, the rapidity of change often obscures the underlying hard work and thought which must precede each stage of progress. The essence of mankind's forward movement perhaps was best captured in these words of Antoine de Saint Exupéry:

It is true that a sudden illumination may now and then light up a destiny and impel a man in a new direction. But illumination is vision, suddenly granted the spirit, at the end of a long and gradual preparation.



THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON  
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES  
1991

BACKGROUND PERSPECTIVE

**PROVIDING LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES  
FOR THE 21st CENTURY**

*"If the United States is to remain a global leader in the 21st century, we must keep pace with rapid advances in technology, as well as with increasing trade and commerce between nations. Our ability to stay ahead depends, in large part, on our ability to stay informed..."*

*President George Bush*

*Information* is becoming our country's most important national resource as the technology revolution takes hold. During the 21st century our ability to access, understand and use information will be critical to government, industry, educators, consumers, voters, parents – all Americans.

The importance of library and information services has long been recognized by leaders in the field. The first White House Conference dealing with information delivery and library services was held in 1979. This July's White House Conference on Library and Information Services continues the work begun over a decade ago.

Under a three theme umbrella – library and information services for literacy, for productivity and for democracy – the 1991 Conference will work to create policy recommendations on issues critical to our nation: a literate populace, a workforce with the productivity skills necessary to compete in the global marketplace of the 21st century, and a citizenship fully equipped to participate in the democratic system.

A White House Conference affords the average American the unique opportunity to play a hands-on role in the public policy making process. This winter and spring thousands of Americans are doing just that in preconference activities in all 50 states and nine U.S. Territories. Conference participants include library and information professionals, government officials, library trustees and the general public.

Today the challenges that today face the nation and our library and information resources are many. Among the issues expected to be on the agenda of the conference are:

- America's information needs for the 21st century.
- Meeting the information needs of government, industry, small business and average citizens.
- Is America in danger of losing its institutional memory? How can the survival of historical and important works be ensured? In the Information Age how can we determine what information should be archived for future generations?
- Will new information technologies create a society of information have and have-nots?
- In the very near future, Americans will be able to visit their local library and, by computer, access information from a neighboring state or around the world. Are we ready to put this technology to its use – to work to enhance literacy, improve productivity and strengthen democracy?
- What is the role that libraries and information resources must play in community economic development? How should partnerships between libraries and the business community and between libraries and schools be developed?

Over 200 years ago Thomas Jefferson wrote that "a democratic society depends upon an informed and educated citizenry." Today, society's ability to foster life-long learning and deliver information to people when they need it depends on our library and information services. The first White House Conference built a momentum in recognizing the importance of these services. The second Conference will strive to find pathways to meet the informational needs of the United States and the world in the 21st century.



THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON  
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES  
1991

## AREAS OF INQUIRY

The 1991 White House Conference on Library and Information Services stands on the cutting edge of some of the most critical issues which face our nation: a literate workforce, the productivity to compete in the global marketplace of the 21st century, and a populace equipped to fully participate in the democratic system.

Conference delegates will consider hundreds of topic areas under the literacy, productivity, democracy umbrella. They will develop policy proposals to address questions such as:

- How library and information services can enhance literacy. The library is a natural "schoolhouse" for lifelong learning.
- How library and information services can enhance productivity. The worldwide productivity race is actually a race for better, more timely information.
- How library and information services can strengthen democracy. The free flow of information is essential to a democracy. Access to timely and accurate information is critical to good government.
- Is modern democracy in danger? Is the American voter prepared to make the informed choices necessary for democracy to succeed. Is there a correlation between lower voter participation and the ability of the average citizen to locate and understand information on critical issues and the candidates?
- How can information best be collected, stored, analyzed, and transmitted in order to meet the information needs of government, business, and consumers?
- America's information needs in the 21st century – what will they be and how will we meet them?

- Is America in danger of losing its institutional memory? How, in an electronic information culture, do we identify the information which will have a continuing value for society? How do we ensure that it survives and is available to those who may someday need it?



THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON  
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES  
1991

***“Enhance Literacy  
Increase Productivity  
Strengthen Democracy”***

*Theme of the White House Conference  
on Library and Information Services, 1991*

**– THEMES IN DEPTH –**

**LITERACY**

The problem of illiteracy – the absence of the ability to read and write – is one of the most vexing in the United States today. Our nation possesses one of the highest standards of living in the world; yet of the 149 countries belonging to the United Nations, the United States ranks 48th in literacy.

According to Project Literacy U.S. (PLUS), as many as 23 million adult Americans are functionally illiterate, lacking basic skills beyond a fourth-grade level. Another 35 million are semi-literate, lacking skills beyond an eighth-grade level.

Recent studies have shown a direct correlation between literacy skills and the ability of young adults to be productive members of the workforce. If this trend continues, two critical scenarios are on the horizon: an American workforce without the skills to be a competitive player in the international marketplace, and a growing disparity between the information “haves and have-nots” and, therefore, the economic “haves and have-nots” in our country.

In 1988, the Texas Department of Commerce estimated that illiteracy cost the state \$17.2 billion each year through lost productivity, unrealized tax revenue, welfare, and costs associated with criminal activities.

In the Information Age, the definition of literacy must expand to include a wide array of literacies such as computer, information, cultural, technical, and global. Today, for persons to be productive and successful members of our society, they must be able to “read” – access and understand – information. Information which is important to them as workers, consumers, voters, and parents.

## DEMOCRACY

In his day, Thomas Jefferson warned that the success of a democratic society depended upon an "informed and educated" populace. Today, information is power; access to information and the skills to apply it is how power is exercised.

Accurate information is the basis upon which society makes informed judgements and good laws. Information has become so important to America that a large and growing part of the U.S. government and private sector workforce is engaged in information-related services. This national information delivery system includes more than 30,000 public, academic, and special libraries and an estimated 60,000 school libraries.

Historian Henry Steele Commager wrote that ignorance is slavery and that free states are those which provide their people the right of inquiry and the means to make that inquiry meaningful. Literacy and information access are a strong foundation for a democratic society. They allow people to be independent seekers of truth, to build their own arguments and opinions and to verify or refute 'expert opinion.'

In 1731, Benjamin Franklin established the nation's first library, the Philadelphia Library Company, a subscription library for tradesmen and mechanics. Joseph Leroy Harrison, author of *The Public Library in the United States*, wrote:

*"Franklin's very simple, but hitherto unthought-of, device was a new and radical departure. Its effect was toward a more even distribution of intellectual wealth, the establishment of an intellectual democracy."*

Today U.S. Representative Major R. Owens of New York states:

*"Information literacy is needed to guarantee the survival of democratic institutions. All men are created equal, but voters with information resources are in a position to make more intelligent decisions than citizens who are information illiterates. The application of information resources to the process of decision-making to fulfill civic responsibilities is a vital necessity."*



**The White House Conference on  
Library and Information Services  
1991**

**FACT SHEET**

**As the United States and the world move into the 21st century, policy makers at all levels must deal with the explosion in information services. The White House Conference on Library and Information Services was authorized by Public Law 100-382 to develop recommendations for improving library and information services to meet the demands we face in the next millennium.**

**Who:** Approximately 900 delegates and alternates selected by their states and representing all 50 states and 9 U.S. territories, Native American tribes and the federal library community. Conference participants will include:

- library and information professionals
- government officials
- library trustees
- general public

**When:** The conference process is already taking place in preconference meetings and public forums across the country. At these state level activities, policy recommendations are being formulated for action by state and local officials and for the consideration of the national delegation.

The White House Conference will be held at the Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C., July 9-13, 1991.

**Why:** The Conference will make recommendations to improve library and information services to enhance literacy, increase productivity, and strengthen democracy. This theme umbrella places the Conference at the cutting edge of some of the most critical issues facing our nation: a literate workforce, the productivity to compete in the international marketplace of the 21st century, and a populace equipped to participate fully in the democratic system.

1111 18th Street, NW • Washington, DC • 20036  
(202) 254-5100 • (800) WHCLIS2 • Fax: (202) 254-5117

The White House Conference is conducted under the direction of  
The U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science

**Background:** The 1991 White House Conference on Library and Information Services is the second of its kind. The first, held in 1979, resulted in 64 resolutions presented to the President, Congress and government agencies at the federal, state and local level for improvements to library and information services nationwide.

To date, action has been taken on 55 of the 64 resolution areas, including:

- intensified efforts to use technology to preserve books and papers.
- increased use of satellite communications, video techniques and cable TV in the expansion of library and information services.
- an active role for libraries in adult literacy programs.
- adoption of standards for publishing, producing, organizing, and transmitting information and for telecommunication and computer technology.

For more information contact:

The White House Conference on Library and Information Services  
1111 18th Street, NW  
Suite 302  
Washington, DC 20036

(202) 254-5100 or (800) WHCLIS2

FAXED TO  
DOUG GAMBLE

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Doug, here's a brief rundown of the event. As always, any generic library jokes are good -- maybe something about the fact that the President is speaking at this library event, and he was always told to be quiet in libraries. "I just hope no one shushes me during this speech." I know it's dumb, but forgive my attempt at early-morning humor. Or, maybe POTUS could start out the speech in a stage whisper -- "Welcome to the WH Conference on Library and Information Systems. My teachers always told me I had to be quiet in the library." Alright, enough already. I'll stop now. Time for my morning caffeine intake. Hope the rest of the information is helpful.

- o From July 9-13, more than 900 delegates and alternates, as well as thousands of observers will convene in DC for this Conference. They will work on the development of recommendations for future public policies in the areas of libraries and information systems. At the end of it, they will present a report to the President who will then forward it to Congress.
- o An emphasis will be placed on the provision of library and information services for literacy, productivity, and democracy.
- o One-fourth of the delegates will represent library and information professionals; one-fourth will represent local, state, and federal government officials; one-fourth will represent Friends, trustees, and other library supporters; and one-fourth will be from the general public.
- o All 50 states and nine U.S. territories will be in participation at this conference.
- o The 1991 Conference will work to create policy recommendations on issues critical to our nation: a literate populace, a workforce with the productivity skills necessary to compete in the global marketplace of the 21st century, and a citizenship fully equipped to participate in the democratic system.

## NCLIS Celebrates 20 Years

# First Lady Barbara Bush Honored For Literacy Work

First Lady Barbara Bush made an already special evening even more so, as she attended a Library of Congress reception recognizing the 20th Anniversary of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science and the Center for the Book's *Year of the Lifetime Reader* campaign.

Mrs. Bush received the National Commission's 20th Anniversary Recognition Award at the January 23 event for her work on behalf of family literacy.

In accepting the award, Mrs. Bush said "over 170 years ago, James Madison and Thomas Jefferson got together with others in their state to set what they called the objects of primary education. Their very first objective was to give every citizen the information they needed to conduct their daily business.

"I know we all applaud this very democratic goal of our founding fathers. And you are the people who are



**NATIONAL PRIDE:** First Lady Barbara Bush, with National Commission on Libraries and Information Science Chairman Charles Reid (r) and Librarian of Congress James Billington (l), is recognized for her work on behalf of family literacy.

working together to make sure it can be a reality – that every citizen has access to the information he needs to live his daily life."

Mrs. Bush thanked the members of the National Commission for their 20 years of work on behalf of libraries and pointed toward this July's White House Conference as the next important milestone in that work.

*From the Desk of Peter Young*

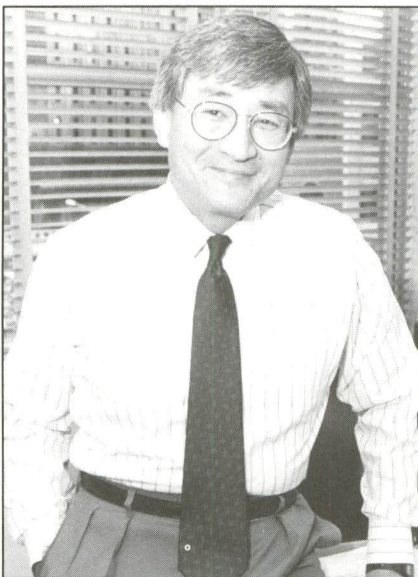
## Politics Important to Library and Information Services Professionals

Having been Executive Director of the National Commission for approximately 32 weeks, I can identify one most important lesson learned and want to share it with you: We in library and information services are, at a very fundamental level, in a profession very much involved in the political process!

Those who are successful in the political arena recognize the need to build relationships, network concerns and occasionally to see our issues and concerns from the perspective of the general public. This summer's White House Conference is our opportunity to accomplish these goals.

The information resource needs of the general public are changing in response to rapid social, technical, economic and political changes worldwide. We, as librarians, as institutional infrastructure maintenance staff and as public officials need to interact with our constituencies about strategic concerns related to our changing missions. *Librarians and information professionals need help balancing new opportunities presented by new technology with the values inherent in librarianship from its origins.*

This Conference will set the library and information services agenda for the next decade and offers an opportunity to clarify national information policies. It will be our opportunity to move information issues to



**YOUNG: "We are very much involved in a political process."**

the forefront of the national agenda.

Setting the national information policy agenda is not a process that is easily understood. As professionals, librarians are not used to expressing our missions to the publics we serve. We have, however, the opportunity to shape public opinion, to influence decision makers, and to engage in the difficult but vital tasks of creating, articulating and defining the collective vision of library and information services for the 21st century.

The question before us concerns our future public policies regarding information. Inherent in the concept of public policy is the element of

choice among different courses of action. Truly, the only way that our democratic society can make choices is by having people—the public—openly discuss, debate and decide among various options. Public discussion about what information policies are and should be in the future is at the heart of this Conference and is the core of the entire White House Conference process.

The public policies that the White House Conference will shape must be global, integrated, flexible, and framed by an on-going open public process. Conference activities need to be based on the assumption that information is a universal asset, a national resource that can supply timely, meaningful and valid guidance for the conduct of our personal, interpersonal and public lives as citizens of the United States.

*Editor's note:* The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science is an independent federal agency charged with advising the President and Members of Congress on information issues.

Peter Young was named the executive director of the National Commission in August of 1990. Young has worked in a variety of library and information science positions within both the public and private sector. Prior to joining the National Commission, Young was the Director of the Faxon Institute for Advanced Studies in Scholarly and Scientific Communications. His previous experience also includes directing the Copyright Cataloging Division at the Library of Congress, and professional positions at Rice University, Franklin and Marshall College, American University and the Grand Rapids Public Library.

*Discovery* is the official newsletter of the White House Conference on Library and Information Services, 1111 18th Street, NW, Suite 302, Washington, D.C. 20036 (Phone 202/254-5100 or 800/942-5472). The Conference is conducted under the direction of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, a permanent federal agency charged with advising the President and Congress on policy matters relating to library and information services.

Executive Director: Jean M. Curtis  
Director of Communications: Rhea K. Farberman  
Editor: Jay Timmons

## Library and Information Community Gives Financial Support to Conference

Information organizations and those that do business with the library and information community, as well as other WHCLIS supporters, have pledged \$114,000 in donations to the White House Conference.

Last week, WHC Executive Director Jean Curtis accepted a check for \$15,000 from the **Council on Library Resources** which will be used to partially offset expenses for delegate education and the on-site Conference information center.

**Information Handling Services (IHS)**, an Englewood, Colorado company is producing a four color White House Conference poster featuring the three conference themes.

"IHS is grateful for the chance to be one of the many private sector companies afforded the opportunity to contribute to the success of the White

House Conference," says Jay Jordan, President and Chief Operating Officer of IHS U.S. Operations. "Information

is the cornerstone of a free society. With recent dramatic changes in Germany and Eastern Europe, knowledge gained from information will ensure that current and future generations have the opportunity to fully participate in the high-tech world of tomorrow. Our Conference poster depicts just that, the importance of information, and its relationship to democracy, literacy, and productivity," Jordan concluded.

Other major Conference contributors to date include: **The Information Access Company** (\$5,000), **OCLC** (\$7,500), **Omnigraphics, Inc.** (\$1,000),

**Demco, Inc.** (\$5,000), and **The H.W. Wilson Foundation** (\$5,000).



**INVESTING IN THE FUTURE:** Council on Library Resources President David Penniman presents WHCLIS Executive Director Jean Curtis with a contribution for the Conference.

## Delegate Certification and Education Underway

Nearly three-quarters of the White House Conference delegation had been officially certified as *Discovery* went to press earlier this month. In keeping with the mandate of authorizing legislation, Public Law 100-382, the delegation to date is evenly divided among library and information professionals, library supporters, government officials and private citizens.

Delegates within the library and information professional category represent a broad cross-section of professionals working in public libraries, academic libraries, school media centers and information services. Almost 50% of the library supporter delegate slots are filled by library trustees. State and city officials comprise 40% of the government officials category and educators fill

33% of the general public category.

All certified delegates and alternates have received the first installment of WHCLIS delegate education materials. Contents of the first mailing include a review of the outcomes of the 1979 WHCLIS, information on

the federal role in library services, theme discussion papers, and a glossary of library and information terms.

The second delegate education mailing is scheduled for this month, followed by the third in May and the final "Issue Briefing Book" in June.

### News Bytes

**OBSERVERS WELCOME:** The White House Conference is open to the public and observers are welcome to attend. Advanced registration is advised. For materials, call the Conference office at (800) 942-5472.

**UP, UP AND AWAY:** Carlson Marketing Group has been contracted to perform logistical activities for the Conference. They will also be responsible for transporting and housing all delegates. Other attendees may

also use their travel service. Call (800) 444-9848 or if in Maryland, Virginia or the District of Columbia (301) 738-6550. Tell them you are attending the Conference.

**POINT, COUNTERPOINT:** A "Great Debate" on the future of libraries and information services will be a dynamic session at the Conference. We'll have more on this and other Conference activities in a future issue of *Discovery*.

# Committees to Review Recommendations

Consolidating and merging thousands of recommendations which have been funnelled to the national office from state/territory pre-conferences, organizations and private citizens, is a task that will fall to forty individuals later this month. Ten Topic Committees will complete the massive job in the Wash-

ington, D.C. area, April 19-22.

Each Topic Committee will work with the recommendations in a single topic area.

"This is a critical step in the program development process of the White House Conference," explains Margaret O'Hare, WHCLIS Director of National Pro-

grams. "These Topic Committees will help create the actual discussion agenda for the national delegates this July."

Topic Committee members were selected from nominations received from across the country. The members are:

**Access**  
Thomas Hogan (NJ), Bar-

bara Douglas (WV), Timothy Gassert (MA), and Nancy Murdock (NH).

**Networking**  
Betty Johnson (FL), Caitlin Robinson (IA), Gloria Zamora (NM) and Jane Morgan (MI).

**Technologies**  
Monica Ertel (CA), Bernard Fradkin (IL), Chin Wang (GU) and Bruce Dearstyne (NY).

**Personnel**  
Carolyn Harry (WI), Barbara Prentice (AZ), Raymond Crosby (FL) and James Baker (MD).

**National Information Policies**  
Thomas Moran (IL), Margaret Warden (MT), Donna Scheeder (DC), and Duncan Highsmith (WI).

**Preservation**  
Barclay Ogden (CA), Jan Merrill-Oldham (CT), Carolyn Harris (NY) and George Farr (DC).

**Training of End Users**  
Theresa Stitt (NY), Wanda Forbes (SC), Sioux Plummer (AK) and Donna Singer (NH).

**Marketing**  
Marcia Trotta (CT), Ralph Brown (IL), Charles Noon (NH) and Barbara Pittman (IL).

**Services/Programs**  
Blanche Woolls (PA), Wynne Weiss (IL), Judith Russell (DC) and Peggy Beatty (OH).

**Governance**  
M.L. Reynolds (MD), Jack Winegarten (MI), Robert Wrenn (DC) and Mary Lou McLean (NH).

## The White House Conference on Library and Information Services *Advisory Committee*

**Richard G. Akeroyd, Jr.**  
*Chairman*  
State Librarian  
Hartford, Connecticut

**Charles E. Reid**  
*Vice Chairman*  
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**Carmencita Leon**  
Library Specialist  
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**Hugh Mahoney**  
Office of the County  
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Mineola, New York

**Mary Jane Martinez**  
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**Jerry Parr**  
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**James C. Roberts**  
President  
American Studies Center  
Washington, D.C.

**Pat Williams**  
U.S. Congressman  
Washington, D.C.

**Carol L. Wohlford**  
Alternative Learning Center  
Wichita, Kansas

**Virginia G. Young**  
Columbia, Missouri

## Speak Out Column

# Who's Saying What About The White House Conference

According to the *Future Survey Annual*, published by the **World Future Society**, new information technologies rank third behind environmental damage and concern about the world's economy, on a list of the "Top Ten Fears of 1990." "Exciting prospects for faster and better computers continue to dazzle," the Society reports. "Computers are still expected to rapidly evolve, the ISDN information superhighway is being built, and VCRs and fax machines are spreading quickly."

"Our program could not survive without the public library," so said **Sharon Darling, President of the National Center for Family Literacy**, at a recent Washington, DC press conference.

"Welcome to a meeting that ranks among the most significant conferences on our calendar," **Governor Mario Cuomo** told the assembled delegation at the New York State Governor's Conference.

Discussing the Conference themes, Governor Cuomo said: "Democracy serves nicely as a first priority. Historically libraries, along with schools, have helped open the benefits of this land to millions of newcomers. The present generation of newcomers deserves the same attention, and our libraries welcome the challenge of service to these most recent Americans."

"Productivity also has been a traditional element of the libraries' mission. Libraries, reservoirs of the newest information, the latest instructive manuals and current employment possibilities, have traditionally helped improve generations of American

labor. In the decades ahead we will need a new, more highly trained, more literate labor force to continue New York State's historic leadership in the newest technologies. Libraries will be indispensable."

"By the turn of the century Americans will have access to 20 times the



**BOOK WORK:** National Center for Family Literacy President Sharon Darling visits with children attending a family literacy program in Louisville, Kentucky.

information we presently do," predicts **Peter Brennan, Chairman of the Information Industry Association's Voice Information Services Division**. "We must show the public how to make information technology work for them. We must be careful not to limit access to information by making it too expensive or complex and we must be able to demonstrate a public stake in the Information Age. We must guard the public's right to privacy and fully disclose how information is collected and used."

**Eileen Cooke, Director of the American Library Association's Washington Office**, points toward two upcoming events of critical importance to the library and informa-

tion community: state and national legislative days during National Library Week, April 14-20, and the White House Conference on Library and Information Services.

"These events have legislative teeth," Cooke says. Cooke recommends to the community that it communicate its priorities to its state and

federal representatives every year, but especially this year. "Telling politicians about library issues before budget negotiations is like giving them a libretto before the opera."

**Senator Albert Gore (D-TN)** re-introduced his National High-Performance Computing Act, calling it

"an investment in our national security and our economic security which we cannot afford not to make."

Earlier in the month Senator Gore told members of the American Library Association that "the nation's success depends on how well it educates its children and copes with the increasing amounts of information available." He stated that his legislation would create an interstate highway for information and would "empower citizens in the same way that libraries empower citizens...I envision a future in which a child can come home from school and instead of playing Nintendo, could use a similar device to gain access to the Library of Congress or more likely to the library nearby."



**SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY:** North Carolina Governor James Martin (above right) discusses information services issues with delegates to the state's preconference. First Lady Dorothy Martin (right) greets a state delegate to the Executive Mansion during an evening reception. Mrs. Martin has been an advocate of literacy programs in the state.



**THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON  
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES  
1991**

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1111 Eighteenth Street, N.W. Suite 302  
Washington, DC 20036  
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*National Library Week is April 14-20, 1991*



The White House Conference  
on  
Library and Information Services

**THE NEWS MEDIA**  
**IN THE**  
**INFORMATION AGE**  
*New Technologies—New Roles*

July 8, 1991  
The National Press Club  
Washington, DC

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***"If the United States is to remain a global leader in the 21st century, we must keep pace with rapid advances in technology, as well as with increasing trade and commerce between nations. Our ability to stay ahead depends, in large part, on our ability to stay informed..."***

***President George Bush***

## **THE NEWS MEDIA IN THE INFORMATION AGE**

Information is becoming our country's most important national resource as new information technologies are introduced and integrated. During the 21st century our ability to access, understand and use information will be critical to government, industry, educators, consumers, voters, parents—all Americans.

These new technologies, coupled with a new emphasis on information literacy, will change the way much is accomplished in America from our manufacturing systems, to our communications and news delivery systems.

The July 9-13 White House Conference on Library and Information Services will develop recommendations for improving our nation's library and information resources and their use by the public. Working under a three theme umbrella of library and information services for literacy, productivity and democracy, the Conference will address issues critical to a strong America: literacy, workforce productivity and a populace fully equipped to participate in the democratic system.

This introductory program will brief journalists on the Conference and its themes and address new directions in information technologies which effect the news industry.

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***You are Invited to:***

**The White House Conference on  
Library and Information Services**

**THE NEWS MEDIA IN THE INFORMATION AGE  
*New Technologies—New Roles***

Hosted by The National Press Club and  
The National Press Club Foundation

Monday, July 8, 1991  
9:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

The National Press Club  
529 14th Street, NW  
Washington, DC

Sponsored by **DataTimes.**

To RSVP and register for the program, call  
(202) 289-2295 no later than Monday, July 1, 1991



**PROGRAM**

**Why a White House Conference on Library and  
Information Services?**

*Mr. Richard Akeroyd, Chairman  
White House Conference on Library and Information  
Services Advisory Committee*

**Access and Freedom Issues for  
"Information Age" Journalists**

*Mr. Paul McMasters, Deputy Editorial Director, USA Today*

**Doing It At Your Desk!—New Advances in Online Services**

*Mr. Allen Paschal, President, DataTimes*

**New Technologies and the Daily Life of Working Reporters**

*Judy Wilner, Technology Editor, The New York Times*

*(Continental breakfast will be served)*

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# The National Commission On Libraries and Information Science

## Commission Members

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Prodevco Group  
Fort Lee, New Jersey

**Elinor H. Swaim**  
*Vice Chairman*  
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Wichita, Kansas

**Virginia G. Young**  
Columbia, Missouri

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 30, 1989

I am pleased to send my warmest greetings to everyone preparing for the White House Conference on Library and Information Services.

If the United States is to remain a global leader in the 21st century, we must keep pace with rapid advances in technology, as well as with increasing trade and commerce between nations. Our ability to stay ahead depends, in large part, on our ability to stay informed.

Today, problems such as illiteracy threaten to undermine our Nation's strength and productivity. That is why we must improve educational opportunities in the United States and why we must meet the information needs of all our citizens -- especially minorities, the elderly, disadvantaged young people, and persons living in rural areas.

I am committed to working with you and with others, both in the public and private sectors, to enhance our nation's library services and information systems. By examining the diverse needs of our population and by exploring ways to make the maximum use of new information technology, we can bring the rewards of learning to more and more Americans and ensure that our Nation's libraries continue to serve as a valuable source of knowledge and training. Most important, improving the Nation's library and information services may be one of the best investments we make in our campaign to end illiteracy in the United States.

My thanks to each of you for your efforts to make this upcoming Conference a success. I look forward to the reports and recommendations that will be issued when the Conference convenes in 1991.

Barbara joins me in saluting your dedication to this great cause -- one that means so much to our nation and is so close to our hearts. God bless you.

*George Bush*

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# THE Jeffersonian Cyclopedia

A COMPREHENSIVE COLLECTION OF THE  
VIEWS OF

THOMAS JEFFERSON

Classified and Arranged in Alphabetical Order  
Under Nine Thousand Titles

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, LAW,  
EDUCATION, POLITICAL ECONOMY, FINANCE,  
SCIENCE, ART, LITERATURE, RELIGIOUS  
FREEDOM, MORALS, ETC.

EDITED BY

JOHN P. FOLEY

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

JULIAN P. BOYD

VOLUME TWO

"I have sworn upon the altar of God eternal hostility against  
every form of tyranny over the mind of man."—*Thomas Jefferson*

NEW YORK / RUSSELL & RUSSELL

**4714.** — —. The general spread of the light of science has already laid open to every view the palpable truth, that the mass of mankind has not been born with saddles on their backs, nor a favored few booted and spurred, ready to ride them legitimately, by the grace of God.—To ROGER C. WEIGHTMAN. vii, 451. FORD ED., x, 391. (M., 1826.)

**4715. LIBERTY, Sea of.**—The boisterous sea of liberty is never without a wave.—To RICHARD RUSH. vii, 182. (M., 1820.)

**4716. LIBERTY, Security for.**—We agree particularly in the necessity of some \* \* \* better security for civil liberty.—To JOHN TAYLOR. iv, 259. FORD ED., vii, 309. (M., 1798.)

**4717.** — —. Since, by the choice of my constituents, I have entered on a second term of administration, I embrace the opportunity to give this public assurance, \* \* \* that I will zealously cooperate with you in every measure which may tend to secure the liberty, property, and personal safety of our fellow citizens, and to consolidate the republican forms and principles of our government.—FIFTH ANNUAL MESSAGE. viii, 53. FORD ED., viii, 396. (Dec. 1805.)

**4718. LIBERTY, Subversion of.**—The moderation and virtue of a single character have probably prevented this Revolution from being closed, as most others have been, by a subversion of that liberty it was intended to establish.—To GENERAL WASHINGTON. i, 335. FORD ED., iii, 467. (A., 1784.)

**4719. LIBERTY, Universal.**—The ball of liberty is now so well in motion that it will roll round the globe.—To TENCH COXE. FORD ED., vii, 22. (M., 1795.)

**4720.** — —. I sincerely pray that all the members of the human family may, in the time prescribed by the Father of us all, find themselves securely established in the enjoyment of \* \* \* liberty.—REPLY TO ADDRESS. viii, 119. (1807.)

**4721.** — —. That we should wish to see the people of other countries free, is as natural, and at least as justifiable, as that one king should wish to see the kings of other countries maintained in their despotism.—To ALBERT GALLATIN. vii, 78. FORD ED., x, 90. (M., 1817.)

**4722. LIBERTY vs. WEALTH.**—What a cruel reflection that a rich country cannot long be a free one.—TRAVELS IN FRANCE. ix, 319. (1787.)

**4723. LIBRARY, Circulating.**—Nothing would do more extensive good at small expense than the establishment of a small circulating library in every county.—To JOHN WYCHE. v, 448. (M., 1809.)

**LIBRARY** **4724. LIBRARY, Founding.**—There shall be paid out of the treasury [of Virginia] every year the sum of two thousand pounds, to be laid out in such books and maps as may be proper to be preserved in a public library;

which library shall be established at the town of Richmond.—PUBLIC LIBRARY BILL. FORD ED., ii, 236. (1799.)

**4725. LIBRARY, Free.**—No person shall remove any book or map out of the library; \* \* \* but the same [may] be made useful by indulging the researches of the learned and curious, within the said library, without fee or reward.—PUBLIC LIBRARY BILL. FORD ED., ii, 236. (1799.)

**4726. LIBRARY, Jefferson's.**—You know my collection, its condition and extent. I have been fifty years making it, and have spared no pains, opportunity or expense, to make it what it is. While residing in Paris, I devoted every afternoon I was disengaged, for a summer or two, in examining all the principal book stores, turning over every book with my own hand, and putting by everything which related to America, and indeed whatever was rare and valuable in every science. Besides this, I had standing orders during the whole time I was in Europe, on its principal book-marts, particularly Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Madrid and London, for such works relating to America as could not be found in Paris. So that in that department particularly, such a collection was made as probably can never again be effected, because it is hardly probable that the same opportunities, the same time, industry, perseverance and expense, with some knowledge of the bibliography of the subject, would again happen to be in concurrence. During the same period, and after my return to America, I was led to procure, also, whatever related to the duties of those in the high concerns of the nation. So that the collection, which I suppose is of between nine and ten thousand volumes, while it includes what is chiefly valuable in science and literature generally, extends more particularly to whatever belongs to the American Statesman. In the diplomatic and parliamentary branches, it is particularly full.—To S. H. SMITH. vi, 383. FORD ED., ix, 486. (M., Sep. 1814.)

**4727. LIBRARY, Sale to Congress.**—It is long since I have been sensible it ought not to continue private property, and had provided that at my death, Congress should have the refusal of it at their own price. But the loss they have now incurred, makes the present the proper moment for their accommodation, without regard to the small remnant of time and the barren use of my enjoying it. I ask of your friendship, therefore, to make for me the tender of it to the Library Committee of Congress, not knowing myself of whom the Committee consists. Nearly the whole are well bound, abundance of them elegantly, and of the choicest editions existing. They may be valued by persons named by themselves, and the payment made convenient to the public. \* \* \* I do not know that it contains any branch of science which Congress would wish to exclude from their collection; there is, in fact, no subject to which a member of Congress may not have occasion to refer. But such a wish would not correspond with my views of preventing its dismemberment. My desire is either to place it in their hands entire, or to preserve it so here.\*—To S. H. SMITH. vi, 384. FORD ED., ix, 486. (M., Sep. 1814.) See 1133.

**4728.** — —. The arrangement [of the library at Monticello] is as follows: 1. Ancient

\* Jefferson's library was purchased by the United States Government for the use of Congress. The price paid was \$23,950.—EDITOR.

History. 2. Modern do. 3. Physics. 4. Nat. Hist. proper. 5. Technical Arts. 6. Ethics. 7. Jurisprudence. 8. Mathematics. 9. Gardening, architecture, sculpture, painting, music, poetry. 10. Oratory. 11. Criticism. 12. Polygraphical.—To JAMES OGILVIE. FORD ED., viii, 418. (W., 1806.)

**4729. LIES, Circulating.**—There is an enemy somewhere endeavoring to sow discord among us. Instead of listening first, then doubting, and lastly believing anile tales handed round without an atom of evidence, if my friends will address themselves to me directly, as you have done, they shall be informed with frankness and thankfulness.—To WILLIAM DUANE. iv, 590. FORD ED., viii, 431. (W., 1806.)

**4730. LIES, Fearless of.**—The man who fears no truths has nothing to fear from lies.—To DR. GEORGE LOGAN. FORD ED., x, 27. (M., 1816.)

**4731. LIES, Folly of.**—It is of great importance to set a resolution, not to be shaken, never to tell an untruth. There is no vice so mean, so pitiful, so contemptible; and he who permits himself to tell a lie once, finds it much easier to do it a second and third time, till at length it becomes habitual; he tells lies without attending to it, and truths without the world's believing him. This falsehood of the tongue leads to that of the heart, and in time depraves all its good dispositions.—To PETER CARR. i, 396. (P., 1785.)

**4732. LIES, Newspaper.**—There was an enthusiasm towards us all over Europe at the moment of the peace. The torrent of lies published unremittingly in every day's London papers first made an impression and produced a coolness. The republication of these lies in most of the papers of Europe (done probably by authority of the governments to discourage emigrations), carried them home to the belief of every mind. They supposed everything in America was anarchy, tumult and civil war. The reception of the Marquis Lafayette gave a check to these ideas.—To JAMES MADISON. i, 413. (P., 1785.)

**4733.** — — —. It has been so impossible to contradict all their lies, that I have determined to contradict none; for while I should be engaged with one, they would publish twenty new ones. Thirty years of public life have enabled most of those who read newspapers to judge of one for themselves.—To JAMES MONROE. FORD ED., vii, 448. (Ep., May 1800.)

**4734. LIES, Political.**—Were I to buy off every federal lie by a sacrifice of two or three thousand dollars, a very few such purchases would make me as bankrupt in reputation as in fortune. To buy off one lie is to give a premium for the invention of others. From the moment I was proposed for my present office, the volumes of calumny and falsehood issued to the public, rendered impracticable every idea of going into the work of finding and proving. I determined, therefore, to go

straight forward in what was right, and to rest my character with my countrymen not on depositions and affidavits, but on what they should themselves witness, the course of my life. I have had no reason to be dissatisfied with the confidence reposed in the public; on the contrary, great encouragement to persevere in it to the end.—To WILLIAM A. BURWELL. FORD ED., ix, 229. (W., 1808.)

**4735.** — — —. Many of the [federal] lies would have required only a simple denial, but I saw that even that would have led to the infallible inference, that whatever I had not denied was to be presumed true. I have, therefore, never done even this, but to such of my friends as happen to converse on these subjects, and I have never believed that my character could hang upon every two-penny lie of our common enemies.—To WILLIAM A. BURWELL. FORD ED., ix, 230. (W., 1808.)

**4736.** — — —. The federalists, instead of lying me down, have lied themselves down.—To WILLIAM A. BURWELL. FORD ED., ix, 230. (W., 1808.)

**4737. LIES, Useless.**—I consider it always useless to read lies.—To DE WITT CLINTON. iv, 520. (W., 1803.)

**4738. LIFE, Art of.**—The art of life is the art of avoiding pain; and he is the best pilot who steers clearest of the rocks and shoals with which it is beset.—To MRS. COSWAY. ii, 37. FORD ED., iv, 317. (P., 1786.)

**4739. LIFE, Chronicles of.**—Fifteen volumes of anecdotes and incidents, within the compass of my own time and cognizance, written by a man of genius, of taste, of point, an acquaintance, the measure and traverses of whose mind I know, could not fail to turn the scale in favor of life during their perusal.—To JOHN ADAMS. vii, 27. (M., 1816.)

**4740. LIFE, City.**—A city life offers \* \* \* more means of dissipating time, but more frequent also and more painful objects of vice and wretchedness. New York, for example, like London seems to be a *cloacina* of all the depravities of human nature. Philadelphia doubtless has its share. Here [Virginia], on the contrary, crime is scarcely heard of, breaches of order rare, and our societies, if not refined, are rational, moral and affectionate at least.—To WILLIAM SHORT. vii, 310. (M., 1823.)

**4741. LIFE, Declining.**—I endeavor to beguile the wearisomeness of declining life by the delights of classical reading and of mathematical truths, and by the consolations of a sound philosophy, equally indifferent to hope and fear.—To W. SHORT. vii, 140. FORD ED., x, 145. (M., 1819.)

**4742. LIFE, Enjoyment of.**—I sincerely pray that all the members of the human family may, in the time prescribed by the Father of us all, find themselves securely established in the enjoyment of life, liberty and happiness.—REPLY TO ADDRESS. viii, 119. (1807.)

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# THOMAS JEFFERSON

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WRITINGS

*Autobiography*

*A Summary View of the Rights of British America*

*Notes on the State of Virginia*

*Public Papers*

*Addresses, Messages, and Replies*

*Miscellany*

*Letters*

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THE LIBRARY OF AMERICA

time impress their minds with useful facts and good principles. If this period be suffered to pass in idleness, the mind becomes lethargic and impotent, as would the body it inhabits if unexercised during the same time. The sympathy between body and mind during their rise, progress and decline, is too strict and obvious to endanger our being misled while we reason from the one to the other.—As soon as they are of sufficient age, it is supposed they will be sent on from the grammar schools to the university, which constitutes our third and last stage, there to study those sciences which may be adapted to their views.—By that part of our plan which prescribes the selection of the youths of genius from among the classes of the poor, we hope to avail the state of those talents which nature has sown as liberally among the poor as the rich, but which perish without use, if not sought for and cultivated.—But of all the views of this law none is more important, none more legitimate, than that of rendering the people the safe, as they are the ultimate, guardians of their own liberty. For this purpose the reading in the first stage, where *they* will receive their whole education, is proposed, as has been said, to be chiefly historical. History by apprising them of the past will enable them to judge of the future; it will avail them of the experience of other times and other nations; it will qualify them as judges of the actions and designs of men; it will enable them to know ambition under every disguise it may assume; and knowing it, to defeat its views. In every government on earth is some trace of human weakness, some germ of corruption and degeneracy, which cunning will discover, and wickedness insensibly open, cultivate, and improve. Every government degenerates when trusted to the rulers of the people alone. The people themselves therefore are its only safe depositories. And to render even them safe their minds must be improved to a certain degree. This indeed is not all that is necessary, though it be essentially necessary. An amendment of our constitution must here come in aid of the public education. The influence over government must be shared among all the people. If every individual which composes their mass participates of the ultimate authority, the government will be safe; because the corrupting the whole mass will exceed any private resources of

## *Memorial on the Book Duty*

November 30, 1821

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:*

THE PETITION of the rector and visiters of the University of Virginia, on behalf of those for whom they are in the office of preparing the means of instruction, as well as of others seeking it elsewhere, respectfully representeth:

That the Commonwealth of Virginia has thought proper lately to establish a university for instruction, generally, in all the useful branches of science, of which your petitioners are appointed rector and visiters, and, as such, are charged with attention to the interests of those who shall be committed to their care.

That they observe, by the tariff of duties imposed by the laws of Congress on importations into the United States, an article peculiarly inauspicious to the objects of their own, and of all other literary institutions throughout the United States.

That at an early period of the present Government, when our country was burdened with a heavy debt, contracted in the war of Independence, and its resources for revenue were untried and uncertain, the National Legislature thought it as yet inexpedient to indulge in scruples as to the subjects of taxation, and, among others, imposed a duty on books imported from abroad, which has been continued, and now is, of fifteen per cent., on their prime cost, raised by ordinary custom-house charges to eighteen per cent., and by the importer's profits to perhaps twenty-five per cent., and more.

That, after many years' experience, it is certainly found that the reprinting of books in the United States is confined chiefly to those in our native language, and of popular characters, and to cheap editions of a few of the classics for the use of schools; while the valuable editions of the classical authors, even learned works in the English language, and books in all foreign living languages, (vehicles of the important discoveries and improvements in science and the arts, which are daily advancing the interest and happiness of other nations,)

*Duty*

November 30, 1821

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are unprinted here, and unobtainable from abroad but under the burden of a heavy duty.

That of many important books, in different branches of science, it is believed that there is not a single copy in the United States; of others, but a few; and these too distant and difficult of access for students and writers generally.

That the difficulty resulting from this mode of procuring books of the first order in the sciences, and in foreign languages, ancient and modern, is an unfair impediment to the American student, who, for want of these aids, already possessed or easily procurable in all countries except our own, enters on his course with very unequal means, with wants unknown to his foreign competitors, and often with that imperfect result which subjects us to reproaches not unfelt by minds alive to the honor and mortified sensibilities of their country.

That, to obstruct the acquisition of books from abroad, as an encouragement of the progress of literature at home, is burying the fountain to increase the flow of its waters.

That books, and especially those of the rare and valuable character, thus burdened, are not articles of consumption, but of permanent preservation and value, lasting often as many centuries as the houses we live in, of which examples are to be found in every library of note.

That books, therefore, are capital, often the only capital of professional men on their outset in life, and of students destined for professions, (as most of our scholars are,) and barely able, too, for the most part, to meet the expenses of tuition, and less to pay as extra tax on the books necessary for their instruction, that they are consequently less instructed than they would be; and that our citizens at large do not derive from their employment all the benefits which higher qualifications would procure them.

That this is the only form of capital on which a tax of from 18 to 25 per cent. is first levied on the gross, and the proprietor then subject to all other taxes in detail, as those holding capitals in other forms, on which no such extra tax has been previously levied.

That it is true that no duty is required on books imported for seminaries of learning; but these, locked up in libraries,

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should be any otherwise noticed before the public than by a more correct statement in any future edition of your work.

You mention having enclosed to me some printed letters announcing a design in which you ask my aid. But no such letters came to me. Any facts which I possess, and which may be useful to your views, shall be freely communicated, and I shall be happy to see you at Monticello, should you come this way as you propose. You will find me engaged entirely in rural occupations, looking into the field of science but occasionally and at vacant moments.

I sowed some of the Benni seed the last year, and distributed some among my neighbors; but the whole was killed by the September frost. I got a little again the last winter, but it was sowed before I received your letter. Colonel Fen of New York receives quantities of it from Georgia, from whom you may probably get some through the Mayor of New York. But I little expect it can succeed with you. It is about as hardy as the cotton plant, from which you may judge of the probability of raising it at Hudson.

I salute you with great respect.

#### CIRCULATING LIBRARIES

#### *To John Wyche*

*Monticello, May 19, 1809*

SIR,—Your favor of March 19th came to hand but a few days ago, and informs me of the establishment of the Westward Mill Library Society, of its general views and progress. I always hear with pleasure of institutions for the promotion of knowledge among my countrymen. The people of every country are the only safe guardians of their own rights, and are the only instruments which can be used for their destruction. And certainly they would never consent to be so used were they not deceived. To avoid this, they should be instructed to a certain degree. I have often thought that nothing would do more extensive good at small expense than the establishment of a small circulating library in every county, to consist of a few well-chosen books, to be lent to the people

of the county, under such regulations as would secure their safe return in due time. These should be such as would give them a general view of other history, and particular view of that of their own country, a tolerable knowledge of Geography, the elements of Natural Philosophy, of Agriculture and Mechanics. Should your example lead to this, it will do great good. Having had more favorable opportunities than fall to every man's lot of becoming acquainted with the best books on such subjects as might be selected, I do not know that I can be otherwise useful to your society than by offering them any information respecting these which they might wish. My services in this way are freely at their command, and I beg leave to tender to yourself my salutations and assurances of respect.

“THE SPIRIT OF MANUFACTURE”

*To P. S. Dupont de Nemours*

*Monticello, June 28, 1809*

DEAR SIR,—The interruption of our commerce with England, produced by our embargo and non-intercourse law, and the general indignation excited by her barefaced attempts to make us accessories and tributaries to her usurpations on the high seas, have generated in this country an universal spirit for manufacturing for ourselves, and of reducing to a minimum the number of articles for which we are dependent on her. The advantages, too, of lessening the occasions of risking our peace on the ocean, and of planting the consumer in our own soil by the side of the grower of produce, are so palpable, that no temporary suspension of injuries on her part, or agreements founded on that, will now prevent our continuing in what we have begun. The spirit of manufacture has taken deep root among us, and its foundations are laid in too great expense to be abandoned. The bearer of this, Mr. Ronaldson, will be able to inform you of the extent and perfection of the works produced here by the late state of things; and to his information, which is greatest as to what is doing in the cities, I can add my own as to the country, where the

Law of Nature

A LIBRARY FOR CONGRESS

*To Samuel H. Smith*

*Monticello, September 21, 1814*

Municipal and  
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DEAR SIR,—I learn from the newspapers that the Vandalism of our enemy has triumphed at Washington over science as well as the arts, by the destruction of the public library with the noble edifice in which it was deposited. Of this transaction, as of that of Copenhagen, the world will entertain but one sentiment. They will see a nation suddenly withdrawn from a great war, full armed and full handed, taking advantage of another whom they had recently forced into it, unarmed, and unprepared, to indulge themselves in acts of barbarism which do not belong to a civilized age. When Van Ghent destroyed their shipping at Chatham, and De Ruyter rode triumphantly up the Thames, he might in like manner, by the acknowledgment of their own historians, have forced all their ships up to London bridge, and there have burnt them, the tower, and city, had these examples been then set. London, when thus menaced, was near a thousand years old, Washington is but in its teens.

I presume it will be among the early objects of Congress to re-commence their collection. This will be difficult while the war continues, and intercourse with Europe is attended with so much risk. You know my collection, its condition and extent. I have been fifty years making it, and have spared no pains, opportunity or expense, to make it what it is. While residing in Paris, I devoted every afternoon I was disengaged, for a summer or two, in examining all the principal book-stores, turning over every book with my own hand, and putting by everything which related to America, and indeed whatever was rare and valuable in every science. Besides this, I had standing orders during the whole time I was in Europe, on its principal book-marts, particularly Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Madrid and London, for such works relating to America as could not be found in Paris. So that in that department particularly, such a collection was made as probably can never again be effected, because it is hardly probable that the same opportunities, the same time, industry, perseverance and expense, with some knowledge of the bibliography of the sub-

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ject, would again happen to be in concurrence. During the same period, and after my return to America, I was led to procure, also, whatever related to the duties of those in the high concerns of the nation. So that the collection, which I suppose is of between nine and ten thousand volumes, while it includes what is chiefly valuable in science and literature generally, extends more particularly to whatever belongs to the American statesman. In the diplomatic and parliamentary branches, it is particularly full. It is long since I have been sensible it ought not to continue private property, and had provided that at my death, Congress should have the refusal of it at their own price. But the loss they have now incurred, makes the present the proper moment for their accommodation, without regard to the small remnant of time and the barren use of my enjoying it. I ask of your friendship, therefore, to make for me the tender of it to the library committee of Congress, not knowing myself of whom the committee consists. I enclose you the catalogue, which will enable them to judge of its contents. Nearly the whole are well bound, abundance of them elegantly, and of the choicest editions existing. They may be valued by persons named by themselves, and the payment made convenient to the public. It may be, for instance, in such annual instalments as the law of Congress has left at their disposal, or in stock of any of their late loans, or of any loan they may institute at this session, so as to spare the present calls of our country, and await its days of peace and prosperity. They may enter, nevertheless, into immediate use of it, as eighteen or twenty wagons would place it in Washington in a single trip of a fortnight. I should be willing indeed, to retain a few of the books, to amuse the time I have yet to pass, which might be valued with the rest, but not included in the sum of valuation until they should be restored at my death, which I would carefully provide for, so that the whole library as it stands in the catalogue at this moment should be theirs without any garbling. Those I should like to retain would be chiefly classical and mathematical. Some few in other branches, and particularly one of the five encyclopedias in the catalogue. But this, if not acceptable, would not be urged. I must add, that I have not revised the library since I came home to live, so that it is probable some

of the books may be missing, except in the chapters of Law and Divinity, which have been revised and stand exactly as in the catalogue. The return of the catalogue will of course be needed, whether the tender be accepted or not. I do not know that it contains any branch of science which Congress would wish to exclude from their collection; there is, in fact, no subject to which a member of Congress may not have occasion to refer. But such a wish would not correspond with my views of preventing its dismemberment. My desire is either to place it in their hands entire, or to preserve it so here. I am engaged in making an alphabetical index of the author's names, to be annexed to the catalogue, which I will forward to you as soon as completed. Any agreement you shall be so good as to take the trouble of entering into with the committee, I hereby confirm. Accept the assurance of my great esteem and respect.

#### A JUST BUT SAD WAR

#### *To William Short*

*Monticello, November 28, 1814*

DEAR SIR,—Yours of October 28th came to hand on the 15th instant only. The settlement of your boundary with Colonel Monroe, is protracted by circumstances which seem foreign to it. One would hardly have expected that the hostile expedition to Washington could have had any connection with an operation one hundred miles distant. Yet preventing his attendance, nothing could be done. I am satisfied there is no unwillingness on his part, but on the contrary a desire to have it settled; and therefore, if he should think it indispensable to be present at the investigation, as is possible, the very first time he comes here I will press him to give a day to the decision, without regarding Mr. Carter's absence. Such an occasion must certainly offer soon after the fourth of March, when Congress rises of necessity, and be assured I will not lose one possible moment in effecting it.

Although withdrawn from all anxious attention to political concerns, yet I will state my impressions as to the present



THE HOME BOOK  
OF  
AMERICAN  
QUOTATIONS

SELECTED AND ARRANGED BY

BRUCE BOHLE

DODD, MEAD & COMPANY  
NEW YORK

1967

Republics exist only on tenure of being agitated.

WENDELL PHILLIPS, Address: *Public Opinion*, Boston, 28 Jan., 1852.

<sup>1</sup> Liberty, when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, Letter to James Madison, 2 Mar., 1788.

<sup>2</sup> If the true spark of religious and civil liberty be kindled, it will burn. Human agency cannot extinguish it.

DANIEL WEBSTER, Address at Bunker Hill Monument, 17 June, 1825.

<sup>3</sup> God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it.

DANIEL WEBSTER, Speech in U.S. Senate, 3 June, 1834.

<sup>4</sup> Liberty exists in proportion to wholesome restraint; the more restraint on others to keep off from us, the more liberty we have.

DANIEL WEBSTER, Speech, 10 May, 1847.

<sup>5</sup> Liberty has never come from the government. Liberty has always come from the subjects of it. The history of liberty is a history of resistance. The history of liberty is a history of limitations of governmental power, not the increase of it.

WOODROW WILSON, Speech before New York Press Club, 9 Sept., 1912.

<sup>6</sup> I would rather belong to a poor nation that was free than to a rich nation that had ceased to be in love with liberty. We shall not be poor if we love liberty.

WOODROW WILSON, Speech in Mobile, Ala., 27 Oct., 1912.

<sup>7</sup> Liberty does not consist in mere general declarations of the rights of men. It consists in the translation of those declarations into definite action.

WOODROW WILSON, Address in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, 4 July, 1914.

<sup>8</sup> A liberty to do that only which is good, just, and honest.

JOHN WINTHROP, *Life and Letters*, ii, 341.

<sup>9</sup> The thing they forget is that liberty and freedom and democracy are so very precious that you do not fight to win them once and stop.

SERGEANT ALVIN C. YORK. Quoted by Franklin D. Roosevelt in an Armistice Day speech, 11 Nov., 1941, as a reply to those who were then saying that

World War I had been a futile struggle.

## LIBRARY

See also Books, Reading

<sup>10</sup> The richest minds need not large libraries.

AMOS BRONSON ALCOTT, *Table Talk: Learning-Books*.

<sup>11</sup> A library is but the soul's burial-ground. It is the land of shadows.

HENRY WARD BEECHER, *Star Papers: Oxford, The Bodleian Library*.

<sup>12</sup> Libraries niver encouraged lithrachoor anny more thin tombstones encourage livin'. No wan iver wrote annythin' because he was tol' that a hundherd years fr'm now his books might be taken down fr'm a shelf in a granite sepulcher an' some wan wud write "Good" or "This man is crazy" in th' margin. What lithrachoor needs is fillin' food.

FINLEY PETER DUNNE, *Dissertations by Mr. Dooley: The Carnegie Libraries*.

<sup>13</sup> Consider what you have in the smallest chosen library. A company of the wisest and wittiest men that could be picked out of all civil countries, in a thousand years, have set in best order the results of their learning and wisdom. The men themselves were hid and inaccessible, solitary, impatient of interruption, fenced by etiquette; but the thought which they did not uncover to their bosom friend is here written out in transparent words to us, the strangers of another age.

EMERSON, *Society and Solitude: Books*.

<sup>14</sup> Meek young men grow up in libraries.

EMERSON, *Nature, Addresses and Lectures: The American Scholar*.

<sup>15</sup> Every library should try to be complete on something, if it were only the history of pin-heads.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, *The Poet at the Breakfast-Table*, ch. 8.

<sup>16</sup> I have often thought that nothing would do more extensive good at small expense than the establishment of a small circulating library in every county, to consist of a few well-chosen books, to be lent to the people of the county, under such regulations as would secure their safe return in due time.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, *Writings*, vol. xii, p. 282.

<sup>17</sup> Libraries can be of indispensable service in lifting the dead weight of poverty and ignorance.

FRANCIS KEPPEL, Address at opening session of annual American Library Associ-

July 9, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR PATTY PRESOCK

THROUGH: TONY SNOW

FROM: CAROL BLYMIRE

SUBJECT: PUBLIC LIBRARY REQUEST AND APPROPRIATION FIGURES

In answer to the President's question regarding whether or not we are spending more on public libraries in 1991-92, I have prepared the following information. These figures were provided by Bruce McConnell, Senior Policy Analyst in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in the Office of Management and Budget.

In 1990, \$82.5 million were spent on public library services, and \$14.8 million were spent on public library construction. In 1991, Congress appropriated \$83.9 million for services and \$32 million for construction.

In 1992, we requested \$35 million for services and \$0 for construction. To this date, the House has approved \$83.9 million for services and less than \$32 million for construction. The Senate has not acted on either request for services or construction.