NEW YORK
Society Library
ANNUAL REPORT
1944

53 East Seventy-ninth Street
Founded 1754
NEW YORK SOCIETY LIBRARY

Trustees 1944–1945

Frederic A. de Peyster
Lewis S. Morris
Edward C. Parish
Hamilton Fish Armstrong
A. Coster Schermerhorn
Edmund P. Rogers

E. Coster Wilmerding
Edward C. Delafield
Donald C. Vaughan
Arthur J. Morris
Rodman Gilder
Frederic R. King

Walter Millis
The Trustees of the New York Society Library present to the Shareholders this their report for the year ending March 31, 1944.

My first duty is a sad one — to report the death of a Trustee of the Library, Mr. Bertrand Cruger, who served on the Board from 1925 to 1943.

We are glad to report an increase in subscriptions amounting to $2,095. Most of this increase, as far as we are able to determine, is due to word-of-mouth advertising. Some solicitation was made through personal letters. The majority of new subscribers, however, hear of the Library from friends. Students tell each other where they get their reference material; country dwellers extoll the satisfactions of the mail service; discussion club members learn from others that it is cheaper to borrow from the Library than to buy. Twenty-six subscriptions were given as Christmas presents. One was given as a wedding present.

Our correspondence has been enlivened lately by one of Chief Magistrate Curran's little sallies. He was moved to break a lance in the cause of protecting library books from readers who annotate them with their own comments and corrections. He thinks such offenders a "depraved form of quadruped" and urges that they be sent down to his court for a life sentence. Letters such as these add color to a collection that covers nearly two hundred years. We have one from Colonel Richard Varick written before 1800 apologizing for a delay in returning books; and a series of letters in 1838 from members criticizing library policy. We have letters from Horace Greeley, Charles A. Dana and William Cullen Bryan introducing friends; from many famous writers acknowledging help; from a long line of distinguished trustees accepting appointment; a letter from a prominent citizen in 1872 objecting that the books were not censored, for the protection of the morals of his grown daughter; one from a lady in 1890 on the same theme in behalf of her elderly sisters; and letters from indignant readers in 1926 and 1936 who suspected that the books were censored.
For many years loose book covers with early library bookplates have been saved. These have provided copies of the library's first bookplate, engraved by Elisha Gallaudet in 1758 and more of the second and third bookplate, engraved by Peter Maverick in 1789 and 1797. In soaking off the plates from the old book covers we found many personal bookplates under the library bookplates, indicating the original ownership of the volumes. These private bookplates have been preserved also. The names on them include many of New York's old families: Samuel P. Broome, Arnold Duncombe, Daniel Horsmanden, William S. Johnson, Brockholst Livingston, William Smith Livingston, Joseph Youle.

Those who are interested in the library's early history should read the chapter entitled "News and Reviews" in Frank Monaghan's "This Was New York," a fascinating story of every phase of life in this city in 1789. When it was published last summer Dr. Monaghan presented a copy to the library with the following flattering inscription on the fly leaf: "For the New York Society Library and to its staff...this modest but earnest little book...the best of which their cooperation and resources made possible."

Our outstanding gift of the year is an Edgar Allen Poe letter presented by Mr. Christian A. Zabriskie. The letter is now on exhibit with several contemporary periodicals containing early appearances of Poe's literary work. Other notable gifts were the original manuscript of Scott's "Dome of Devorgoil," also presented by Mr. Zabriskie; six scrapbooks from Mrs. William Greenough containing clippings concerning her father, Mr. Whitney Warren, the architect; from Mrs. Charles H. Langmuir, a deed signed by DeWitt Clinton, then mayor of New York, for a plot of land formerly purchased by the city from Miller and Baker "for the use of Canal street" and resold by the city to the same firm; and a copy of "The Unfortified Boundary," a diary of the first survey of the Canadian boundary line from St. Regis to the Lake of the Woods by Major Joseph Delafield, presented by his grandson, Colonel Edward C. Delafield.

The library has continued to help the war effort by maintaining a collection center for books to be sent to the armed forces. A large reserve collection of books for nearby government hospitals was also stored here by the Red Cross. These books have now been distributed to those hospitals. The Librarian, Miss Crowell, has been serving one day a week in an advisory capacity to Hospital Librarians working as Red Cross Gray Ladies in local and nearby Government Hospitals.

We wish to commend the members of the Library staff for their faithful service during this busy year.

For the Trustees,

LEWIS SPENCER MORRIS
Chairman.
REPORT OF
THE AUDITING COMMITTEE

To the Trustees of the New York Society Library:

The Committee appointed "To audit the accounts of this Corporation and to make an inventory of its real and personal property, excepting the books," respectfully submits and reports:

THAT

They have employed W. S. Salway, Certified Public Accountant, to examine the accounts of the Treasurer for the year ended March 31, 1944.

The securities were examined by the Auditing Committee on June 15, 1944 and were found to be in order.

Edward C. Delafield
Walter Millis
Auditing Committee

New York, N. Y.,
June 15, 1944.
STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
For Year Ended March 31st, 1944

BALANCE — APRIL 1st, 1943:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>$4,479.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodhue Fund</td>
<td>$7,855.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Fund</td>
<td>$1,422.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$13,756.91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RECEIPTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mortgage Principal Repaid</td>
<td>$14,027.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Allowed Mortgage Claims</td>
<td>1,009.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred from Income to cover</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>depreciation reserve</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales of Mortgages, Securities and Real</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estate</td>
<td>21,814.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Water Damage Claim</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$51,408.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISBURSEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Securities Purchased</td>
<td>$29,479.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced for Operations</td>
<td>2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction of Mortgage Payable on</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Building</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Certificates</td>
<td>210.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re: Mortgage Sold in Previous Year</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$37,264.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BALANCE — MARCH 31ST, 1944:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>$4,168.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodhue Fund</td>
<td>9,329.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Fund</td>
<td>645.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$14,144.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATEMENT OF INCOME RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
For Year Ended March 31st, 1944

BALANCE — APRIL 1ST, 1943: $2,347.09

RECEIPTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>$12,811.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodhue Fund</td>
<td>5,547.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Fund</td>
<td>1,897.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$20,255.71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INTERNAL INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dues</td>
<td>$260.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>9,058.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fines</td>
<td>391.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books Sold</td>
<td>387.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10,097.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advance from General Fund: 2,500.00

Total Receipts: $35,200.26
DISBURSEMENTS

Operating
Books .................................................. $ 3,506.00
Binding and Repairs .................................. 249.72
Periodicals .............................................. 602.65
Postage ................................................... 89.63
Printing .................................................. 468.44
Supplies .................................................. 713.56
Salaries .................................................. 24,637.76
Building Repairs and Maintenance .................. 880.52
Electricity and Gas ................................... 1,414.61
Heat ...................................................... 725.34
Insurance ................................................ 1,083.56
Cleaning Supplies ..................................... 71.35
Telephone ............................................... 159.67
Water ...................................................... 43.05
Pension Fund Premiums ............................... 682.40
Legal and Professional ............................... 79.64
Miscellaneous ......................................... 64.63

$35,313.25

Other Disbursements
Interest on Mortgage ................................ $ 1,083.34
Provision for Depreciation Reserve ................. 1,000.00
Custody of Securities and Safekeeping .......... 855.00 2,938.34

Total Disbursements ................................ 38,251.59

Excess Disbursements ................................ 3,051.33

Non-Operating Cash Transactions ................. 6,028.58

Balance—March 31st, 1944 ................................ $ 2,977.25

INVESTMENT INCOME
For Year Ended March 31st, 1944

General Goodhue Green Total
Fund Fund Fund
Interest on Mortgages $10,386.20 $ 8,620.34 $1,772.03 $20,778.57
Interest on Bonds 1,592.92 675.00 125.00 2,392.92
Dividends 832.00 3,340.50 — 4,172.50
Real Estate Income —— 1,803.66 —— 1,803.66

$12,811.12 $10,832.18 $1,897.03 $25,540.33

Less Real Estate Expenses —— 5,284.62 —— 5,284.62

$12,811.12 5,547.56 1,897.03 20,255.71

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS AT MARCH 31st, 1944

ASSETS

Cash
Principal—Uninvested ......................... $ 14,144.00
Income—Unexpended ............................. 2,977.25

$ 17,121.25

General Fund ................................ 240,228.90
Goodhue Fund ................................ 356,403.19
Green Fund .................................... 49,155.00

645,787.09

Outside Real Estate
Goodhue Fund ................................ 25,222.76

Library Building and Equipment
Total Cost, less Reserve for Depreciation $323,325.35
Less Mortgage Payable ...................... 25,000.00

298,325.35

Deferred Charges ................................ 1,013.80

$987,470.25
ACCESSIONS TO THE
GREEN ART COLLECTION

AYARS
BARBOUR
BURRIS-MEYER
CRAVEN
CRAVEN
FARSON
FLANAGAN
GOFFIN
GOYA
HENDELSON
HENDERSON
IVINS
MOREY
MULHOLLAND
NEWMAN
PALMER
ROBSJOHN-GIBBINGS
ROTHSCHILD
SIEGMEISTER
SIMONSON
SLOANE
STILES
STOKOWSKI
SWEENEY
TAUBMAN
TAYLOR
THURBER
Contributions to the art of music
How to teach children to know music
This is fashion
Cartoon cavalcade
Story of painting
Going fishing
Dynamo
Jazz
Complete etchings of Goya
Music lovers' almanac
How to sing for money
How prints look
Mediaeval art
Art of illusion
More stories of famous operas
More than shadows
Good bye, Mr. Chippendale
Sculpture through the ages
Music lover's handbook
Part of a lifetime
Revive your old furniture
Pottery in the United States
Music for all of us
Alexander Calder
Music on my beat
Pictorial history of the movies
Men, women and dogs
Great Georgian houses of America

DONORS
For Year Ending March 31, 1944

Charles C. Burlingham
Mrs. George W. Cane
Carnegie Endowment
Miss Fanny M. Cottenet
Malcolm Cowley
Miss Elizabeth Daly
Edward C. Delafield
Mrs. F. Ashton dePeyster
Miss Josephine deRonge
George E. Folk
Mrs. Alan L. Grant
Mrs. William Greenough
Miss Hildegarde Hawthorne
Miss Sylvia Holt
Hundred Year Association
Mrs. Hamlin Hunt
Mrs. H. T. Hyman
Miss Fannie Irwin
Albert Ralph Korn
Mrs. Charles H. Langmuir
Mrs. Walton Martin
Mrs. William R. Mercer
Miss Josephine Morrison
New York Public Library
Mrs. Lionella Perera
Propellor Club of New York
Dr. David Randall-Maclver
Mme. Louza Riane
Roberts Book Company
Miss Elizabeth A. Rose
Miss Sistare
Mrs. Morris Stokes
Mrs. Theron G. Strong
Miss Joanne Thomson
Union Club
Mrs. Samuel A. Welldon
Miss Whitham
Mrs. Arnold Whitridge
Christian A. Zabriskie