

On conclusion of the paper a gentleman proving to be Dr. J. W. Harshberger, of the University of Pennsylvania, introduced himself as a stranger attracted to the meeting by its program. He congratulated Miss Warner on her paper, and supplemented it by a brief account of interesting discoveries he had recently made by roundabout methods in seeking information requested by Dr. Sargent, of the Arnold Arboretum, in regard to the Pierce brothers and their nurseries near Kennett Square, Pa., and also alluded to similar methods pursued in regard to William Young, Jr., whose rare "Catalogue des arbres, etc., d'Amérique" (Paris, 1783), has recently been reproduced in facsimile by Rhoads. Mr. Ferguson's and Miss Warner's papers will be published in the *Proceedings* of the Conference of the American Library Association and in the *Library Journal*.

Mr. Charles R. Green, librarian, Massachusetts Agricultural College, presented for discussion the subject of "A Union Checklist of Agricultural Periodicals." He dwelt on the desirability of a list which should make more readily available the present periodical resources of the agricultural libraries of the country, encouraging interlibrary loans and lessening the unnecessary purchase of little used material, and suggested the possible scope of the list, warning against yielding to the temptation to plan an over large project which it would not be possible to carry out. Should such a list include only periodicals on agriculture and its practically related subjects, such as horticulture and animal husbandry, or should it include also those on its related sciences, such as bacteriology, chemistry, botany, entomology, etc.? Or would it be best to issue no nationwide check list, but for agricultural librarians to make an effort to have material of interest to them, included in the various regional periodical union check lists which are in preparation or contemplation?

Miss L. K. Wilkins, chief of the Periodical Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture Library, led the discussion by describing the list of agricultural periodicals of the United States and Canada, compiled as a personal undertaking by Mr. S. C. Stuntz, formerly of the Library of Congress, later of the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction of the Bureau of Plant Industry. The list which is very comprehensive and in manuscript form, was purchased by the library of the U. S. Department of Agriculture after Mr. Stuntz's death in 1918. Miss Wilkins suggested that this list be used as a basis for the proposed union check list of agricultural periodicals, omit-

ting the historical notes, and biographical sketches of editors.

Mr. H. O. Severance, librarian of the University of Missouri, said he would like to have the list cover periodicals on all sciences allied to agriculture, but the general opinion seemed to be that it should cover only those on agriculture and the branches of agriculture such as animal husbandry, dairying and horticulture.

Mr. H. W. Wilson, president of the H. W. Wilson Company, described the methods being employed in making up the union check list of periodicals of the central states, and Dr. C. W. Andrews, librarian of the John Crerar Library, stated that they would waive exclusive use of the slugs, and would gladly give those for agricultural periodicals to this section, if an agricultural check list were undertaken.

After further discussion, a motion was made to ascertain whether the section thought it desirable to undertake the preparation of such a list, on the cooperative plan. The motion was carried unanimously. Mr. Severance then moved that the chair appoint a committee of three with power to act, and to decide upon methods of compiling and publishing a union check list to agricultural periodicals in libraries in the United States. It was understood that the committee was to make the final decision as to its scope. The following committee was appointed by the chair: Mr. Charles R. Green, chairman, Mr. H. O. Severance and Miss Lydia K. Wilkins.

The question of a union check list of agricultural periodicals is one of great importance to all scientists interested in agriculture. If there are any who have any suggestions to make on the subject, the committee would gladly receive them.

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Chairman

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