

June 10, 1946
(continued) then envisioned - is now almost complete. Henceforth, the new Young Peoples Wing must speak for itself, through its use.

Its ground plan is simple. It is therefore adaptable. Five years from now, or even in as many months, the rooms may be put to entirely different use than today. That is, as it should be. For a library is a living thing, ever adapting itself to the needs of the times and the changing interests of its clientele. Its prime function is to meet this challenge efficiently, and it is with this purpose that the addition has been planned.

It has also been planned for the efficiency and comfort of the staff. Having worked in five libraries in a period of more than 50 years, I am well aware of the multiple inconveniences - often ill advised and unnecessary - that can combine to make the work of the staff difficult and fatiguing. In planning the library I have therefore done my best to eliminate the handicaps and inconveniences which I have witnessed and experienced over the years.

Obviously this is the time when we should consolidate our gains and then full attention to acquiring books, increasing the salaries of the staff, and providing adequate maintenance for the building and grounds. For the sake of the record, however, perhaps I should state that if continued increase in the citizenry, and in the consequent use of the library, should occasion the adding of still another section, a knockout panel will be found at the west end of each floor of the Young Peoples Wing, which will provide easy access to such a structure. Also it would be possible, by opening a door at the base of the central staircase to install a passageway along the outside of the south wall of the reading room.

This would afford a direct route to the new section, without entering the reading room - whether it is still used for that purpose or, because of its central location, closed off and used for book storage and stacks. If such a structure is ever added, it is my hope that it may contain a special room for little children with low bookcases within their reach and some decorative treatment of the walls.

As for the present addition, construction is practically complete. Only a few points remain to be finished off. By July first at the latest, and probably within a fortnight, the new Young Peoples Wing will be open and functioning. At the next annual meeting, it will be an old story. This seems the time, therefore, and for