

June 10, 1946
(continued)

And I am donating a "antique" davenport, a davenport, that has been in my family for about a hundred and thirty years. That is, I am tentatively giving it. There is a string attached. It is a gift to the Library if it can be given a proper setting. I do not mean that expensive antiques should be bought to go with it, but merely that it should be placed either in a harmonious and appropriate group near the Franklin stove, or appropriately placed elsewhere in the library. Otherwise it will be withdrawn. A seven-foot davenport without a proper setting would be a white elephant, indeed, if left to roam the library at will.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret B. Stillwell (Clint Wright)
Chairman, Building Committee

June 10, 1946

Random Thoughts and Reminiscences from the Presidential Cheer

My tour of office as President has coincided with moving in the Greenville Public Library.

In 1934 we were still in the old building, with the library open eight hours a week, with a circulation around 3,000 volumes a year, and with a Town appropriation of \$500.00 per year.

In 1950 the book collection was started to be reclassified into the Dewey Decimal classification. By 1956 all the non-fiction had been so treated. A card catalog was initiated, and at the present time all the fiction, all the juvenile collection, all biography and all travel, and all non-fiction in the 000's through 600's have been cataloged -- also the Reference collection. All new books are now cataloged before being released for circulation. The book collection has been weeded at least twice -- the first time in 1950 when 4,000 volumes were discarded in one fell swoop, under the guidance of Esther Jones and her crew of volunteers.

Two building programs have been initiated, with the second one now in its final stages. Both of the programs necessitated fund-raising drives, and many people have been involved in these activities. The Henry F. Jencks building was completed and furnished for about \$40,000, the new Young Peoples wing is costing, in the neighborhood of \$100,000.00 with furnishings, of which