

# American Library Association

J. R. RUTLAND, REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR  
ALABAMA, TENNESSEE, ARKANSAS, MISSISSIPPI  
AND LOUISIANA



CARL H. MILAM,  
SECRETARY,  
AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE  
AUBURN, ALABAMA

## NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr. J. RANDOLPH COOLIDGE, JR.,  
*Chairman*

MR. NATHAN D. BILL  
DR. MARION L. BURTON  
HON. ASA G. CANDLER  
DR. P. P. CLAXTON  
MRS. JOSIAH EVANS COWLES  
MRS. HENRY P. DAVISON  
MR. CLEVELAND H. DODGE  
DR. STEPHEN P. DUGGAN  
DR. JOHN H. FINLEY  
MR. RAYMOND B. FOSDICK  
MR. HENRY E. HUNTINGTON  
HON. ALBERT JOHNSON  
BISHOP FREDERIC W. KEATOR  
DR. JOHN R. MOTT  
MRS. JOSEPHINE CORLISS PRESTON  
HON. WILLIAM C. REDFIELD  
MR. CHARLES M. SCHWAB  
MR. E. T. STOTESBURY  
DR. ROBERT ERNEST VINSON  
MR. HUGH C. WALLACE  
JUDGE JOHN BRADLEY WINSLOW

## COMMITTEE ON ENLARGED PROGRAM

W. N. C. CARLETON, *Chairman*  
CHARLES F. D. BELDEN  
WALTER L. BROWN  
GEORGE S. GODARD  
FREDERICK C. HICKS  
GRACE E. KINGSLAND  
GEORGE WINTHROP LEE  
ADAM STROHM  
CAROLINE WEBSTER  
CARL H. MILAM, *Secretary*  
ELMORE LEFFINGWELL,  
*Advisory Director*

MYRON CHANDLER,  
*Organization Director*

J. RAY JOHNSON,  
*Publicity Director*

CHARLES H. COMPTON, *Chairman*  
A. L. A. *Publicity Committee*

Dear Mr: Rutland:

I am very glad to learn that the American Library Association contemplates printing new books for the blind. What the sightless need and will always need is more and better books. Tastes differ among the blind quite as widely as among the seeing, and every effort should be made to place all kinds of literature at their fingertips. It is gratifying to note how liberally they are supplied with novels, essays and bright, amusing ~~studies~~ short stories. But I have observed a persistent demand among them for books like Mark Twain's Life on the Mississippi, Conrad's works, books of great European authors, and religious literature of a higher quality. It should be remembered that, as larger numbers of the blind learn how to read, the quantity of embossed books will have to be increased, and the special demands of different classes of readers will have to be met more adequately.

Surely the joy and interest which books bring to sightless people who live barren lives is the strongest plea for the work of the American Library Association plans to start. If the new books are printed, you can be sure of the most enthusiastic appreciation among those who receive them. They will mean, not only an added source of entertainment, but also many new new doors to the thought, experience, beauty of the world of light. Perhaps the worst thing about blindness is, it makes us feel apart from the ways of our fellowmen. Books charm away bitterness, and lo, the fulness of life is ours!

With cordial greetings and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Helen Keller