

University of the State of New York

ANSON JUDD UPSON, Chancellor

WILLIAM CROSWELL DOANE, Vice-Chancellor

MELVIL DEWEY, Secretary, also Director of State Library

New York State Library School

Melvil Dewey, Director

Mary S. Cutler, Vice-Director

Library Class
Chicago.Dictated **B**
In reply to yours of

Albany, N. Y.

12 Ag '95

Dear Miss Sharp,

The faculty have decided that the interests of the school, of the graduates and of the library profession, will all be advanced if we should choose a few of the strongest graduates of the school who should be willing to take each one a special topic for annual or biennial instruction in the school. We should expect each one who accepted a topic in this way to study it so thoroughly as to be recognized as an authority throughout the country on that subject, just as Miss Cutler has been ever since she worked up so thoroughly on Sunday opening for the St Louis A.L.A. conference. It would be an admirable thing for our graduates to have a specialty in this way. It would be better for the students to meet some of their own predecessors in the school instead of the older librarians, and we believe in every way it will be best for library interests.

We have chosen you as one of the few to whom this invitation will go. Will you send three or four topics, in the order of your preference, which you would like to take up in this way? Some of these will have ~~not~~ been already provided for, and from the lists sent in we must cut and ~~try~~ till we distribute the material to the best advantage. I earnestly recommend this even to those of you who are now crowded with your work. To be the recognized authority on one subject of librarianship will be worth all it costs you.

Yours very truly

Melvil Dewey