THE LIBRARY SPEAKS

Procedure to be followed.

Studio announcer introduces program. Then,

Ann: Miss Langdell, last week you told our audience something about Federal documents, just what they were, and how they might be used in connection with our local Library facilities. Today, I understand, we're going to learn a little about the Wisconsin documents that are deposited in our public library and to what use they may be put. Before we go any further, I would like to have Miss Langdell clear up any question we have in our minds about the definition of documents, in what sense they are used in the library, what they include, and what you get when you ask for them.

M.L. answers this question...

Ann: As you know, today has been designated Wisconsin day; so without further ado we're going to delve into those documents concerning the development and resources of the state of Wisconsin which are available at our library. Miss Langdell, let's start with the historical side of it first of all. Here's a good way to start that. Round about the Indian village spread the meadows and the cornfields, and beyond them stood the forest, stood the groves of singing pine-trees, green in summer, white in winter, ever sighing, ever singing. All right Marion, what does that remind you of?

M.L. Just this. Like the brave Hiawatha...and so on...

Ann: All that sounds very fine, indeed. If one wanted to write a history of Wisconsin or a paper on any time in it's growth, this would be a good source to investigate.
We turn now to a more specialized documentary field, which our local library supplies. We refer to the Free Library Commission, which is a service maintained for all librarians in the State of Wisconsin, or those intending to be librarians might find it helpful. But now being a librarian, I can't tell you as much about this phase of the library service as Miss Langdell, who could possibly talk hours about it.

Speak, library.

Of special assistance to

Well, now we're just beginning to get into this matter of Wisconsin documents, for I see that our next topic is one that should prove of great interest to those who lack the library facilities of the larger towns, or who like to do selective reading that all libraries cannot furnish. What do you have to say about that Miss Langdell?

You're referring of course, Mr. Crawford, to the travelling library... and so on...

You know, as we get into this business of documents, I find that there's a lot that I never even dreamed of. Of course that's not phenomenal, but it is interesting to find out these things. You never know when you might be able to use them. Here is another service now that is very valuable to lawyers, and even business men, who desire to be informed on the latest laws or what has gone on in the state legislature. Carry on, Miss Langdell.

The legislative reference library...

And that polishes off the legal side of our discussion. If any of you at any time have wondered where to get adequate material for some of our national holiday's, the library has a source that perhaps you hadn't thought of.
4. Ann: the procedure, just to make sure everything is clear in our listeners minds?

M.L. Well, first of all, don't be afraid to ask for anything at the library. If we have it, we'll tell you. Now, if you want any of the things we have talked about on the program this morning........

Ann: That's fine, Marion. That helps me out too. I see that we have a little time left, and I know that you have one more item of interest to offer today, to wind up our Wisconsin program. I have one more question after that; so go ahead.

M.L. The library is ever alert to new books and periodicals....

Music: On Wisconsin....

Ann: Before we bring this program to a close, Miss Langdell, I wonder if you would give us some idea of what to expect next time? These programs can be of great service to those who want to and do use our library facilities, and I know that they would like to have some idea of what to expect next time...

M.L. ....................

Ann: Also, I would like to ask our listeners, who are interested in learning more about our library, its procedure and so forth, to write in and let us know what they would like to have us discuss: There are many fascinating features about a library that have as yet been unexplored. Let us make the adventure more interesting, if you will. Thank you Miss Langdell, and good morning everyone.

The library is becoming a reference center for civic needs.
Round about the Indian village
Spread the meadows and the cornfields,
And beyond them stood the forest,
Stood the groves of singing pine-trees,
Green in summer, white in winter,
Ever sighing, ever singing.

Like the brave Hiawatha of Longfellow's famous Indian saga, the red men
tilled tiny fields, hunted deer in the virgin pine forests, and skimmed
over silvery lakes in birch bark canoes in the American paradise which
we today call Wisconsin. The peace and serenity of the Indian's life was
disturbed in 1634 when Jean Nicolet arrived at the mouth of the Fox River.
From the visit of this first white man to set foot on Wisconsin soil,
Wisconsin has changed from primeval forests to a state of teeming cities
and fertile farms. In 1848 Wisconsin was admitted as the 30th state of
the Union with Nelson Dewey elected its first governor. Just five years
later in 1853 by a special act of the legislature the Historical Society
of Wisconsin was created. The primary function of the Historical Society
is to preserve and compile the history of the state. The Historical
Society owns one of the finest historical libraries in the U.S. The museum
of the society contains a large collection of historical and archeological
relics of Wisconsin. The Society publishes a quarterly Wisconsin Magazine
of History, a monthly checklist of state publications, an annual report of
proceedings, and various other irregular publications.

Of special assistance to the Eau Claire and to every other library
in the state is the Free Library Commission which was organized in 1895.
The Wisconsin Library bulletin published by the commission contains news
and other information of vital interest to library administrators. The
Wisconsin library school is under the direction of the commission and
news of the school are published in the bulletin. Miss Mary K. Reely is
chief of the book selection for the bulletin. Though Miss Reely is very shy and
quiet her book selection comments are eagerly awaited by librarians
everywhere. The traveling library under the direction of Miss Jennie T.
Schrage provides book for libraries too small to provide their own. Our
library borrows many foreign language and other books each year. For the
benefit of listeners of this program who do not have library service, let
me suggest that you write to Miss Schrage for your reading material. Just
tell her what you may desire and she will mail it to you if you do not
have a public library in your community. Postage both ways is the only cost
to the borrower. The legislative reference library of the commission
annually publishes the Wisconsin Blue Book which is a manual for the
state of Wisconsin and summarizes the work of the different branches of
the state government. In addition, it outlines very briefly the functions
of the federal government. Each senator and assemblyman has a few copies for
free distribution otherwise copies are available from the bureau of purchases
at Madison for $1.00 a copy. The Blue book serves the same purpose as the
United States Government Manual which was described on last week's program.

The Wisconsin Memorial Day Annual issued by the state superintendent
of schools is a compilation of material to be used for programs for
The library is ever alert to new books and periodicals on Wisconsin past and present. We welcome gifts and treasure material which builds a complete story of Wisconsin's sons and daughters. I have so far neglected to mention our great university. The achievements of her sons and daughters are her greatest glory. Picture with me the great stadium filled with cheering thousands. The band begins to play and from those thousand throats come the words of the tune - On Wisconsin. Few of that cheering crowd knows that the words and music of this famous song were sung for the first time at the Wisconsin-Minnesota game in 1909. The music was written by William T. Purdy, a graduate of Hamilton college and Carl Beck a student from Wisconsin who had taken time off from his studies to earn money. Both were rooming in the same house in Chicago. The song was written, it was necessary to pay fifty dollars to have it printed. They managed to get credit for ten dollars to have it printed. It had to be sold to Wisconsin. Purdy went because Beck could not leave his job. The night before the game Purdy led the singing at the mass meeting. The song became an immediate success and is sung wherever Wisconsin men and women gather. It is fitting that we close our broadcast with the music of this famous song.