

Borden Brings American Librarianship to India

Borden himself claims and proclaims [1913]:

I determined to introduce into Baroda what we in the United States have recognized as a goal to be ultimately attained, but which we have not yet reached. If there is any value in this library cooperation throughout a large state, let it be remembered that it was first introduced, not in the home of the modern library movement, our own country, but way down in India 10,000 miles from here....

What America could only dream of, Baroda could do, and, in a measure, has done.

Offered by

Murari Lal Nagar

Om Shanti Mandiram
Columbia MO
2013

Borden earned name and fame as "India's Literary Emancipator"

He was a leading librarian of his times and climes.

He was highly honored as the Harbinger of American library heritage in Baroda and beyond.

He is remembered as "An Apostle of International Librarianship."

"New Haven Register" named him as "India's Literary Emancipator."



Preface

These literary gems—notes and memoranda—have remained buried in our files and folders for a long time.

These were collected mostly by personal visits to New Haven (Conn) and Baroda during 1960's and 1970's and by exploring the literary treasures still available there. It involved a great deal of investment of time, money, mind and labor.

They were copied first by hand, then typed and finally computerized in a system called CMS now antiquated and no more in use.

Now they are reproduced in MS Word and brought into the fold of MOSpce online.

It is hoped that they will bring forth Indo-American Library Cooperation more and more in the years to come.

Om Shanti. Murari. January 10, 2013.

Here is a summary of his work and works

William Alanson Borden

BDNBIOG	1853-1885 (33 yrs)
BDNPRYMI	1885-1887 (2 yrs) including Reynolds and Columbia, ALA too
BDNYMI	April 1, 1887-September 30, 1895 (9 yrs.)
BDNYALE	October 1, 1895-January 6, 1898 (2 yrs.)
BDNYMI	March ? 1898-June 30, 1910 (14 yrs.)
BDNBAB	July 1910-June 1913 (3 yrs.) will include clsfn
BDNBOB	(Whole book--Apostle Writings
BDNPSTBD	July 1913-End (19 yrs.) including Bookstack Story
BDNOBIT	16 November 1931

It is ironical that more information is contained in "Obituary reports" than in "Biography" as far as Borden is concerned. His biodata submitted for securing the

Baroda job contains some interesting information not found anywhere else, e.g. his pedigree!

Borden/biography

Here is a biographical sketch:

1 Who's Who in America , 1928-29. p. 326.

Borden, William Alanson. b. New Bedford, Mass. April 24, 1853.
s. Alanson and Mary (Topham) Borden; Student Cornell 1870-73; m. Hope Lewis of New Haven, Conn., June 21, 1892., children -- Beulah Byrd (Mrs. Earle Seymour Durham), Lewis Alanson.
Began library work, Boston Athenaeum 1883; organized Reynolds Library, Rochester, N.Y., 1886, organized the Young Men's Institute (Library) New Haven, Conn., 1887, and in charge same until 1910; went to India 1910 upon invitation of the Gaekwar of Baroda, and organized a system of over 400 state-controlled [supported] free public libraries in State of Baroda; also founded a library school and a library periodical; returned to U.S. 1913; library engineer since 1915; inventor of the Borden cantilever steel bookstack and the removable card catalog drawer, now in general use in public libraries. Member A.L.A.

2 I was under the impression that Borden's being the inventor of the removable drawer catalog card cabinet was known only through his resume submitted by him to Baroda for appointment, but that is not a fact. This source too contains that information.

Who was who in America , Vol. 1, 1892-1942, p. 117 adds:
Democrat Unitarian. Wrote: Scheme of Classification for the Libraries of Baroda State; Alternate Classification for Libraries--a modification of the Decimal Classification. Home: New Haven, Conn.
Died: November 16, 1931.

"National biography of librarians" (check title) ///////////////
does not mention Borden's name! He was not a national figure; he was an international figure!!

Biography--An Outline

A chronological narration of his life and laurels may follow the following outline:

1. Birth
2. Parentage
3. Early studies
4. Higher education
5. Vocation
6. Profession
7. A.L.A. conventions
8. Employment
 - Boston Athenaeum
 - Reynolds Library, Rochester, N.Y.
 - Young Men's Institute, New Haven, Connecticut
 - Linonia and Brothers Library, Yale University
 - Young Men's Institute, New Haven, Connecticut
 - Baroda
9. Writings--chronological
10. Inventions--chronological
11. Plans--Catalog card distribution service.

Also the names of persons, places, and things in whose contact he came: Stetson Steel Co.(?), Dunn (Miss), Bowker, Hill.

Borden/portraits

Facing p. 8 of No. 1 of Vol. 1 (the very first issue) of the Library miscellany there is a portrait of Borden, a younger one. It may be the same (of 1904) that I saw in the newspaper clipping at YMI.

Several issues of the Lib. Misc. , many books published from Baroda (e.g. of Kudalkar and Dutt), New Haven Register and YMI Library Archives contain reproductions of Borden's portraits. He used to keep a beard. His face was broad and he looked thoughtful. It reflected his strong determination and an innovative spirit.

In India: Sayajirao, Kudalkar, Motibhai.

/Borden/SFRR/ Search for the Research Resources

Borden's Life and Laurels: Some Highlights

The highlights of Borden's life and laurels may be expressed in the following words:

His father was a magistrate, a judge. He studied at Cornell. We don't know if he got a degree and if so, which one?

These notes were made decades ago. They show indetermination and guesswork. Have been left just as they were to show how the unearthing of new concrete data makes everything crystal clear and how the new light removes all the dark spots. Finally all the cobwebs get cleaned. Yes, he got a degree in science.

He started a binding shop, which he converted into a library supplies office [just like Dewey!] He worked at the Boston Athenaeum with Charles Cutter, who became his guide and mentor. Borden then went to work at the Reynolds Library, Rochester, New York, but stayed there only for a very short period. He then came to the Young Men's Institute in March 1887.

While in New York he lectured at the School of Library Economy founded by Melvil Dewey. The Catalog of the School, for the academic year 1887-88 mentions him as the Ex-or Late Librarian of the Reynolds Library of Rochester, New York. It does not mention him as the Librarian of the Young Men's Institute! [Did he suspend his library work for some time? No. It was a guest lecture--twice in a day--only one day in 1887.

Well, he went to the Young Men's Institute in March 1887 and worked there for 23 years. In the interval he went to Linonia and Brothers Library of Yale University just for two years.

But he did not like it--or was called back by YMI--and rejoined the Young Men's Institute where he stayed until the Summer of 1910.

Borden/recommended to Sayajirao/by whom?

One of the most important points which emerges from the above account is that Borden was attracted by opportunities, but when he did not find his satisfaction in a specific job, he left it and sought another one. It is not known how he was selected

by the Maharaja of Baroda. Who did recommend his name? How did the Maharaja come to know about Borden? (All this was written long before I visited Baroda and examined the state records. My knowledge about Borden was extremely limited at the time.)

Although Borden was an important figure of his times, yet he was not a national figure. He was a local celebrity, if at all he was one.

He was an engineer-librarian. He designed a book stand, a newspaper file, called "Boston Athenaeum Newspaper File," a newspaper reading table and many other library appliances, including the removable-drawer catalog card cabinet. He developed a library classification scheme as well. He also experimented with printed catalog card distribution service.

At the professional organization level, he was one of the founders of the Connecticut Library Association.

end /Borden/biography

/Borden/printed catalog cards/submitted to Dewey, Cutter & Green

In spite of all these achievements, he was still a local figure. At his best, he worked at the State or regional level. He was certainly not a national figure. While proposing the scheme for printed catalog card distribution service, he stressed that the scheme was shown to Dewey, Cutter, and Green and that it had met with their approval. In other words, he wanted to get the stamp of approval of the national library leaders such as Dewey affixed to his proposal!

Under the circumstances, it is most unlikely that the Maharaja of Baroda might have come across Borden's name directly. Someone must have talked to the Maharaja, and must have recommended his name. Now the question is who he was! (Now I know! MLN Aug. 28, 1973)

In this connection the name of the Librarian of Yale University or Harvard University comes to our mind. Yale is one of the oldest and foremost educational institutions in the world.

New Haven is also the home of the American Oriental Society. Probably, the Maharaja might have visited the town and the librarian or an officer, the chief executive, of any of the most important educational institutions of New Haven might

have suggested the name of Borden to the Maharaja as the proper person who could establish a public library system in his state! [All this is now meaningless in view of the facts known. Aug. 19, 1967.]

He (Sayajirao) got the name of Borden from someone in New York, says the New Haven Register . This too is not true! Here is an example of how old theories are discarded in the light of new evidence! New Haven Register is not at all reliable. Its statement is purely journalistic, more fiction than fact. None in New York mentioned Borden's name to the Maharaja.

His name was recommended by Bumpus in his correspondence with the Maharaja long before the Maharaja met Borden in New York.

One thing is certain: Borden knew, even before he left New Haven for Baroda, what he was going to do in Baroda. The President of the Young Men's Institute of New Haven at the annual general meeting of the Board of Directors spoke about the changes in personnel. He said that Borden had left for Baroda where he was planning to develop a public library system, and, perhaps, to start a library training class!

These remarks of the President in the October 1910 meeting are quite significant!

end /Borden/recommended to Sayajirao/by whom?

start /SFRR/America

The reason why I am trying to find out the name of a librarian who might have been instrumental in Borden's nomination or selection is obvious. The natural place to find or locate the papers of Borden was his heirs (or successors) and their present homes. I started my search with the present librarian of the Institute. Thinking that Mrs. Redfield might be still the Librarian, I wrote to her!

She had retired, but the present incumbent Miss Hendricks sent a very fine reply! She told me that she did not have any records, or personal papers of Borden's, but I might write to Borden's daughter-in-law Mrs. Lewis Borden. Miss Hendricks also gave me the current address of Mrs. Borden. I wrote to her and she wrote me back--"you have just missed the bus!" If I had approached her a few years earlier, she might have given me a good deal of information (documents and papers)!

While in New Haven during March 1967, I spoke to Mrs. Borden over the phone. She was not at all willing to let me see her! She said that it was useless! On my

insistence she confessed that she had destroyed--consigned to the fire--all the [valuable] papers of Borden--whatever he had brought back from Baroda!

That Borden had brought a good many things from Baroda is evident. The New York Library Association had held its 23rd Annual Meeting at Lake George, New York on 22-27 Nov. 1913, when an entire evening was devoted to India," and was called "The India Evening." The description of the meeting as reported in the Library Miscellany is very interesting and informative! It was written by Kudalkar under the pseudonym "Spectator."

It is evident that the private papers of Borden, at least whatever he had left with his family, do not exist now! Unless Borden had given some of the materials, which he brought back from Baroda, to a library in this country, all of them have been destroyed! [Some letters between Bowker and Borden are preserved in the New York Public Library]. MLN Aug. 18, 1967

Only one thing which still remains with Mrs. Borden is the Testimonial, or speaking in a better language, the Farewell Address, which was given to Borden by his associates, students, colleagues, and admirers at Baroda before he left the State.

One reason why even this address has not yet been consigned to fire [?] by Mrs. Borden is that it is framed in a silver frame (casket?! I asked Mrs. Borden if it could be photographed, but she said: "It is too faded and won't show up!"

Of course, the text has been printed and published both in the Library Miscellany of Baroda and the Library Journal of New York. But there is a conflict between the two texts; they do not agree in every respect!

Not that a collation of these two texts is going to lead to a great discovery, or that it is needed very badly. The point I want to make is that Mrs. Borden was not at all cooperative. She was not interested! It did not matter to her in the least whether Borden's contribution toward the foundation of the library movement in India through Indo-American library cooperation is studied and brought to light or not!

I inquired of her if the nephew might have something. She said, "No." William Alanson Borden had left behind him one son and one daughter. The son died without leaving any issue. The daughter too died, but she left a son. I wanted to get in touch with him, but Mrs. Borden would not give me his address! She said: "He lives somewhere in Connecticut, but he has a large family and won't like to be bothered!"

To come back to the search of the librarian who might have had some correspondence with Borden while he was in Baroda. Since Borden's personal papers are not available, the papers of his correspondents might throw some light on the matter!

So far I have not been able to trace any librarian--or the papers of such a librarian--who might have some letters written by Borden!

[Subsequently I located Borden's correspondence with Bowker. It gave some interesting information.]

Frankly speaking, I don't know what (and how much) importance might have been attached to such papers by Borden's contemporaries!

Anyhow, I am very much disappointed by the results of my search conducted so far! At the suggestion of Miss Hendricks and her colleague, I spoke to Miss Dunn over the phone. But it was useless. She is too old and was not interested any more in such mundane affairs!

NOTE: The reader is advised to consult the last section entitled "Obituary" for more information on Borden, his life, and laurels.

end /SFRR/America

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL RESUME

Borden--Biography. Autobiographical resume. Among other things, he says: "Lecturer at Columbia College Library School in 1887." Anis Khurshid to note.

Borden's Inventions: "Removable Card Catalogue Drawer"

Age : 56

start /Borden/autobiographical resume

Qualifications : Have had charge of libraries since 1885, public libraries, college and preparatory [proprietary?] libraries.

Have taught the library profession [!] to many students, many of whom are now conducting libraries themselves.

Have lectured on the details of library work in the highest [!] library school in this country. Have invented many methods of library work (classifications, etc.) and many library appliances (the removable card catalogue drawer is my invention [so this is autobiographical!] Am considered an expert [!!]
Lecturer at Columbia College Library School in 1887.

Antecedents:

Son of Alanson Borden, judge of Third District Court of
Bristol (Mass.) Grandson of Isaac Borden, and so back to John Borden,
one of the founders of Portsmouth, R.I., in 1636 [Quite imp.]

Brief History:

Born April 24, 1853 in New Bedford, Mass. Public School
education in New Bedford. College, Cornell University, Class of 1874,
Scientific Course.

Studied law--managed a stock & dairy farm--entered library
profession in 1883 at Boston Athenaeum.

Organized Reynolds Library at Rochester, N.Y. 1885-1886.

Lecturer at Columbia College Library School in 1887.

1 This occurs in his personal autobiographical bio-data (resume).
Very important.

Reorganized Young Men's Institute, New Haven, Conn., and managed it
until 1895.

Was librarian of Linonia & Brothers Library, Yale University, and
helped reorganize it from 1895-1898. Went back to take charge of the
Young Men's Institute again in 1898 and have held the position ever
since.

Terms:

Three thousand dollars a year with travelling expenses, first class,
from New Haven to Baroda and return.

end /Borden/autobiographical resume

Borden's life and laurels : Some Explanatory Notes

start /Borden/biography

Sources: Lj, LM , his own articles, Divanji, Dutt, New York Times. Papers (reports, etc.) preserved at the Young Men's Institute Library, New Haven, Conn. His correspondence with R. R. Bowker preserved in the Manuscripts Division of the New York Public Library. PLMB, pp. 49-50

Borden's Early Life:

2 My Study (PLMB), pp. 49-50.

/Borden/early life

His father was a magistrate, a judge.

He studied at Cornell. We don't know if he got a degree and if so, which? [Now we know. He got one.].

He started a binding shop, which he converted into a library supplies office.

He worked at the Boston Athenaeum with Charles Cutter who was his early first guide and mentor.

Borden then went to Reynolds Library, Rochester, New York.

He stayed there only a few years.

He lectured at the School of Library Economy founded by Melvil Dewey. The Catalog of the School for the academic year 1887-88 mentions him as the Ex- or Late Librarian of the Reynolds Library of Rochester, New York. The Catalog does not mention him as the Librarian of the Young Men's Institute!

He went to Young Men's Institute in March 1887, and stayed there for 23 years except for a short break of two years.

In the interval he went to Linonia and Brothers Library of Yale University, but came back to the Institute, where he stayed until May 1910.

BORDEN JOINS REYNOLDS LIBRARY

/Borden/ Lib. Journal / on,
/Borden/at Reynolds Library, Rochester, N.Y.

The Library Journal of July 1885 (10:164) reports:

"Mr. W. A. Borden, for 18 months pupil-assistant in the Boston Athenaeum, has been chosen librarian of the Reynolds Library, Rochester, N.Y.

1 So Borden must have begun his pupil-assistantship at Boston Athenaeum in the beginning of 1884, but he says he entered the library profession in 1883 at the Boston Athenaeum.

Borden, September 1885

/ALA convention (1885)/attended by Borden, Dewey, Cutter, & Green
/Borden/attends ALA (1885)

The annual convention of the American Library Association was held at Lake George, N. Y. in September, 1885. The participants included Melvil Dewey, W. F. Poole, Samuel S. Green, Charles A. Cutter and William Alanson Borden.

The proceedings, with papers and reports, are published in Library Journal , Vol. 10, 1885.

Borden participated as the Librarian of the Reynolds Library, Rochester, New York.

; Borden attends ALA for the first time:

/Boston Athenaeum

/Borden/trained by Cutter

/Cutter, Charles A./trains Borden at Boston Athenaeum

Borden worked as a pupil-assistant of Charles A. Cutter at the Boston Athenaeum for 18 months before he became the Librarian of the Reynolds Library, Rochester, New York, in 1885. This is the first year when Borden seems to have attended the annual conference of American librarians and to have joined the American Library Association as an ordinary member by paying \$2.00.

Shows his inventions:

start /Athenaeum Newspaper File/displayed by Borden at ALA (1885)

start /Borden/Athenaeum Newspaper File/presented at ALA (1885)

/Borden/on library handwriting

/Library handwriting

Borden was an active participant at this Conference.

He displayed his "invention" of the stick-type newspaper file, called the "Athenaeum Newspaper File," which is still used by American libraries.

Borden also spoke of a bold, upright library handwriting, which he practiced throughout his life, the samples of which are still preserved in the Young Men's Institute Library, New Haven and in Baroda.

2

Borden's Invention--The Athenaeum Newspaper File

1 Library Journal , 10(September-October 1885):313-314.

[Lake George Conference Number.] This is a direct quotation. But these are not the words of Borden but of the journal Lj .

It is a report of the ALA annual convention.

Borden, Sept.-Oct. 1885

Mr. W. A. Borden, librarian of the Reynolds Library of Rochester, showed his invention--the Athenaeum Newspaper File.

It was during an "Informal session" that Borden presented this description.

It consists of a centre stick, around which are arranged seven smaller sticks, which are kept in place by the rubber handle at the bottom and a common rubber umbrella ring at the top. Each one of the smaller sticks binds the middle of each paper against the other sticks, holding it securely and keeping it separate from the other papers.

Figure 1 in the illustration represents this file filled with papers. Figure 2 shows about the usual condition of papers in many other styles of files, in which pins or spurs are depended on for holding the papers in position. Figure 3 is a diagram showing the end of the file and the group of seven small rods surrounding the central rod, each small rod holding one paper. Figure 4 represents the file drawn to a larger scale without papers.

Mr. Borden claimed the following merits for it:

1. It is light and yet strong.
2. It holds seven dailies (all that most people care to refer to) and no more; consequently no neglect in taking off the old papers can make the file heavy and tiresome to handle.
3. All the pages of a paper are together and not separated by a dozen or more papers of another date, so that one is not obliged, to his great disgust, to hunt through the whole file for the fifth page of his paper, and after he has found it to "flop" over all the intervening papers, to the great annoyance of those about him.
4. The papers themselves are arranged consecutively as well as their individual pages, giving the file all the advantages of a bound volume without its weight.
5. On the top of each of the small sticks is printed the day of the week, so that the papers, when on the file, are completely indexed, and one turns immediately to the date and page he wants.
6. Any paper can be removed without disturbing the others. There are no adjustable or intricate parts which each user feels called upon to experiment with and to arrange to suit his own fancy, to the great bother of the curator of the room."

My observation: This is a very simple, ingenious device. It is still used in American libraries, although its name is not associated either with Borden or Boston Athenaeum. The one I saw at the Missouri University Library is almost identical, although each stick there holds only one paper.

end /Athenaeum Newspaper File/displayed by Borden at ALA (1885)

end /Borden/Athenaeum Newspaper File/presented at ALA (1885)

Borden on Library Handwriting

Borden spoke on "library handwriting" at the ALA convention:

1 LJ , 10 (September-October 1885):321.

/Borden/on library handwriting

/Library handwriting

I object to library handwriting made with a fine pen. If you are looking at a card catalogue [mark the spelling!] where the line[?] are fine, you have to get into an uncomfortable position in order to read the letters. The handwriting should be as near print as possible, and I have used lately the round writing pens. They are made in Germany, I think. They give a light up line but a very heavy down line, so that the resemblance to print is about as close as letters will admit of. I have some specimens of the writing. The usual form of letters is sufficient.

/Dewey, Melvil/participates in discussion on lib. handwriting

Dewey and many others participated in the discussion. It was an important matter for study and discussion during those early days of librarianship, far removed from the present-day mass production of computerized cards.

/Dickinson, Lady teaches lib. handwriting

/Ranganathan/advocates lib. handwriting

This explains also why the writing was an important part of library curriculum in those days.

He taught it at Baroda. And Lady Dickinson (Asa Don's wife) taught the same subject at Lahore in 1916. Ranganathan too has advocated it.

Borden Teaches at Columbia. Anis Khurshid's view refuted.

Borden Taught at Columbia on 3 March 1887.
Himself Reports.

start /Borden/lectures at Columbia College, School of Lib. Econ.

Now it is definitely known that Borden taught at the School of Library Economy of Columbia College, but it was only for a day in 1887 and gave three lectures on charging systems. The day was 3 March 1887.

2 The School itself started in 1887! An afterthought--Borden might have continued his teaching if he had continued to live in New York city. But he got a job in New Haven and could not afford "guest lecturing" in such a far off place. This is only a thought. Of course, the school itself did not continue its life in New York more than two years.

In his account of the Young Men's Institute (1904) Borden says:

To do this was beyond the ability of the librarian [who worked before Borden at YMI], who had had no experience in those methods. Arrangements were thereupon made with the present writer, at that time lecturing before the School of Library Economy at Columbia, who assumed charge in March, 1887. (emphasis added).

Borden was teaching at Columbia when the Directors of the Young Men's Institute invited him to join the Library.

It is to be remembered that the "lecturing" at the School of Library Economy, Columbia College, as far as Borden is concerned, was only a part-time assignment. He was not working in any large library just before he joined YMI. He refers to his lecture-work at Columbia, not Reynolds Library, which he might have already left. He wants to glorify his teaching work at Columbia. This is part of his report for YMI. While teaching at Columbia, he called himself "Ex. Libn. Reynolds Lib."

It is clear that he had no other job while teaching at Columbia.

Borden Taught "Charging Systems" at Columbia.

School of Library Economy of Columbia College, 1887-1889,
Documents for a History, (1937)

1 Columbia University. School of Library Economy. School of library
economy of Columbia college, 1887-1889; documents for
a history . [New York]
School of Library Service, Columbia University,
1937. xxiv p., facsim.; 193 p. incl. plates, ports., forms.

/Library School Lectures, Columbia (1887)/Borden participates
contains notices of "Library School Lectures." These were originally in card form
and were reproduced photographically in the above publication.
The lecturer himself filled the details of his lecture: time, date, title, etc. The cards
were partly printed. The following illustrates the nature of the cards:

; Library School Lectures
Thur. Mar. 3 \u1887\w
10 \uA.M.\w Mr. W. A. Borden,
Ex. Libn. Reynolds Lib.
\uSubject\w: Charging Systems

11:30 A.M. Same

Library School Lectures
[Same date]
2:30 P.M. Mr. W.A. Borden
Subject: Charging Systems

It may be noted that the president of the Young Men's Institute, New Haven,
comments on the usefulness of the charging system introduced by Borden
at YMI.

The above publication reproduces "Columbia College, School of
Library Economy, Annual register, 1886-87," p. 7 of which (p. 199 of the
book) lists the names of lecturers, including that of Borden:

"Lecturers"

"The following librarians and specialists have consented to give one or more lectures before the School.

W. A. Borden, ex-Librarian, Reynolds Library, Rochester, N.Y.

1 Why Borden was introduced as the ex-librarian of Reynolds Library, Rochester, N.Y. may be explained by the fact that he might have earned some reputation there and would have been known in the professional circle that way.

Young Men's Institute was too new for him. He might have not yet even joined the Institute!

"Extra Lectures in the Columbia Library School"

"(Not including the regular courses in Library Economy and Bibliography)."

Since Borden's name appears in this list, he was not a regular faculty member. His picture too does not appear in the group photos of the classes for 1888 and 1889.

The Annual Register 1887-8 [i.e. of the following year] does not contain Borden's name!

Borden at Columbia -- Khurshid's comments

Borden's professional career

start /Khurshid, Anis/on Borden at Columbia

Anis Khurshid has made a big fuss over the question whether Borden taught at Columbia. In fact he has advanced this point as one of the reasons for his undertaking this "investigation." Discussing the dearth of definite information on the subject of his dissertation, he argues that the "literature" mentions Borden as a colleague of Dewey at Columbia, but that it is not supported by the available data. Well, we could only say that either Khurshid was not well-informed, or he deliberately tried

to mislead others. Borden did teach at Columbia! Probably Khurshid did not try to get access to \uall\w the information available in the "literature," we mean the literature already published and available at the time he made the above assertion. Or, maybe he had decided the issue the way he wanted, and did not want to contradict himself. Nonetheless, it is difficult not to mention at least one publication here, a publication issued by the School itself, wherein Borden's teaching is clearly specified. It was published as early as 1937. Khurshid had used this source and he has also listed it in his "Bibliography.

On p. 25 of his study, Khurshid tries to justify why he undertook research in this field.

As mentioned earlier, the accounts of library education programs in these countries are neither authentic nor detailed enough to base any objective study on them. For example, the literature often [!] refers to William Alanson Borden (1854-1931) as a colleague of Melvil Dewey at Columbia and Albany

1 Which literature? This is hearsay! A kind of heresy.

without substantiation. [nonsense and rubbish].

The investigator, therefore, examined Melvil Dewey's papers at Columbia University Library to verify the statement.

Khurshid stops at this point. He does not clearly say what was his finding. It can be inferred that he found the statement referred to above as unsubstantiated. In other words, to say that Borden was a colleague of Dewey at Columbia College is not true. This is what Khurshid concludes and wants us to believe. If so, he is totally wrong! Khurshid attributes this hearsay to "literature." He gives only one citation. That cannot be equated with "literature." One sparrow does not make the summer. He says "often." It cannot be true.

Khurshid has once again touched upon the question of Borden's association with the School of Library Economy of Columbia College. [p. 182]. He says in his footnote, no. 359:

There are varying versions of Borden's professional career.

1 We do not agree. Khurshid has created this fiction just to justify his undertaking research on this topic!

According to John T. Reid, *Bridges of Understanding* (Calcutta; U.S.I.S., n.d., p. 32) Borden was Melvil Dewey's pupil and also taught at Columbia School of Library Service. However, Neither Dewey's Papers of Columbia nor Sarah Vann's *Training for Librarian's Before 1923* (Chicago, ALA, 1961) support this account.

That Borden was a student of Dewey I have read for the first time through Khurshid's statement quoted above. If John T. Reid has made this statement, it is due to this lack of knowledge of the history of the education for librarianship in the United States. As far as Borden's teaching at Columbia is concerned, it is a fact, whether Melvil Dewey's "papers" or Sarah Vann's book support it or not.

/Nagar/correspondence with Khurshid

I wrote to Khurshid on some other matter. The question whether Borden taught at Columbia or not was still boiling in his mind. So he could not resist the temptation to vent out his feelings. On 9 July 1975 he wrote to me:

/Vann, Sarah/on Borden at Columbia

One point in your dissertation, however, surprises me (this may be true with Dr. Sarah K. Vann too) in as much as you say that Borden lectured at Columbia as an associate of Dewey. Dr. Sarah K. Vann had carefully looked into Dewey's archives at Columbia to trace any association of Borden with the Columbia School. I also carried forward her investigation in doing my dissertation and checked the records at Columbia once again and reaffirmed in my dissertation that it was not true that he taught or took courses at Columbia. Dr. Vann was relieved to find me say so. However you may have your point in saying otherwise.

\1

Borden Teaches at Columbia. MLN's second letter to Khurshid

1 I am not sure if this letter was ever sent.

Borden Teaches at Columbia //This should follow///

/Nagar/correspondence with Khurshid

Dear Dr. Khurshid:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of July 9, 1975. I appreciate your generous remarks on my study of Baroda. When I went through your voluminous doctoral dissertation I had noticed the point of difference, but I did not write to you.

There are numerous points of differences. How long can we discuss? And what is the use? So I thought. It would have been another dissertation.

And that would not have brought me another degree. But now that you have yourself raised the question, I feel obliged to respond.

Borden did indeed teach at Columbia as a colleague of Dewey notwithstanding all your search and research and those of Dr. Vann. My primary authority is already seen and referred to by you. Please see your footnote no. 788 appearing on page 347. I don't know if you have a copy of this book with you there. I am enclosing a xerox copy of the relevant pages for your ready reference. This is my authority no. one.

My authority no. 2 is the following:

In 1904, the YMI celebrated its 75th anniversary. The New Haven Register of Sunday, May 29, 1904, carried an extensive report on the Institute. Many photos of the Library, its librarians and the past presidents were published. There is a picture of Borden as well, one taken at a time when he was young!

/YMI/75th anniversary (1904)

/Borden/ An Historical Sketch of the New Haven YMI , 1904

To mark the occasion, Borden prepared and published a short book entitled *An historical sketch of the New Haven Young Men's Institute*.

On page 10, Borden says:

Arrangements were thereupon made with the present writer, at that time lecturing before the School of Library Economy at Columbia, who assumed charge in March, 1887." Borden gives a very useful and detailed information about the Institute and his work there.

/Sayajirao/on Borden at Columbia

/Dutt, N. M./ Baroda and Its Libraries

My authority no. 3 is the speech of the Maharaja Sayajirao quoted by you on page 348 of your dissertation. I do not know why the most pertinent words have been omitted! I am enclosing a photo-copy. The relevant words are underlined in red. I would like to draw your kind attention to page 103 of my study, on which the quotation is full and is reported directly.

This specific speech of the Maharaja is oft-quoted. It is also reproduced on pages xxxi to xxxii of Dutt's *Baroda and its Libraries* (1928). I am also enclosing page 2 of this work, wherein Dutt is very specific on this point.

With regard to your suggestion for writing to Dr. Mumtaz Anwar, I welcome it. I still believe there is enormous scope for a joint research on any aspect of the library movement in what is now called Indo-Pakistan-Bangladesh sub-continent, because originally we were \u000e\w and we have many things in common. I will also be available for teaching.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

(Murari L. Nagar)
South Asia Librarian

On p. 347 of his own work Khurshid refers to and quotes from the

following source:

[The reference appears as a footnote "no. 788"]

Columbia University, School of Library Economy, School of the Library of Columbia College, 1887-1889, Documents for a History (New York: School of Library Economy, Columbia University, 1937), p. 96.

Even this very source states that Borden taught at the School of Library Economy of Columbia College.

[It is pitiable to see the errors in citation. This is not worthy of a doctoral dissertation from an American university, especially from the University of Pittsburgh of Pennsylvania.]

SFRR On Dickinson

July 10, 1973

The Dean
Graduate School of Library & Information Science
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dear sir:

Please find herewith a copy of my letter dated 27 April 1973 addressed to your Librarian. I will appreciate it very much if you kindly help me to see the manuscript of the work.

Thanking you,

Sincerely yours,

Murari L. Nagar
South Asia Librarian

2

Dickinson--Khurshid

/Dickinson, Asa Don/Khurshid on,
/Khurshid, Anis/on Dickinson
start /Khurshid, Anis/correspondence with Anne Edwards, 1973
July 19, 1973
(first letter to Khurshid)

Dr. Anis Khurshid
Chairman
Dept. of Library Science
University of Karachi
Karachi, Pakistan

Dear Dr. Khurshid:

A research scholar of our university is engaged in research on America's contribution to the development of library service in the Indo-Pakistan sub-continent wherein Asa Don Dickinson (and his work at the University of the Panjab) played a significant role. This scholar has seen your monumental work, *Standards for Library Education in Burma, Ceylon, India and Pakistan* and is quite impressed with it.

On pages 351ff. you have referred to the unpublished "Memoirs" of Dickinson. On page 731 you have given additional details: "Swarthmore, Pa. [1949?] Typewritten." The work must contain at least 319 pages as is evident from the quoted references.

We will appreciate it very much if you kindly tell us where the work might be available now and how we could get a copy---at least where and how one could see it. We have a good collection on the history of the library movement in South Asia, and we would like to acquire a copy for our own library, if possible. At least we would like to have a look at this rich source of reference.

Also we would like to know if the "Annual reports of the Library of the University of the Punjab (1915-66)" may be acquired by us in microfilm form. Of course, we are willing to bear the cost of microfilming

and postage, etc. Any information on the acquisition of these two research resources discussed above will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Anne Edwards
GHP Librarian, GHP Office
Ellis Library

Mrs. Ann Edwards
GHP Librarian, GHP Office
Ellis Library
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri 65201 USA

July 26, 1973

Dear Mrs. Edwards:

Thank you very much for your letter of July 19, 1973.

Everything listed in my thesis is available in the International Library Information Center, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Pittsburgh, PA 15213; even the relevant pages of the Dickinson Memoirs . I tried to get hold of the whole Memoirs from his daughter living in Swarthmore, PA. But she would not lend it to anyone. I contacted her through Dr. Sarah K. Vann and she had kindly given me the copies of the portion relating to his visit to and stay in Lahore. These pages are available in ILIC. So are the annual reports of the Panjab University Library; one of them is even signed by Dickinson.

I shall be happy to be of any assistance to you and to your research scholar since the topic you mentioned in your letter is still of great interest to me.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Anis Khurshid
Chairman

end /Khurshid, Anis/correspondence with Anne Edwards, 1973

September 4, 1973

The Director
International Library Information Center
Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Sir:

Please find herewith a copy of a letter from Dr. Anis Khurshid, Chairman, Department of Library Sciences of Karachi, Pakistan with regard to our search for some valuable source material used by Dr. Khurshid in preparing his dissertation, titled "Standards for Library Education in Burma, Ceylon, India and Pakistan."

We are pleased to know that everything listed in Dr. Khurshid's dissertation is available in your center. I would like to begin with (1) the relevant pages of the Dickinson "Memoires"" and (2) the annual reports of the Panjab.

Please let me know if they could be borrowed through regular inter-library loan channels and if so how they should be cited. I am willing to get their xerox copies and pay for the service if they cannot be lent out due to any reason. My purpose is to study them thoroughly for my new book on America's contribution to the development of library service in India.

Thank you,

Murari L. Nagar
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri 65201

/Khurshid, Anis/correspondence with Nagar

University of Karachi
Dept. of Library Science
Karachi - 32 (Pakistan)
9. 7. 1975

Dr. Murari Nagar
University Library, South Asia Studies
University of Missouri-Columbia
Columbia, Missouri 65201

Dear Dr. Nagar:

It was so nice of you write to me. Yes, I did see your dissertation and that of Dr. Sharma (Force [?] behind public library development in India). check the title//////////

Both works have been done systematically and thoroughly in attacking the problem and contribute significantly to the literature on the subject.

As to your proposal for coming over to Pakistan to further investigate the impact of Dickinson on library developments in this area, I appreciate your interest in this problem and would certainly love to welcome you to my country. But let me tell you one thing that most of the fundamental questions raised by you with regard to Dickinson have already been answered in my study. There is no record left untouched in the University of the Panjab Library and that [?] of the Panjab Public Library. Dickinson did found an Association which did not survive after he left. The revival of its activities in 1929, to be precise, was the result of the venue of the all India Public Library Conference held in Lahore. This conference, as you know, was started in Bezwada under the direct influence of Baroda Public Library system. Similarly as already pointed out in my dissertation, Dickinson's Primer is the second library publication in India.

As to F. C. College contribution, however, nobody to my knowledge has touched this point as yet. You may therefore, perhaps like to take up this point with Dr. Mumtaz A. Anwar who also holds a Ph.D. degree

from Pittsburgh and is presently the Chairman of the Dept. of Library Science at the University of the Panjab, offering Master's Courses in Library Science.

With best wishes and warmest personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Anis Khurshid)
Chairman

The following was an encl. to my letter to Khurshid dated 24 June 1975.

Proposal to Visit South Asia

Why Visit Pakistan?

Search for the Research Resources

Borden and Dickinson

/Nagar/proposes to visit South Asia

I visited Baroda in February/March, 1973, explored the Central State Archives of the former Baroda State, and collected some data on Borden's influence on the Indian library movement. Much more will have to be collected by visiting other educational centers in India before a systematic and exhaustive account of his influence could be successfully reconstructed and recorded.

Hence I would like to make a similar attempt on Dickinson and his influence over the Panjab and other parts of India. Although Dickinson worked in Lahore only for a year, yet his students and followers established themselves all over India. His Panjab Library Primer remained for years one of the best guides for librarians in India.

I will have to visit Lahore and other parts of Pakistan and

Bangladesh, in addition to India, if I want to collect original research resources still available outside India in the archives of educational institutions, libraries, library associations, and the offices of the journals such as The Modern Librarian . Some first-hand information could still be gathered by meeting librarians who might have had direct or even indirect contact with Dickinson or other American librarians and educators who followed him.

I propose, therefore, to visit India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, living approximately four months in each country. Among the notable places of search and study may be mentioned New Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Lahore, Karachi, and Dacca.

Search for the research resources

Sources of information.

The University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has an International Library Information Center, which paid part of the expenses of Khurshid's correspondence and administrative assistance for study. Has material on his dissertation on ILM.

Bring July 26, 1973 letter here//////////

My first letter to Khurshid

Dr. Anis Khurshid
Chairman
Dept. of Library Science
University of Karachi
Karachi, Pakistan.

South Asia Studies
June 24, 1975

Dear Dr. Khurshid:

/Nagar/correspondence with Khurshid

Please find herewith a copy of your kind letter dated July 26, 1973 addressed to our GHP Librarian, Mrs. Anne Edwards. We were able to secure the relevant pages of "A Bookman's Memories" [or Memoirs?] by Dickinson and a report of his work for a year at the Punjab University Library. We are grateful to you for your help. I apologize for the extreme delay in acknowledging your great favor.

I have studied your monumental work on library education in South Asia. And I hope you have also seen my work on Baroda. I am sending herewith a draft proposal. Since the "topic is still of great interest" to you, I thought we might work together. I wish to apply for a Fulbright Research grant in order to visit your great country for a year. Under the rules, as you may be well aware of, an American scholar has a greater chance of securing the grant if he is able to secure an overseas affiliation; he is given preference if he proposes to undertake a research project jointly with a scholar in the host country. I will be available also for teaching.

I will appreciate it very much if my proposal receives your thoughtful consideration. I will be very happy to provide further clarification and an answer to any question you might have in determining the value of the project both to your country as well as to this country.

Thanking you and looking forward to hearing from you soon,

Your sincerely,

Murari L. Nagar

This letter included the Panjab proposal as enclosure.

\1

Borden at Columbia

On June 19, 1973, I hit upon another evidence in support of Borden's teaching at Columbia which may add to the numerous evidences to settle the controversy. It is An Historical Sketch of the New Haven Young Men's Institute, delivered at the Seventy-Ninth Annual Meeting of the Association, October 6th, 1904, by the Librarian, William Alanson Borden. Herein, on p. 16 Borden himself declares:

In 1886, Judge Pardee was elected President. It was decided to put the library into complete modern shape [!] and to conduct it for the future under modern methods [!!].

1 Modernization seems to have been a prime objective. Also : With reference to Dickinson's assignment in Lahore, the expression used was--on modern American lines. [check]. Note the title of the library journal inaugurated by another great American Library-Educator Dr. Velte--The MODERN Librarian!

To do this was beyond the ability of the librarian, who had had no experience in those methods. Arrangements were thereupon made with the present writer, at that time lecturing before the School of Library Economy at Columbia , who assumed charge in March, 1887 (emphasis added).

Khurshid did not see this document (quoted above) and reiterated his contention that Borden never taught at Columbia. Borden did teach at Columbia whether Khurshid accepts it or not.

end /Khurshid, Anis/on Borden at Columbia
end /Borden/lectures at Columbia College, School of Lib. Econ.

BORDEN AT YMI Resume

/Borden/at YMI/

Ever since I began my studies on Borden, I had been anxious to visit the Young Men's Institute Library, New Haven, Connecticut, which was Borden's greatest laboratory for library experimentation, and where he had worked from 1887 to 1910, except for a short break between the years 1896-1898, when he was employed at the Linonia and Brothers Library of Yale University.

On July 5, 1967 I was fortunate enough to see this Young Men's Institute Library, and thus fulfill a long-cherished desire. The librarian, Miss Doris K. Hendricks was exceptionally helpful in providing me with all the facilities for examining the totality of the documents and papers preserved at the Institute that related in any way with Borden and his work there. I am greatly thankful to her for the tremendous help received from her.

The present building of the Institute dates back to 1878. It is situated at 817 Chapel Street, right in the heart of the city. The ground floor, constituting shops, is rented out. One goes a flight of stairs up to the main floor of the building where he finds himself in the main wing of the Library. Other parts of the Library occupy the second floor. Once this part of the building housed a children's room which does not operate any more.

/Borden/portraits

There is also a spacious lounge on the main floor in the front part of the building overlooking the busy main street. In a free-standing revolving-type large album is displayed Borden's portrait along with those of the past presidents and librarians. Borden looks quite old in it, so this picture must have been taken after his return from Baroda.

The Report of the Centennial Committee, published

in August 1926, provides us with the exact dates of Borden's work at the Institute: On page 35 it records:

/YMI/librarians	
Librarian	Date of Appointment
Borden	Sept. 30, 1887
Stella Williams	Sept. 30, 1895
Borden	Sept. 30, 1897
Dunn	Oct. 1, 1910

Thus Borden was away from the Institute exactly two years and worked there for full twenty-one years. He was succeeded by Miss Abigail D. Dunn, who worked there through 1960. Elma B. Redfield succeeded her as the librarian and served from 1960 to 1966, although she had been working there even earlier as an assistant. The present librarian, Miss Hendricks has been there since 1966. I was able to talk to Mrs Redfield over the phone. She gave me some useful information. Dunn gave a party honoring Borden after his return from Baroda. Mrs. Redfield had seen Borden only once.

Search for the Research Resources

start /SFRR/YMI

New Haven Colony Historical Society is situated on 114 Whitney Avenue. I visited its Library in the hope of getting some research material on Borden, but the visit did not bear any fruit. There is nothing related to Borden there. We are not sure if he was a very important figure in the society he lived in. He did not get national limelight. We don't know either if he did not regard his papers valuable enough to deserve preservation.

Among his heirs and successors only two persons were still living at the time I visited New Haven--one, Mrs. Helen W. Borden, his daughter-in-law and Mrs. Anne Hobart Brown of 147 Townsend Avenue. To my inquiry on Borden, the former (Mrs. Borden) had reacted as follows:

East Haven, Conn.
March 5, 1967

Mr. Murari Nagar
616 Kuhlman Ct.
Columbia, MO

Dear Mr. Nagar:

I'm truly sorry that I am unable to furnish any helpful information about my father-in-law relative to his library work in Baroda.

His family spent a year with him in India and Mrs. Borden gave many lectures on that country after her return to Connecticut.

If your request had been made a few years ago you could have received much data from his family to help you in your work, but they are all deceased, his wife, son and daughter.

They would have been most interested in the history you are writing.

On their behalf and mine, I wish you success in your work.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Borden

During my first visit to New Haven in July 1967 I tried to talk to Mrs. Helen W. Borden over the phone but she was unyielding. She did not even want me to see her in person. One is not sure if she did not actually have anything, or she was just determined to avoid me. On the other hand, Anne was extremely cooperative and gave all that she could give. Of course, she had no material objects to give, but gave an insight into Borden's life and work through her memory. In fact she still remains the only one exceptional person who was in direct contact with Borden and to whom I could talk. She proved to be the closest link between the present author and the hero of the drama, Borden.

end /SFRR/YMI

The Young Men's Institute Library is meant for "Members Only." So

says a sign at the door. It is not open to the public. It is interesting to observe that a Librarian, who worked for the greater part of his life for a private institution, created one of the best public library systems on the globe!

Young Men's Institute Library gives some data on Borden's son Lewis. His middle initial was A. He was the only son of William Alanson. Born in 1899, he attended school in New Haven and Westport. He began telephone work at an early age of 16 or so.

Lewis A. Borden served as the President of the Young Men's Institute from through 1962. We don't know when he began. He was a Director for many years. His picture too appears in the free-standing album. I knew that Lewis was the only son of William, but I did not know until today (July 5, 1967) that Lewis rose to this high position in the Institute. He was connected with the Southern New England Telephone Co. Starting as a counter clerk, he rose to the position of Assistant General Commercial Supervisor. By 1959 he had already served the company for 37 years. New Haven Register of 1962 notices Lewis' death. He died at the age of 63.

The Institute has preserved certain useful material on Borden's life and work. An interesting news report about William A. Borden was published by the local New Haven Register in its issue of Sunday, May 6, 1928. It is headed: "India's Literary Emancipator has birthday here. It contains a photograph of Borden. The block and photo were made by the New Haven Register Service. This photo is identical with the one kept in the album at the Institute Library. It was taken at a stage when Borden was quite old.

/Pij Free Public Library/picture in New Haven Register

This news report also contains a picture of the Pij Public Library in Baroda. It is seen in many of the Baroda accounts. Probably Borden attached great importance to this Library.

The only important item to my mind that I found in the news report was the following:

"The work done by this famous New Havener in India came to him in a round-about fashion, and was entirely unforeseen, up

until the time he left America.

/Sayajirao/Borden recommended to,

"It happened that in 1910, a native prince of India, the Gaekwar of Baroda, was visiting in New York City. The dusky-skinned noble was deploring the lack of education and the lack of books in his native country, and at the same time expressing need for a librarian who would revolutionize the system. A friend, listening to him, mentioned Mr. Borden as a possible solution to the problem and it was not long after that the work in Baroda was inaugurated.

When I read the above account for the first time I took it seriously. I found it difficult to attach any value to it after I had seen the documents in Baroda during my visit there in February/March 1973. Borden had received an offer long before he met the Maharaja.

Most of the information provided in this news report is taken from other reports already prepared and published by Borden in *Library Journal* or *Library Miscellany*. [This news report is discussed in detail in "Obituary."].

Development of Library Personality The Librarian in the Making

/Borden/at YMI/

The first report in the collection relates to the year ending March 31, 1888. The heads under which Borden reported his activities were

Membership,
Circulation,
Per Capita Circulation,
Circulation by Subject,
Circulation by Sex and Age,
Books,
Receipts (membership dues), and
Receipts from Special (Loan?) and Fines.

1 Borden's Annual Reports to the Directors of the Young Men's Institute, New Haven, Connecticut.

It is evident that Borden joined YMI in 1887, probably before April 1, 1887, because he says: "On the first of April 1887, there were 11,728 volumes in the Library. There have been added since then 1,701 volumes."

The date of Borden's joining the YMI can be further ascertained by his remarks in his report for the year ending March 31, 1889. He says: "As there were no records of circulation kept before March, 1887....We now, however, have the records of two complete years...."

/Cutter, Charles A./trains Borden at Boston Athenaeum
/YMI/compared to Boston Athenaeum by Borden

In his report for the year ending March 31, 1889, Borden compares his institution with Boston Athenaeum, where he learned his ABC's of library organization and administration under the able direction of Charles A. Cutter. Borden says:

The per capita circulation of the library has always been very large even when compared with other libraries of this kind. The records of the year show a straight gain over the year before, though that was larger than that of the Boston Athenaeum....

Borden had a right to be proud of the popularity of his library.

/Borden/proud of his work at YMI
/Borden/meticulous and detailed in reporting

Borden was quite meticulous and detailed in his art of reporting. His reports, though comparatively short, give a pretty good picture of the progress his library was steadily making.

/Borden/cataloging at YMI
The library had no printed catalog. In the spring of 1890, Borden

made some efforts "to issue a printed catalogue, but as enough advertisements to make it pay could not be obtained," he decided to make a manuscript catalog. He completed it, covering all the subjects except history. It comprised three volumes.

/YMI/classification scheme instituted by Borden

/Borden/classification scheme designed for YMI

Borden designed his scheme of library classification during the year 1890/91. He says:

Until last winter the Dewey classification was used in arranging the books, but this proving unsatisfactory, an entirely new system was devised and the books are now being renumbered.

/Borden/charging system for books devised for YMI

/YMI/charging system designed by Borden

Borden proposed to devise a new system of charging books. In the same report he says:

"When this renumbering [of books] is finished, a new system of charging books will be begun which will give much more accuracy in the accounts [statistics].

/Borden/optimistic by nature

By nature, Borden was optimistic. During the year 1890/91, the increase in circulation did not maintain the previous rate of growth; the increase was less in comparison with the previous years. Explaining this loss, Borden comments:

Two causes have contributed to lowering our percentage of gain during the past year. The building of the addition has used up so much money that it has left us much less with which to buy new books than we have had in former years.

/New Haven Free Public Library's effect on YMI

Second, the opening of the new building of the Free

Library has proved so attractive to many of our members that they have severed their connection with us temporarily [emphasis added].

1 Mark the work "Free." Borden's was a subscription library.

Two facts emerge out of this statement. If the library is unable to buy new books, its popularity decreases. And YMI had to compete with the city's Free Public Library. Although YMI too had increased its space, yet the public library may have had a beautiful building, thanks to the munificence of Andrew Carnegie. [Verify] YMI was a private institution.

/Carnegie, Andrew/benefits New Haven Public Library

/Borden/meticulous and detailed in reporting

Borden's reports were quite analytic. They show his breadth and depth of observation--his broad vision.

In the same report, Borden refers to the public library of his town once again. Explaining the loss of membership, he says:

The lack of interest in membership during the past year is due to the same causes that affected the circulation: lack of new books and increase of luxury [!] in the Free Library.

/YMI/serves as laboratory for Borden

It is to be remembered that YMI served as a laboratory for Borden to make new experiments and to observe their results. In his report for the year ending September 30, 1892, he discusses the extraordinary increases in the circulation of art books and attributes it to the holding of an art exhibition:

/Borden/publicity devices at YMI

/YMI/publicity and promotion

The increase in the circulation of fine arts has been unusual and a very decided bent among our readers toward that branch of reading... and this increase even has been raised 395 percent this year. Undoubtedly, this last increase has been largely owing to the water color exhibition last spring and it is to be hoped that such a well-marked appreciation will result in making a water color exhibition an annual event with us. It would be well, in my opinion, if an annual fall exhibition of oil colors could be instituted.

Here is a clear evidence of how Borden verified the effectiveness of some of his library promotional ideas and subsequently introduced them at Baroda with remarkable success.

Borden gives cumulative statistics and proves his point. In 1892, he gave comparative figures of the preceding five years. Increase in per capita circulation is the index of the readers' interest in the library.

Borden's report for 1892/93 once again refers to the loss of the popularity of his library:

During the winter the new building of the Free Library, plus their two years accumulation of the income of the Marett Fund [?] proved too great an attraction for many of our members and they left us.

/YMI/card catalog completed by Borden 1892-93

This year Borden reports the completion of the Card Catalogue.

/Williams, Stella/succeeds Borden at YMI

/Borden/leaves YMI for Linonia of Yale

The Librarian's Report for the year ending September 30, 1895 is signed by Stella Williams. So, Borden would have left YMI sometime after September 30, 1894.

/YMI/free access policy instituted by Borden

It seems the New Haven Free Public Library did not have the system of open access to the books until 1896, while the YMI had been giving this privilege to its readers all along, because in her annual report for 1895/96, Stella Williams says:

Although the membership shows a decrease of 53 from last year, the finances of the Institute do not show great cause for alarm....During the nine months just ended, we have taken in \$825 which is over \$100 more than during the same months in '88 or '89, our dullest years... That in the worst financial year New Haven has known for some time and at a time when the public library has just adopted our [emphasis mine] most popular feature--open shelves!

2

/Borden/publicity devices at YMI

/YMI/publicity and promotion

Borden's Innovative Services

LJ , 13(Jan. 1888):23 contains a notice about the "New Haven Young Men's Institute."

A glimpse of the ingenuity and skill of Borden in promoting public library service and conducting a propaganda to attract the reader to his library is obtained by a card which Borden printed in 1888 on behalf of the Library of the Young Men's Institute in New Haven, on one side of which were the terms of membership and the advice:

If you want to read the latest books as soon as issued, or take home the new magazines, or the best music, or play chess, or read the best newspapers (from San Francisco to London), or see the best books on decoration and embroidery, or keep up with the latest Paris fashions--JOIN THE INSTITUTE.

On the other side is a list of fire-alarm signals. It is noteworthy that the signal department had adopted or invented for themselves the decimal plan of numbering, so that they could make intercalations just as

is done in Cutter's author tables.

The above attractive publicity method also shows the kinds of services Borden had provided in and through his Library.

Thus it is evident that even before January 1888 Borden had joined the YMI, New Haven. He wrote an explanation on behalf of YMI in June 1888 issue of Lj . So he was with YMI in 1888. He stayed (at Reynolds) only for three years or so, from 1885 to 1887.

Borden--Engineer--Designer--April 1891

/Borden/invents desk file for newspapers

Desk File for Newspapers

/Desk file for newspapers

Borden was not merely a bookish librarian. He was an engineer-designer too. An important library equipment designed by him was "a desk file for newspapers." "The Practical Notes" of the Library Journal of April 1891 contain the following description:

It is adjustable so that the reader can move his paper on the desk up or down nearly two feet at pleasure so that stretching the neck to read the top of a column or bending down to read at the bottom of a column is uncalled for (p. 126).

2

Borden--Library Technology

Centralized technical processing

Printed Catalog Cards--Borden's Life and Work--YMI 1891

Borden's Proposal for printed catalog card distribution service was published in *Library Journal* , July 1891, p.209.

/Printed catalog cards distributed by Borden

/Stetson, W. K./helps Borden with printed catalog cards

/Borden/distributes printed catalog cards

It seems Borden and Stetson started a firm in New Haven, since the Editorial in July 1891 issue of the *Library Journal* contains the following note:

Librarians generally will certainly wish every success to the proposal of Messrs. Borden and Stetson, of New Haven, to supply printed catalogue [spelling!] cards of important new books in such shape as to meet the various catalogue wants of the several libraries cooperating. The many attempts which have been made from this Office to meet such long-felt wants have come to grief, always for the simple reason that the number of people willing to pay for the particular service in question was not sufficient to cover its cost. When work is done somebody must pay for it, but it is always hard to convince libraries, and especially small libraries and the trustees thereof, that money can be saved by spending money in these labor-saving contrivances. The reply is usually made--and it is true to a limited extent--that in a small library the librarian has to make out such catalogue as there is in the intervals of other work, and therefore that it is a definite additional expense to pay money outside for this work. This is an argument very difficult to meet. If, by direct library cooperation, it can be made, so much the better for all concerned. All agree that the plan of these gentlemen, if worked out, will be of the utmost value to the library calling. (p. 200)

The entire proposal is published on page 209, July 1891.

/Cutter, Charles A./approves Borden's printed catalog cards

/Dewey, Melvil/approves Borden's printed catalog cards
/Green, Samuel S./approves Borden's printed catalog cards

That Borden was looking toward other senior librarians for guidance and support is attested by the following note to the proposal by the sponsors of the scheme. It is interesting to read it: "This plan has been submitted to Mr. Cutter, Mr. Dewey and Mr. Green and meets their decided approval." [C. A. Cutter and Paul L. Ford were editors of Lj.]

Compare the results of ULISCO'S attempts and experiments made in the 1960's to provide such services. Today in the U.S.A. it is an accomplished fact. Will India take full one hundred years to adopt these "labor-saving devices?"

P.S. A note made in late 90's: India has been facing a serious problem of population explosion. There is no dearth of manpower. She may never feel the need for such labor-saving devices. We cannot compare India with America of today or even yesterday in such matters!
Of course, the personnel freed from routine, repetitive, mechanical cataloging may be utilized for personal reference service provided the authorities are enlightened enough.

BORDEN'S SCHEME OF CLASSIFICATION FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTIONS

start /Borden/classification scheme for photographs

SUB-CLASSIFICATION OF J7
(Or whatever Class Sign May be Used)
By W. A. Borden, Youngmen's Institute
New Haven, Conn.

1 Library Journal , 17(1892):195. only one page????
This was probably the first attempt on the part of Borden to design a scheme of classification.

J 7 a Libraries, Rare Books, etc.

a1--a9

J 7 b Philosophy, Ethics, etc.

b1

b2

b3

b4 Mind and body

b5

b6 Ethics, Temperance, etc.

b7

b8

b9

J 7 c Religion

c2 Christianity

c3

c4

c5

c6 Brahminism and Buddhism

c7

c8 Other religions

c9

J 7 d Sociology

d1

d2

d3 Government and Politics

d4 Law (including trials)

d5 Education

d6 Political Economy

d7 Associations and

Institutions

d8 War

d9

J7 e Arts and Trades

e1

e2 Extractive Arts

e21

e22 Agriculture

e23 Horticulture

e24 Floriculture

e25 Lumber

e26 Mining

e27 Quarrying

e28 Brick and cement

e29 Others

e3 Chemical Arts

e31

e32 Chemicals

e33 Metallurgy and assaying

e34 Bleaching and dyeing

e35 Lighting

e36 Glass and pottery

e37 Beverages

e38 Foods

e39 Miscellaneous

e4 Fabricative Arts

e41

e42 Cottons

e43 Woollens

e44 Linens

e45 Silks

e46 Leather and rubber

e47 Paper

e48

e49 Miscellaneous

e5 Constructive Arts

e51

e52 Carpentry and building

e53 Ship building

e54 Coach and Carriage
building

- e55 Fine metal work, jewelry
- e56 Coarse metal work
- e57 Civil engineering
- e58 Mechanics and mech.
engin.
- e59 Miscellaneous
- e6 Commercial Arts
 - e61
 - e62 Business
 - e63 Commerce
 - e64 Transportation
 - e65 Communication
 - e66
 - e67 Book-keeping
 - e68 Advertising
 - e69 Miscellaneous
- e7 Recording Arts
 - e71
 - e72 Printing
 - e73 Penmanship
 - e74 Stenography
 - e75 Type-writing
 - e76
 - e77 Journalism
 - e78 Book-binding
 - e79
- e8 Domestic arts
- e9 Miscellaneous

J 7 f Amusements

- f1
- f2 Public entertainment
- f3 In-door amusements,
not otherwise specified
- f4 Games of skill
- f5 Games of chance
- f6 Out-door sports,
not otherwise specified
- f7 Athletic sports

f8 Aquatic sports
f9 Hunting, fishing, shooting,
archery, etc.

J 7 g Science - Mathematical and
Physical

g1 General
g2 Mathematics
g3 Astronomy
g4 Physics
g48 Electricity
g5 Chemistry
g6 Mineralogy
g7
g8
g9 Miscellaneous

J 7 h Science - Natural

h1
h2 Geology
h3 Physical geography
h35 Meteorology
h4 Palaeontology
h5 Biology
h56 Microscopy
h6 Botany
h7 Zoology
h8 Anthropology and Ethnology
h9 Miscellaneous

J 7 i Medical Science

J 7 j Fine Arts

j1 General
j2 Landscape gardening
j3 Architecture
j4 Sculpture and allied arts

- j5 Drawing and engraving
- j6 Painting and decoration
- j67 Art needlework
- j68 Furniture and fabrics
(decorative)
- j7 Photography
- j8 Music

J 7 s Geography, Description and
Travel

- s1 General
- s2
- s3
- s4 Europe
 - s41 General
 - s42 Great Britain
 - s43 Germany and Austria
 - s44 France
 - s45 Italy
 - s46 Spain and Portugal
 - s47 Russia
 - s48 Scandinavia, Denmark
 - s49 Other
- s5 Asia
 - s51 General
 - s52 China and Japan
 - s53 Arabia
 - s54 India
 - s55 Persia
 - s56 Turkey
 - s57 Siberia
 - s58 Turkestan, Afghanistan,
Beluchistan
 - s59 Other
- s6 Africa
 - s61 General
 - s62 Egypt
 - s63 Other Nile countries
 - s64

- s65
- s66 North Africa
- s67 Central Africa
- s68 South Africa
- s69 Miscellaneous
- s7 North America
 - s71 General
 - s72 British America
 - s73 U.S. generally
 - s74 Northern States
 - s742 New England
 - s743 Massachusetts
 - s744 Connecticut
 - s745 Other N.E. States
 - s746 New York
 - s747 Pennsylvania
 - s748 Other Middle States
 - s749 Miscellaneous
 - s75 Southern States
 - s76 Western States
 - s77 Mexico, Central Amer.
 - s78 West Indies
 - s79 Miscellaneous
- s8 South America
 - s82 Spanish Main
 - s83 Brazil
 - s84 Ecuador and Peru
 - s85 Bolivia
 - s86 Chile
 - s87 Paraguay and Uruguay
 - s88 Argentine Republic
- s9 Oceanica and Polar Regions
 - s92 Australasia
 - s93 Malaysia
 - s94 Micronesia
 - s95 Polynesia
 - s96 Isolated Islands
 - s97 Arctic regions
 - s98 Antarctic regions
 - s99 Miscellaneous

J 7 t Biography. Group portraits,
general

J 7 u Biography. Group portraits by
occupation

u1 Philosophy

u2 Theology

u3 Sociology

u4 Arts and Trades

u5 Science

u6 Arts

u7 Literature

u8 Travel and History

u9 Other

J 7 v Biography. Individual
portraits

va--vz Arranged nearly
alphabetically

J 7 w History in General

w1

w2 Prehistoric archaeology

w4 Historic collaterals

w3

w5 Genealogy and Heraldry

w6 Popular antiquities

J 7 x Oriental History

x1 General

x2 China and Japan

x3 Arabia

x4 Judea

x5 India

x6 Medo-Persia

- x7 Turkey
- x8 Egypt and Nile countries
- x9 Miscellaneous

J 7 y European History

- y1 General
- y2 Great Britain
- y3 Germany and Austria
- y4 France
- y5 Rome and Italy
- y6 Spain and Portugal
- y7 Russia and Scandinavia
- y8 Greece
- y9 Other

7 z American History

- z1 General
- z2 British America
- z3 U.S. (generally)
 - z31 General
 - z32 Colonies
 - z33 Revolution and Confed.
 - z34 Constitution to
Civil War
 - z35 Civil War
 - z36 Reconstruction and
recent hist.
 - z37
 - z38 Political and social
 - z39 Miscellaneous
- z4 Northern U.S.
 - z41 General
 - z42 New England
 - z43 Massachusetts
 - z44 Connecticut
 - z45 Other N.E. States
 - z46 New York
 - z47 Pennsylvania

z48 Other Middle States
z49 Miscellaneous
z5 Southern U.S.
z6 Western U.S.
z7 Mexico, Central Amer. and
West Indies
z8 South America
z9 Oceanica and Polar Regions
end /Borden/classification scheme for photographs

Borden Establishes Library Association, 1891/92

Borden was instrumental in organizing and founding the Connecticut Library Association. Though a native of New Bedford, Massachusetts, he studied at Cornell. He started his library career at Boston, Massachusetts, and worked subsequently at Rochester, New York. Yet New Haven seems to have held a great attraction for him and Connecticut became his state of operations.

/Borden/co-founds Connecticut Library Association

/Connecticut Lib. Assoc./founded by Borden, Hills and Stetson

/Stetson, W. K./co-founds Connecticut Lib. Association

Library Journal , V. 16, No.1, Jan. 1891, p. 15,
contains an appeal and a proposal signed by Borden and his associates to form a Connecticut Library Association. Borden was at that time the Librarian of the Young Men's Institute, New Haven, Conn. And so he belonged to Connecticut. Earlier I had taken him to have been born in that State, but subsequently I found that he was born in New Bedford, Mass.

The Circular states : "At the convention of the American Library Association held at the Fabyan House last September [1890] the Connecticut representatives resolved to take steps to form a State Library Association."

1 This circular of appeal was also signed by Borden's associates Hills and Stetson.

The circular issued by Borden to start the Connecticut State Library Association was signed by three librarians:

W.J. Hills, Supt. P.L., Bridgeport, Conn.
W.A. Borden, Librarian, Y.M.I., New Haven, Conn.
W.K. Stetson, Librarian, F.P.L., New Haven, Conn.

The first annual meeting of this Connecticut Library Association was held in the Public Library of Bridgeport, Conn., on February 22, 1892. "Borden showed a scheme of classification for arranging and preserving photographs in libraries."

/Borden/classification scheme for photographs

2 Lj 17:(March 1892):97.

On February 22, 1893 Borden was elected a Vice-President of this Association.

3 Lj 18:(March 1893):84.

The two events reported above demonstrate the fact that Borden was also a thinking librarian, a classificationist, and his services were recognized by his colleagues and co-professionals. He was honored by the profession.

2

The Prototype of Baroda

Borden 1893

/PLCC/publications of, prototypes of Baroda's

The publications issued by the Public Library Committee, Connecticut are useful. They seem to be the prototypes of many of the

publications issued by the Baroda Library Department. Activities in Baroda might have been well influenced by those of Connecticut. Borden hailed from Connecticut. He had established the Connecticut Library Association long before he came to Baroda. Possibly, while planning libraries at Baroda, he might have drawn on his knowledge and experience of the activities of the Public Library Committee, which performed many of the functions assumed by the newly-created State Library Department in Baroda.

A study of the Report of the Public Library Committee of Connecticut for the year [1893?] throws an interesting light on the "revised" rules framed by Borden at Baroda. For example, a limit of \$200....

Some of the publications issued by this Committee are:

1 These are all available at SLS Columbia.

1. What a free library does for a country town, 1894.
2. Circular relating to public libraries, 1894.
3. Report of the Library Committee, 1893-94, 1897-1900.
4. Travelling school libraries, 1894.
5. Law relating to public libraries, 1902.
6. Travelling school libraries, stereoptican slides and charts, 1902.
7. Free public libraries law and method of obtaining state grant, 1904.
8. Development of public libraries within the bounds of the old New Haven colony, 1904.
9. Novels and children's stories of 1907-08 recommended for libraries receiving the State grant, 1909.
10. Helps in library work with children. 2d ed., 1911.
11. Suggestive program for library day, 1912.

/YMI/President appreciates Borden's work
/Borden/appreciated by President of YMI

Borden's Work Appreciated
by the Y. M. Institute President in 1894

That Borden really performed a superb job in reorganizing the YMI is attested to by President French in his report of Oct. 3, 1894:

1 Obtained through the courtesy of Miss Hendricks, the present librarian of YMI, New Haven.

"The occurrence of our annual meeting naturally invites us to a retrospect as well as a prospect of our condition. Ten years ago the appearance of the interior of the reading room was in marked contrast to the present one. The library was in such disorder that only by chance could any patron obtain a particular book which might be desired, and no one dared to guess the probable number of books upon the shelves. There was no system in their arrangement except that the well worn novels were generally in one dusty corner of the shelves, while the newer books were laid away in a desk for the members to secure in turn. The number of regular newspapers and magazines was much too small, and the regular dailies were in a more marked way than at present secured by a few "stagers" who monopolized them regularly. The receipts were very small, and only the fact that there was no other public library or reading room gave us any excuse for a continued existence.

"The advent of our present efficient librarian, Mr. Borden, produced an immediate improvement. A reference room was immediately opened, in which were placed all reference books, the bound magazines, and old books that had ceased to circulate. Systematic cataloging commenced at once, and very soon a printed catalogue of books of fiction was issued. All new books were placed together in a prominent position where they would meet the eye of all as they entered. Newspapers were most conveniently arranged for readers, and all magazines were placed in covers so as to be more carefully preserved.

"When this new arrangement was in good working order the agitation of the Public Library question had commenced. Our proposition to make our library the nucleus for that of the city had not met with the

approval of the authorities, and it had become necessary for us to make the Institute more attractive. This was accomplished by the addition of our Beautiful Ladies' Parlor, which is now so popular, and has already abundantly proved the wisdom of its projectors. The change enables us to re-arrange the alcoves so that now each department can be readily found, and lovers of books can browse at their leisure in their private corners. The most modern methods of cataloguing and charging books have been introduced, and in this respect we are fully up to any circulating library of the same size in the country.

"Two librarians are now in attendance, and books can be drawn at any time between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m.

"During the past year the convenience of the alcoves has been greatly increased by the introduction of lights into each. These can be regulated easily, and since the first month of their use have not proved an additional expense. By their use most of our patrons are enabled to select their own books, and any one can now read as well in the alcoves as in the front of the reading room.

"The completion of our author catalogue during the year has added materially to our facilities. Through its use any one can readily find the shelf which contains the books sought, if the name of the author is known. The librarian has also undertaken a special history catalogue which will soon be completed. This is to contain a brief notice of the special points of value of each historical work. These points are taken from the best critics and will aid historical students in their search for material.

/YMI/new charging system introduced by Borden

"The change of the counter at the office of the librarians has greatly improved the convenience. A new charging system has been introduced which so facilitates this part of the work that there is now scarcely any delay at the counter. If any one will stand at the counter in one of the busiest hours of the day he will be surprised at the speed with which books are charged and discharged. It is greatly in contrast to the Public Library where, in consequence of the large patronage, one must often wait a good while for his turn to come to receive or return a book.

"A new experiment has been tried for a few months, the success of which is yet somewhat problematical. I refer to the Special Loan Library. Special loans to non-members have always been a feature of the Institute, but it was confined to the regular books of the Institute. Under the new arrangement we have brought a few books on special account and loaned them to all at an extra charge of ten cents a week. This list has been confined to books which were in great demand and which many patrons wished to read at the same time; for instance "Marcella" and "The Heavenly Twins" have been in constant demand, and many patrons were willing to pay an extra charge for the sake of reading them at once. We had bought for the regular library an unusual number of these books and yet we could not satisfy the demand. For the Special Loan Library we bought sixty-five copies, and these have already more than paid for themselves and are yet called for. The purpose has been to satisfy the reading public at once, and not compel them to wait for the return of the book. As soon as these books have earned their cost they are put on the regular shelves, so that the books in the end would come in greater numbers to those members who were willing to wait. The feature seems to be very popular as it dispenses with all favoritism and stops the practice of reserving books for special patrons, and gives all an equal chance for an immediate reading of a popular book for a small charge. It is of course a serious question how far we can extend this feature without interfering with the regular membership. Plainly our policy should be to supply the public with all the best current literature with great promptness. Our present means will not allow us to build up a large reference library; I do hope, however, in time to secure a complete set of all bound magazines, so that Poole's Index can be used by any patrons with satisfaction. But our main aim must be to cater to the desire of the public for books that are popular at the time, even though they may not be of permanent value. We hope that the Special Loan features may lead non-members to see the many facilities we furnish and be induced to become permanent members.

"The list of active members is in a certain way the barometer of our success. Though we have more than doubled our numbers in the past eight years we have not yet reached the high water mark. The income from membership fees should be large enough to meet all the running expenses of the Institute, so that our income from rents and invested funds could be entirely devoted to the purchase of new books and periodicals. We have held our own in these stringent times but our growth should keep

pace with the growth of the city. If every reading household in the city understood fully the many facilities offered by us, our list of patrons would be very materially increased.

"Sooner or later we shall have to make our reading room more Attractive and inviting by tinting and decorating the walls and by the addition of pictures and rugs so that the walls and floors will not have their present barren appearance. For the present, however, our strong point must be the free access to our shelves and the prompt, efficient service so that no one is ever kept waiting at the counter.

/YMI/publicity and promotion

"Our aim, too, should be to make the Institute a center for all lovers of literature, art and music. To this end it would be well if we could have an occasional authors' reading in our reception room or a musicale, or a little display of pictures. These would bring our members together and tend to promote loyalty to our interest.

"During the year, through the energy of Mr. Newcomb, one of our directors, the New Haven Camera Club has been greatly increased in size, and has established itself in our building, where the most ample conveniences are provided for the development of pictures.

"The Social Science Club has also held its winter meetings in our reference room.

"Our permanent funds have been increased about three hundred [?] dollars, and we now have an income of three hundred and fifty dollars to be used every year for the purchase of books of permanent value. Whenever such books are purchased a special label is placed in each, to indicate in what fund it belongs, and in this way the name of our benefactors are constantly perpetuated.

"At the last annual meeting I recommended the consideration of the question of a change of name. This subject has occupied the attention of the directors and their recommendation they will bring before you.

"Within the past month we have lost by death one of our most active directors, Mr. Ellery Camp. He has served on the board most faithfully for nearly ten years and has always been one of the most loyal friends

of the Institute.

"The success of the Institute depends largely upon our ability to cater in a discriminating way to the wants of the reading public. In this work we have been greatly aided by the labors of the ladies of the Advisory Committee, who spend much time every month in reading new books, examining book notices, as well as in the discussion of their merits in their regular semi-monthly meetings. Their supervision is a guarantee of the merit of all books added to our list, and they deserve the hearty thanks of the members for their services in their behalf.

JOSEPH R. FRENCH,
President.

Borden at YMI--1895

The ANNUAL REPORT of President Joe French--1895
[Appreciating the services of Borden]

/YMI/President appreciates Borden's work

"By the favor of a loyal list of patrons, the Institute has continued its course for another year. In spite of the continued financial depression, and the increased facilities at the Public Library, our membership has been maintained. We do not undertake to compete with the Public Library, which is supported at public cost, but only to furnish added facilities to a reading public, some of whom desire a little more seclusion, and always a prompt service.

"In Boston, which has one of the finest libraries in the land, and is provided with branches all over the City, the Athenaeum maintains a very large circulating library,

1 "Circulating" really means "subscription," non-tax, membership fee,

individual contribution. Public = tax supported. Borden learnt his first lessons at a non-public library. So he did very well at the Young Men's Institute.

the holders of its stock prize it as a very valuable asset. So we believe the Institute has a good future before it, and will increase in popularity if we can manage it in the most popular way.

/Borden/leaves YMI for Linonia of Yale

/YMI/improvements by Borden

"Soon after the last annual meeting [Oct. 3, 1894], Mr. Borden, who had served as Librarian for nearly a decade [important to note], received an appointment at the Yale Library, and resigned his position with us. It is a satisfaction to us to contrast the condition of the Library now, with that of the time when he first entered upon his duties. The reading room was then arranged without regard to the interest or convenience of the patrons. The alcoves ran in the other direction, but the books were arranged on the shelves without any system, so that no one but the librarian knew where they were to be found.

No catalogue of any sort existed, and it would have been impossible to discover whether our annual loss was one hundred or one thousand books. The charging system was not modern, and none of the modern library methods had found their way to our domain. It is little wonder that the income was too meager to meet our ordinary bills.

"Soon after Mr. Borden's appointment [in 1887] it was decided to widen the two story addition to our building, which has given us our attractive ladies parlor which is so popular with all. The alcoves were then changed and the books arranged by subjects, and lighted so as to be accessible to all. A printed catalogue of fiction was then prepared and followed by a complete card catalogue of authors of all the books we own. This has been supplemented to in part by another catalogue of titles which is now being completed by the present librarian. We also utilized a room in the second story by placing there all our cyclopedias and books of reference as well as the bound volumes of all the current magazines. This room has furnished a place for chess and checker players, and at certain hours of the day you can always witness the friendly contests.

/YMI/new charging system introduced by Borden

"A new charging system was introduced by Mr. Borden which is very simple and enables us to trace most of the books that are in circulation.

All books are promptly labeled and catalogued by subjects and a record book is kept of every books as soon as it is received. These changes were all introduced by Mr. Borden, and reflect great credit upon his ingenuity. His monthly report kept us posted upon the condition of the library, and showed a steady advance, till quite recently."

Stella Williams leaves YMI

/Williams, Stella/succeeds Borden at YMI

/Williams, Stella/leaves YMI to obtain modern library training

Borden had already left the Institute by 30 September 1895 in order to join Linonia. He was succeeded by Stella Williams. However, within two years she decided to leave. According to the President, she had served the Institute well, but she "needed further training in modern library methods which she sought in another city."

1 An important point to note. Value of library education recognized as early as 1897.

In his annual report for the year 1898, President French reasoned why Borden had to be brought back:

". . . it seemed wise to the directors to secure the services of a trained librarian. Fortunately it was found possible to engage our former librarian, Mr. Borden, who for three years [?] had been employed at the University. Miss Williams had served us well during the same period, but needed further training in modern library methods, which she sought in another city. Since his return to the Institute, Mr. Borden has made himself manifest in many ways."

/Dearth of trained librarians

/YMI/improvements by Borden

/Library training/required for successful library work

Apparently there was a general dearth of trained librarians, and training in MODERN library methods had already come to be regarded as an essential requirement for successful library work.

President French then describes in detail all the changes brought about by Borden and concludes: "These changes were all introduced by Mr. Borden and reflect great credit upon his ingenuity."

/YMI/free access policy instituted by Borden
/Williams, Stella/conducts inventory at YMI
/Williams, Stella/on free access policy

While President French claimed the open access to be their strong point and took pride in it, Miss Stella Williams who had succeeded Borden deprecated it. In her report for the year 1895, she mentioned the loss of books, shown by the inventory undertaken by her, to be "over six hundred books." She concluded, "This was one of the incidents [results?] of giving our patrons free access to the shelves, and of leaving the library at certain hours to take care of itself."

Borden was way ahead of his contemporaries. Not only did he provide open and free access to the stacks, he left the library totally unattended during the period of his lunch! The Institute Archives has still preserved an upright cardboard of approximately 10" x 3" size in Borden's own beautiful handwriting informing the readers as follows:

////////Should go before Stella Williams left YMI////////
/YMI/honor system of charging instituted by Borden
HONOR SYSTEM OF ISSUE AT THE YMI

Gone to Lunch
Back at 3 p.m.

If you wish to take a book--
remove both cards from the pocket on
the inside of the back cover
sign your name to the white
card, & drop both cards in this box.

If there are no cards in the

pocket the book cannot be taken
out under any circumstances.

Evidently the library was kept open even when
no one was there. The readers were allowed to charge
themselves on honor system! But according to the report just quoted, it
resulted in great loss of books.

; travelling library service
start /YMI/travelling library service/
start /Travelling library service/YMI

One of the most important services developed by Borden in New Haven
was indeed his attempt to organize a travelling library service in a
special section of the city, Edgewood district.

On November 8, 1909, Borden presented a proposal "to the Chairman
of the Membership Committee for the Delivery of Books from Door to
Door."

New Haven Nov. 8, 1909

To the Chairman of the Membership Committee.

Dear Sir:

I have to report that the experiment of serving our members living
in the Edgewood District, by means of a travelling library service
every Saturday has proved abundantly successful, so far as these members are
concerned. Without exception, they are delighted with the results of the experiment,
and are liberal in their expressions of satisfaction. So far, the
delivery has been conducted very quietly, without advertising, in as much
as it was impossible to foretell the outcome of the experiment, but it has
been spoken of from neighbor to neighbor, so that now, when the thing is
less than a month old, the car has been stopped on the street by people
who wish to become members.

It is too early yet to present any definite figures in regard to the
extra expense entailed by this system of delivery. About ten dollars'

worth of new novels were included in the first travelling library and the greater part of these are still travelling from house to house each succeeding Saturday, and will continue to do so for an indefinite period. The members in this district are encouraged to send in lists of the books they would like to read, and those so far sent in have been mainly made up from the older novels, of which the Institute has plenty of copies. My own judgment is that with the distribution of printed lists of the older books, books from six months to three years old, and with the travelling library composed quite largely of these same books, both fiction and non-fiction, the desires of the members in this district will be fully met, and with a much smaller expenditure for new novels than has heretofore been the case with patrons coming into the Institute itself.

The expenses of actual delivery cannot yet be computed with any exactness. The thirty members in the Edgewood District can be served at an outlay of fifty cents a week for gasoline. What the wear and tear on the machine will amount to depends upon contingencies. The cost of the machine itself, it being my personal property, is contributed by the experiment. The expense of preparing it for these deliveries is as yet uncertain, the bills not yet being presented. So far as we have gone, it is safe to say that we can continue the delivery of books in this district, to as many families as can be taken care of in one day, at five dollars a year each, without entailing any considerable expense upon the library; certainly not more than is entailed by ordinary members, because the makeup of each collection presented to them is such that the larger part of their reading is outside of the new novels so much in demand and so expensive to furnish in adequate quantities. The mere act of delivery can be performed by Mr. Tyler or myself and considered an agreeable outing [beautiful!].

When we consider the development of this system of delivery, and its application to the larger district of New Haven, the problem becomes more complicated, but enough has been done to enable us to approach some definite conclusions.

From the experience already obtained it is safe to say that a man with an auto can take care of fifty members a day, provided those members are in one section of the city. To ensure this the city should be developed one section at a time, and definite routes laid out. Each route should occupy a day and there should be time enough allowed at the end of each day's work for the man in charge to take care of the charging and discharging of the books he has handled.

Although we can take care of the Edgewood District, occupying as it does only one day a week, for five dollars a year for each member, we cannot take care of the whole city, six days a week, without hiring a man expressly for that purpose. Such a man ought to be obtained for eighteen dollars a week. Seven dollars a week should take care of the maintenance of the machine. This makes a regular charge against the service of say twelve hundred dollars a year. Three hundred members, all that one machine and man can serve, at five dollars each will not pay for this service and leave anything to buy books with; but in my judgment, enough members could be obtained in New Haven at eight dollars each to keep man and auto busy for six days in each week; perhaps more than one auto. Three hundred members at eight dollars each would bring in twenty-four hundred dollars; the man and auto could not cost more than twelve hundred dollars, probably considerably less, leaving twelve hundred dollars with which to buy the books for the three hundred members; or one dollar a piece more than we have spent for books for our five hundred members for the last ten years. It seems to me that this allows an ample margin for contingencies.

I would suggest that we establish a route in the Whitney Avenue and Orange St. district, at eight dollars per family, the delivery to be made on Fridays and by our present force; no subscription to be binding on either party until twenty-five new members have been obtained. This will allow us to try the experiment with city conditions and with an ample margin of dollars is a prohibitive price [?] on [On?] the other hand they may tumble over each other in their anxiety to get in on a good thing. It's worth trying, anyway.

Respectfully submitted:
W.A. Borden, Librarian
[no signature]

2

/Borden/self-sacrifice for YMI library service

Borden's self-sacrifice for Library Service

Travelling Library in New Haven

In his report for the month ending Oct. 31, 1909, Borden announced that "in accordance with instructions from the Membership Committee" he had established in Westville a travelling library, which visited the houses of the members every Saturday. It is noteworthy that Borden put in one extra day of his own to serve the readers in a specific locality of New Haven. It was a bright example of self-sacrifice.

The service was initiated with a membership of thirty, each person paying only \$5.00 per year! Borden added: "We have not yet accumulated enough material to justify any report from the financial standpoint." Undoubtedly it was too early to judge the effectiveness and feasibility of the new venture.

/YMI/travelling library service/discontinued by Board of Directors

Borden claimed that the "experiment" of serving "our members" living in the Edgewood District, by means of a travelling library service every Saturday, had proved abundantly successful, but the Board of Directors disagreed and decided to discontinue it in only a year. The proceedings of the 84th Annual Meeting of the Institute, held on October 20, 1910, inform us as follows:

The experiment of delivering books in Westville on \$5.00 membership, inaugurated a year ago by librarian Borden, has, after a fair trial, been found unprofitable and by a vote of the directors will end with the present month.

So here is a conflict. Borden claims it to be "abundantly successful," while the Directors thought otherwise. The service was discontinued! Present YMI librarian told me that they refused to pay even the gas bill!

end /YMI/travelling library service/

end /Travelling library service/YMI

; borden bids farewell to YMI

/Borden/leaves YMI for Baroda

President Bradley announced the departure of Borden at the 84th annual meeting held on Oct. 20, 1910. [Borden had already left for Baroda]

"An important change has recently been made in our office force. Mr. William A. Borden, who has been at the head of our administrative department for the last twenty-three years, resigned his position on July first [imp to note] and since that time has made an engagement with the Gaekwar of Baroda to go to the East Indies and assist in establishing public libraries in the part of India ruled over by the Gaekwar, perhaps opening, also, a school of library instruction for the benefit of the Potentate's subjects. It is fitting here [to] express our pleasure and satisfaction at Mr. Borden's promotion. He was a conscientious man, gifted in literature and our best wishes for his success and prosperity follow him to his new field of labor.

/Borden/praised for outstanding work at YMI

This was a high tribute to Borden's outstanding work. He richly deserved such an honor, decidedly being a pioneer and a pathfinder. He belonged to the class of such great men who are generations ahead of their contemporaries. They face obstacles, yet go ahead undaunted by even the most difficult obstacles. They suffer themselves, yet show a new path, which is followed by the succeeding generations. Borden was indeed a pioneer. His contemporaries did not always fully realize his value. And that is the case with so many great people all over the world--at all times, in all climes. (emphasis added throughout).

/YMI/financially sound condition when Borden left

At the time Borden left the Institute, it was in "a good financial situation." The Permanent fund

1 Baroda too had a Permanent Reserve Fund.

remained intact and was well-invested. The building, books, furniture and fixtures of the Institute had not been allowed to depreciate. All were in good working condition.

This was evident from the Treasurer's report of the year.

As reported by President Bradley, the Institute had a "Membership and Resources Committee." Drive for membership was continued. A few months earlier, \$100 were appropriated for the activities of the Committee--for publicity work. Bradley assured that a further appropriation for the purpose would be made without any doubt if the Committee required it. There was enough money and also enough desire to spend it for useful activities.

Bradley concluded:

"In closing, I beg to felicitate the Institute membership in having excellent board of directors. It is made up of men interested in the purposes of the institution and who give freely of time, thought, and labor in its behalf."

///earlier portion is missing///

/YMI/collection

President French described in brief some important changes brought about by Borden since his return and the significant service he was rendering. Charging system was improved and special lists on Cuba and other subjects of the then current interest were prepared. War with Spain was in progress. So there was a good deal of interest in knowing about it. Therefore, Borden prepared a catalogue of ships and fleets. Also the books in juvenile section were re-arranged to render them more useful and be of greater use.

about by Borden since his return and the significant services he was rendering. The charging system was improved and special lists on Cuba and other subjects of the then current interest were prepared. War with Spain was in progress. So there was a good deal of interest in knowing more about it. Therefore, Borden prepared a catalog of ships and fleets. Also the books in juvenile section were rearranged to render them more useful and to be of greater use.

One of the most important acquisitions of the year was "Warner's Best Literature." Borden prepared a special subject analysis and index for the collection. President French acknowledged with approbation the labor and energy Borden had put into it: "Such work makes no show, but it is very valuable to investigators who come to consult the library."

/YMI/publicity and promotion

/YMI/local press cooperates

The institute received a good deal of cooperation from the local press. Lists of books were regularly published by the local newspapers. Borden organized a Chess Club. Local groups held meetings in the Reference Room during the evenings. Ladies School Association was an important organization which used to meet in the Institute Library. It became a social and civic center. Borden paid special attention to publicity and promotion.

/YMI/President appreciates Borden's work

Having reported all these achievements of Borden, President French concluded:

"Since the return of Mr. Borden our membership has increased steadily and many of our old members are coming back to us.

/YMI/honor system of charging instituted by Borden

"The management of the library is now such as to render it worthy of the public favor. Both Mr. Borden and Mr. Shelley aim to accommodate all by every possible means. Our charging system is so free from all red tape that no one is detained at the desk for more than a moment, after the selection of a book. The librarian is constantly consulted by patrons about the choice of a book, and some gentlemen rely entirely upon his guidance....Investigators find him always ready to give them the benefit of his general knowledge of books for the purpose of looking up any special subject. Affability, efficiency, and promptness are the qualities especially enjoined upon our librarians . . . faithfully carried out."

Stella Williams at YMI--1895/96
Conducts Inventory

1 This forms part of the report by Stella Williams. Borden was at Yale.

/Williams, Stella/conducts inventory at YMI

"For two years you have been more or less depressed at the results of inventory. This year things look brighter. There are missing 67 books.

30 of these are books repudiated by persons to whom they are charged. Of 37 there is no trace and these are quite as likely to reappear as the others. I have made a very careful examination of the list & find that only one book in it cost as much as \$2 & that not more than 15 were books published within the last five years. They could be replaced, new, for \$50.

"Inventory with open shelves is necessarily so inexact that I should like to explain the process in detail. The shelf list contained in eleven 4to volumes mss. [?] form a list of the 19000 volumes in the Library as they are arranged on the shelves. If the books could be all called in, inventory would be comparatively simple. It would then consist of arranging the books in strict order & comparing each with its representative on the shelf list. But there are about 2000 in circulation & between 100 & 200 coming & going every day. Two people work together. One alcove is put in order at a time, missing labels put on & and book put in its proper place. Then while one person reads the shelf list the other reads the shelf & writes down the names & no. of each book missing.

"At the close of each day's inventory these books are hunted for among the books charged, in the lists of books withdrawn either temporarily or finally, and in the piles to be mended & to go to the binders. In this way the list is greatly & speedily reduced at first but there comes a time when legitimate place has been searched & there are still, perhaps, 200 entries on the list. These books are looked for at first daily, afterwards at longer intervals, in their places & out of their places, until there remains a list that must be reported for the present as lost. At each inventory there are books in place that were not to be found the year before. Of course, the question comes up whether, if accurate returns can not be made, all this work is worth while, but I think you will agree with me that it is. In the first place every business man likes to know exactly how he stands. Another great advantage is the list of missing books furnished the Book Committee. Then, the little errors that creep into the details of cataloguing are discovered & corrected & lastly, & perhaps most important of all, the character of the books missing shows pretty well whether they have been stolen or lost through carelessness & so points the direction for greater precaution.

1 Borden's Report for the year ending 30 September 1896, YMI.

Borden at Linonia of Yale, 1 October 1895 to 30 September 1897.
Borden's Handwriting.

/Borden/at Linonia of Yale

Borden made himself felt wherever he went and worked. He left an indelible mark to be seen and emulated by those who followed him. He was always a pathfinder.

He worked at the Linonia and Brothers Library of the Yale University for only two years, but he brought total metamorphosis even there.

Yale News (Vol. 14, no. 25, Thursday Oct. 24, 1895, p. 1)
reported:

The Linonia and Brothers Library has been altered in some respects during the past summer. To make room for books of more real interest, nearly 10,000 volumes, which are not of such general importance and which were seldom used, have been removed to the Chittenden Library. This removal has also caused the displacing of the shelves that stood at the entrance of the alcoves, and thus making it much easier to find books. A rearrangement of the books has been made, which will be given below as far as it is now complete.

; Classification

A General works

B

C

D

E

.

.

.

Z Periodicals

This was Borden's work.
/Linonia Library of Yale/classified by Borden

Yale has preserved Linonia and Brothers Library. Current Additions. Monthly [Accessions] Register .

/Borden/classifies Linonia of Yale
Beginning Sept. 1895, appears the "Scheme of classification used in the Linonia and Brothers Library, 1896" in Borden's own beautiful handwriting.

Borden at YMI (General)--1895ff

The annual reports of the Librarian of the Institute provide very useful information on the development and growth of the ideas and ideals of library service during the final years of the 19th century.

The report for the year ending 30 September 1894 is signed by Borden.

That of 1895 is signed by Stella Williams. Again the report for the year 1897-98, i.e. for the year ending Sept. 30, 1898, is signed by Borden. Evidently Borden had to come back by February 1898. He was already at the YMI Library on April 1, 1887.

/Williams, Stella/succeeds Borden at YMI

Here is a tabular statement showing the years when Borden's work was interrupted and handled by Stella Williams:

Years	Librarian
1893-94	Borden
1894-95	Williams
1895-96	Williams
1896-97	Williams
1897-98	Borden

The reports for the three years Williams prepared and submitted are very brief. They are not significant. Neither are they marked with the personal charm of Borden, whose writings are full of warmth and vigor as well. They have a message of their own. They provide a stimulating reading.

Cleveland Conference of American Librarians, 1896
/Cleveland Conference of American Librarians

The proceedings of the Cleveland Conference of American librarians are reported by the *Library Journal*, vol. 21, No. 12, 1896 (pp. ?). They include a "Report of Committee on State Aid to Libraries," containing a note on the New York State. The developments in this State regarding library aid bear a close resemblance and parallelism between what was happening in New York and what was planned and achieved in Baroda.

BORDEN at Yale--1898

/Borden/at Linonia of Yale

Williamson, Poole's biographer, has a good deal of description about Linonia & Brothers Library of Yale University where Poole worked and where a bust of Poole is still displayed at the entrance to the Library.

Borden--Library Administration, 1898

Borden prepared and submitted monthly reports on the progress of his Library. There were printed forms with the following headings under which the statistics were reported:

Membership
Books
Circulation
Circulation by subject
Remarks

Borden Back to YMI

/Borden/at YMI/

/Borden/leaves Linonia of Yale to return to YMI

On 6 January 1898 Borden resigned the position of Librarian of the Linonia and Brothers Library of Yale University, where he had worked for two years. He had given up his job at the Young Men's Institute to take up this position and he went back to his old job after a lapse of two years. It should be noted that Borden had worked earlier at the YMI Library for eight years and, as reported by the Library Journal (23:78, 1898) had "brought it to an excellent state of efficiency."

Cf. President's report.

The report for the year ending 30 September 1897 is signed by Stella Williams. But the next report, i.e., for the year 1897/98 is signed by Borden.

In this report, Borden says: "On the first of April 1887, eleven years ago, I made a careful count of the volumes." Thus, it is evident that he had just joined the YMI.

Stella Williams did not give full statistics in her annual reports. Borden's optimism is reflected once again in the following statement: "The circulation of books shows a large increase over that of the year before, and as the circulation is a barometer, we look for a considerable increase in our membership in the future."

/Library training/U.S. and England

Borden at YMI--Library Training

Origins of Library Education in the United States

and in the United Kingdom: A contrast

Many librarians of Borden's times and climes felt that to prepare younger generations for a successful library work was their responsibility. They gave their free time and attention and used their own institution as the laboratory. Borden himself was trained in this manner under the guidance of Cutter, and in turn continued the tradition both in New Haven and in Baroda.

/Borden/trained by Cutter

/Cutter, Charles A./trains Borden

The very first library training center in the United States—in fact in the whole world--was part of an academic institution (Columbia College, New York). It was named the "School of Library Economy." On the other hand, in England the training was initiated under the auspices of the nation's Library Association.

/Library training/Baroda College/proposed by Principal Clarke

/Clarke, Principal/proposes library training in Baroda College

/Ranganathan/initiates library training in Madras

/Central Library (Baroda)/library training initiated there

/Madras/Library Association/supports library training by Ranganathan

In India, as far as Baroda is concerned, training was initiated in the Central Library, but efforts were made by Principal Clarke, clearly inspired by Borden, to establish a two-year post-graduate course right in the Baroda College. In the Panjab, immediately thereafter, the training was initiated at the University Library, but the certificates were granted by the Registrar. It was an academic performance and recognition. Ranganathan started his training program under the auspices of the Madras Library Association, but he took no time in bringing it under the fold of the University of Madras.

1 cf. Five Laws of Library Science.

Library Training 1898

/Borden/library training/YMI

/YMI/library training
/Library training/YMI

Borden started an apprentice course to train librarians in his Library around 1898 or 1899. He says in his annual report for the year ending Sept. 30, 1901:

"Two years ago we began the experiment of taking students into the Library who by study, combined with practical experience, should fit themselves for the practice of the profession.

"But little was said about this departure at the time, as we were not entirely sure how far the necessary instruction would interfere with the work of the library and how much good work could be accomplished by the students in the two years the course was designed to cover.

"The experiment has happily proved a success. The first pupil to enter has given great satisfaction in her dealings with our patrons and in her work in the more difficult parts of her profession. She has become very proficient and is now, having graduated, one of the force of the Free Public Library [mark the caps.]

1 My immediate reaction to the above was that Borden had capitalized these words to give special emphasis. The notes were taken in July 1967. Now today, Nov. 5, 1974, as I read these notes, I realize that what Borden meant was the Public Library of [the city of] New Haven which had this name! It is still called the Free Public Library except that the name of the city precedes it. It is called "New Haven Free Public Library." It was founded in 1887. By "force" Borden meant the staff.

The others now under instruction are doing equally well. I see no reason why the experiment has not proved [!] a benefit both to the library and to the student.

BDN1898-1907 (LIBRARY TRAINING)

It is evident that the apprentice course that Borden had started around 1898 was continued at least through 1907, because there is a diploma (or certificate) preserved (since returned by the holder for preservation and possible future use). It reads:

2

New Haven Young Men's Institute

This is to certify that Eunice E. Peck has satisfactorily completed the prescribed APPRENTICE COURSE of the Institute and is fully prepared to perform the regular work of a Librarian Assistant.

(Signed)

Edward E. Bradley, President
George V. Smith, Secretary
William A. Borden, Librarian
March 1, 1907.

Borden--Library Training at YMI--1902

From the annual report of the President of the Y.M. Institute for the year 1902, it is learnt that an "increased number of applicants had offered themselves for training in library work and fitting for permanent service." The President acknowledged that at least two years of training was required for a knowledge of the various branches of the work, and even this could only be "a superficial training for the arduous work of a skilled librarian."

/Library training/important as early as 1902

It is remarkable to note that as early as 1902, so much importance was given to the training of librarians at YMI, the library-laboratory of a pioneering American librarian, William Alanson Borden. No wonder he was able to serve so well the cause of libraries and librarianship both in the U.S.A. and India.

Two librarians trained at the Institute were already employed by

the Free Public Library of New Haven. Thus the Institute was playing a leading role in the community and the profession. It was anticipated that the "needs of the great institution would undoubtedly call for more helpers from year to year."

During the preceding year four young ladies had undergone the training and the President appreciated the great help they had given. They had evinced great aptitude for the library work and their aid had proved "invaluable in increasing the efficiency and promptitude" of the YMI service.

/Borden/praised for outstanding work at YMI

Paying glorious tributes to Borden and his assistant, the President of the Institute concludes his annual report:

Our energetic librarian, Mr. Borden, and his faithful assistant, Mr. Shelley, have worked with untiring energy, and justly retain their well-earned popularity with the patrons. The four young ladies who are learning the library work have attended to many details in connection with the book service, and thus given the librarians time for more important work--cataloguing never ends (!), and the business details of a library need the most careful and unremitting attention.

/YMI/goals

In his report for 1904-05, Borden has summarized the recognized goal of the Institute:

. . . a literary club, where each member would be assured

of the books, magazines and newspapers he wanted to read; where he could get them quickly and without too much formality; and where he could find a quiet and honourable room and an easy chair in which to read them.

In 1905-06, Borden said:

It gives me great pleasure to report that the continued prosperity, promised in last year's report, is shown to be an accomplished fact in this year's record; and this prosperity is evenly distributed over the various departments. To put the following report into a few words: The Institute was never, in all its history, in as prosperous condition as it is in today.

In about sixteen to seventeen years, Borden brought this YMI to such a high position. He had a right to feel proud. His departure for India would not have caused a serious setback.

/Borden/writing picturesque

Borden's writing is picturesque. Even a dull subject like the "Librarian's Report" is made interesting. Here is an example:

This number [of members] steadily increased during the winter until, on the first of April, the end of the reading season, we had 603 members. The month of March is the time of high water mark in library affairs. After that time, the reading of books gives place to the reading of nature, and library work ebbs to the slack water of midsummer." (Report for the year 1905-06)

Borden at Baroda

Search for the research resources

Appointment of Borden to Baroda State

The Beginning

/Laxmi Vilas Palace/present state
/SFRR/Baroda

On 18 February 1973 I was able to see the "Old Baroda State Records" preserved in the Lakshmi Vilas Palace. The present condition of the palace reminds the viewer of the poet who sang:

Purā sarasi mānase vikacapaṅkajāliskhalat-
parāgasurabhīkrite sapadi yena nītam vayah.
Sa palvalajale'dhunā miladanekabhekākule
marālakulanāyakah kathaya re katham vartātam.

These historic treasures had not seen any light during the last forty years or so. I was permitted to see them after great difficulties. The officer-in-charge discouraged me in every possible way, pleading all along that there was nothing of any value there. However, the very first file I chanced to open pertained to Borden. Strange are the ways of God Almighty!

1 This incident reminds me of my find of the Vikram@^k@bhyudaya Ms. at Patan. I had to face a lot of difficulties in being admitted to that treasure house, one of the most valuable MSS. bhand@rs in India. Because of the invisible force of Muni Shri Punyavijayaji Maharaja the "authority" could not flatly say "no," but he presented all kinds of evasive arguments. There were more than a dozen steel cabinets in the room and they collectively contained hundreds of bundles of precious manuscripts. According to the man-in-charge, there was no catalogue. I said: "Let us go into the bhandar . I will find out." He opened one cupboard. I said: "Close it. Open that one." By God's Grace, that one truly contained what I was looking for! The work was edited and published. It is still represented by just one manuscript.

/Vikramānkābhyudaya manuscript at Patan

I worked in Baroda with the State records during February and March 1973. While working there, I realized that I should have made some special arrangement with the present Maharaja of Baroda, Shri Fatehsinhrao Gaekwar. He might have provided some special facilities. Strangely enough, I did meet him, but it was at the very end of my sojourn in Baroda, when I had accomplished all that I could do under those trying circumstances. I had already spent the major part of my sabbatical leave in Delhi and other places.

Of course, I had written to the Maharaja twice, but there was no response from him. The red-tape was still alive and active among the officers of whatever "kingdom" was left of the former glories of Baroda. I was allowed to explore the treasures, but I could not see the highest officer, who sanctioned my request. I had to remain satisfied with the intermediaries.

2

Documents on Baroda at Laxmi Vilas Palace

Borden Arrives in Baroda, 6 November 1910

/Borden/arrives in Baroda

There is definitely some useful material among the "Old records" deposited in the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

File : Huzur Kamdar's Office (8) Ekikaran Branch, March 1910-Dec.1910

This is the first file I saw that contains material on Borden. The file is well indexed in the beginning. Contents analysis precedes! Very well kept. It is easy to ascertain the contents. Document No. 88 is a telegram (original) from Dr. Bumpus, originating in Westport, Connecticut; given through the Anglo-American Telegraph Co., & reading as under:

"Gaekwar care Thos Cook Ludgate Circus, Lon.

"Final authority from Baroda for librarian not received.

Shall Borden sail without further delay Bumpus."

Note in ink on the telegram bottom:

"H.H. on the matter being mentioned to him ordered that Mr. Borden should sail immediately. Cable sent accordingly to Dr. Bumpus. Sd. illegible 16/9 [1910]

////////16 Sept 1910////////

"Let Borden sail immediately. Maharaja Gaekwar. Dewan Saheb informed of the same."

////////dup////////

Letter to G.B. Ambegaonker, Sec. to H.H. from C.N. Seddon, Originating from Huzur Cutcherry, Baroda 5th Aug. 1910. This is a letter seen by me in Borden's file in the Baroda Records Office.

On the 30th of the last month [?]

New York

Maharajah...

Note by the Secretary says: "Cabled Borden asked sail immediately.

SAYAJIRAO APPOINTS BORDEN 16 September 1910

File No. 17/35 --8th Trip

/Sayajirao/appoints Borden to Baroda

Letter dated Sept. 16, 1910, originating from Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, London W. [C?] From G.B. Ambegaonkar to C.N. Seddon, Acting Dewan, reading as under:

My dear Sir: With reference to your last two letters H. H. the Maharaja Sayajirao has already written to you separately.

His Highness has decided upon engaging the services of a Librarian and in reply to the cablegram received from Dr. Bumpus 'Final authority from Baroda for Librarian not received. Shall Borden sail without further delay,' I have under direction sent him a message as under: 'Let Borden sail immediately,'

and I am to request you to kindly do the needful in the matter.

2 Would it be correct to assume that the Maharaja had been thinking for long but decided to engage the services of a librarian at this stage.

Other matters of lunch, etc.

This letter is seen and initialled by so many!
Seddon, Gupta, SG (Sampartao Gaekwar) Two more not legible!

Another letter. Details of the addresses, etc. same:-
/Sayajirao/meets Borden in London
/Borden/meets Sayajirao in London

Mr. W. A. Borden, the new Librarian called on His Highness here on his way to India & was to sail from Marseilles today. He told me he might stay in Bombay for a day or two before proceeding to Baroda. [Date not recorded by me! Or did the original lack it ? Meeting to be noted]

/Nagar/first visit to Baroda (1972)
/Bumpus, H. C./recommends Borden to Sayajirao
/Borden/recommended to Sayajirao/by Bumpus

Bumpus Brings Borden to Baroda

I saw the file on Borden's appointment. He was recommended--in fact appointed by Dr. H. C. Bumpus, Director of the American Museum of Natural History, New York.

This is quite a useful file. Borden was not recommended by any prominent library leader such as Dewey or Cutter, but by a non-librarian, a natural scientist. Many of my guesses have proved true. For example, I thought that Borden would have met the Maharaja in London on his way to Baroda. Actually he did. His salary was \$3000 a year, or \$250 a month plus first class travel to and from Baroda.

It may be observed here that in order to get access to the private correspondence of Sayajirao, one must get in touch with the present Maharaja Fatesinhrao, who is an MP and lives in Delhi.

1 These notes were prepared in February-March 1973.

The records of the Education Department were transferred to a Training College in Baroda. I had to get hold of this deposit. I tried. It was just a mountain of dust! I could not work there.

The present headquarters of the former Baroda State are located in Indumati Mahal Khangi Dept.--Rajmahel Road, 4665 (phone no. ?), Gujarat State-Govt.

D.K. Gaekwar
Deputy Controller, Khangi Dept.

The file is marked no. 8 of the Huzur Kamdar's (Royal Secretary) Office, Ekikaran Branch, and covered the period March through December, 1910. It is well-indexed and is preceded with a well-prepared content analysis so that one can see the contents at a glance as if in a mirror. This shows the efficiency and efficacy of Baroda's administration that was perfected under the vigilant eye and fostering care of the Maharaja Sayajirao III, Gaekwar of Baroda, that prince-sage who transformed Baroda into an ideal state in every field of human activity.

Document No. 88 is a telegram (in original) from Dr. Bumpus, which originated in Westport, Connecticut, and was sent through the Anglo-American Telegraph Company. It read as under:

Gaekwar, Care Thos Cook, Ludgate Circus, London. Final authority from Baroda for librarian not received. Shall Borden sail without further delay? Bumpus.

/Bumpus, H. C./seeks final authorization for Borden

The telegram indicates the natural anxiety of Borden to reach Baroda as early as possible. It was dispatched in the name of Bumpus, but it originated at Westport, Connecticut, where Borden lived at the time. It can be

inferred that Borden got the approval of Bumpus and sent the telegram in the name of the latter. If Bumpus had sent the telegram himself, it would have originated in New York city, where his Museum was located, or New Rochelle, N.Y., wherefrom he had issued the letter of appointment to Borden on 16 September 1910.

Maharaja's Private Secretary made the following note at the bottom of the telegram: "H. H. on the matter being mentioned to him ordered that Mr. Borden should sail immediately. Cable sent accordingly to Dr. Bumpus."

A telegram in reply was sent which read: "Let Borden sail immediately. Maharaja Gaekwar."

/Borden/appointment to Baroda/consent of Indian Government
/Sayajirao/absentee administration of Baroda

Sayajirao lived abroad for long periods and conducted his administration to a great extent by proxy i.e. by correspondence and communication. He did not care if the formal sanction had not come from Baroda. Although he was all-powerful as far as his own kingdom was concerned, the sanction of the Government of India was presumably needed for every such appointment, especially of a foreigner (a third country resident).

/Borden/arrives in Baroda

The formal sanction of the Government of India had not come even until 7 November 1910, because on that day B. L. Gupta signing as Officiating Dewan wrote to Mr. H. V. Cobb, who was the British Resident at Baroda, for "expediting the consent of the Government of India so that he (Borden) may be enabled to enter upon his duties." In that very letter, Gupta had already said earlier that "I have the honour [!] to inform you that Mr. W. A. Borden arrived here on the 6th instant (i.e. 6 November 1910).

1 Borden arrived in Baroda on 6 November 1910. File No. 8 of the Huzur Kamdar Office (Royal Secretary) Ekikarana Branch. Somewhere, I have given the date as 6 September 1910 which is not correct. He was still in the USA on that date. In PLMB p. 51, I have given 15 September 1910 as the date! This was a guess. He left India (on his way back home) in the middle of May. He was going on "furlough" for three months. This was stated somewhere else, probably in LM. Those were the days of British Bureaucracy. Englishmen used to bleed India blood-white. Indians too used to

speak the same language. I believe similar language is used with regard to Velte also by the Modern Librarian .

So the Dewan of Baroda had no hesitation in informing the British Resident that Borden had already arrived in Baroda though the sanction of the Government of India had not yet come!

Finally the sanction was received on 6 December 1910. Although Borden was appointed earlier and had already arrived in Baroda, he could not be paid his salary in the absence of the sanction of the Government of India! On 30 November 1910, the Manager of the Huzur English Office wrote to Borden: "His Excellency regrets he cannot order your salary to be disbursed to you." Borden already had \$110 as the balance from the amount of \$600 he had received as advance from Bumpus before he left the U.S.A. The Manager offered him some additional amount as advance. Incidentally, Borden's total expenditure from his home to Baroda, including his stop-over in London, cost the State only \$489.40. He had travelled first class.

To continue the story of Borden's appointment and arrival in Baroda: The telegram quoted above resulted in the following letter, a copy of which in Borden's own handwriting is preserved in the Baroda Record Office. It is not in "library hand," but in normal cursive handwriting!

1 This is a copy in Borden's own hand and seems to contain some errors. At least it raises some questions in terms of grammar and construction.

2

The Letter of Appointment

New Rochelle,

2 New Rochelle is in Westchester County, New York, and forms part of the Greater Metropolitan New York. Probably this was Bumpus' home where he lived. It was not far away from his Museum.

September 16, 1910

start /Bumpus, H. C./role in Borden's appointment to Baroda
start /Borden/appointment to Baroda/role of Bumpus

Mr. W. A. Borden,

Acting under instructions just received from His Highness the Maharaja Sayajirao and in accordance with a communication from the Honorable C. N. Seddon, acting Dewan, indexed no. ?/2481 and of [sic] dated Baroda 17 December 1909 [so this was as early as this date!] I have the honor to appoint you as Librarian and to instruct you to prepare yourself to report to His Highness the Maharaja, or to such officer in Baroda as may represent His Highness in communication with the Education Department in Baroda city.

It is the wish of His Highness that you inform yourself in regard to certain special questions connected with the library work in Baroda, and you are therefore authorized to visit certain libraries in their country and to visit certain libraries in Europe, en route , the better to serve His Highness, and to this end your salary of \$3000 per annum will date from Sept. 16, 1910, and I am giving you \$600 that you may use for travel, exclusive of salary, and [the] accounting for which you may make to the proper official in Baroda to whom you will turn over any [un-] expended [?] balance.

Wishing you every success in your undertaking,

I am very truly yours

(Sd) H. C. Bumpus,
Agent

/Borden/arrives in Baroda

On 11 November 1910, C. N. Seddon, the Dewan of Baroda wrote to the Maharaja, who was still in England: "Mr. Borden (the American librarian) arrived on 6th," i.e. November 6, 1910. Borden's appointment became

effective 16 September 1910, when he was still in the U.S.A. Negotiations had started long ago. Bumpus, while appointing Borden, refers to an earlier communication from Hon. C. N. Seddon, Acting Dewan, dated 17 December 1909!

BUMPUS BRINGS BORDEN TO BARODA

The file No. A7/99 of the Huzur English Office preserved at the Baroda State Central Archives in Kothi Building, contains some useful data on Borden's appointment to Baroda--as the "Librarian, Baroda State Libraries." He was never officially designated as the "Director of Libraries." This epithet was the creation of the librarians' own wishful thinking.

/Sayajirao/meets Borden in New York

/Borden/meets Sayajirao in New York

Dr. H. C. Bumpus, the Director of the American Museum of Natural History, located at 77th Street and 8th Avenue in New York, acted as the intermediary or go-in-between. Bumpus even appointed Borden to the post acting as "Agent" to Sayajirao. His Highness saw Borden in New York in July 1910. Borden's appointment was considerably delayed.

An inquiry for a librarian originated from Baroda at least as early as 8 October 1909.

The letter from Dr. Bumpus reads:

"In reply to your communication

I I have not seen the communication from Personal Secretary to His Highness, addressed to Bumpus, dated Oct. 8, 1909, but it is evident that the inquiry for a librarian came from Baroda. Incidentally, it might be added that I wrote to the Museum inquiring about the correspondence of Bumpus, but I did not receive even an acknowledgment promptly. However, it was received eventually. In view of the above correspondence, the story published by New Haven Register (dusky-skinned ... deploring.... friend suggested Borden's name, etc.)

seems to be absurd, unless we assume that the Maharaja initiated the selection of a librarian during his first visit to the U.S.A., i.e. 1906.

But then how would you account--"not long after that...." PLMB, p. 50.

of Oct. 8, 1909

relative to a librarian [mark the indefinite article "a"] for Baroda, I beg to recommend Mr. William Alanson Borden, data concerning whom is attached herewith.

"I think that Mr. Borden would go to Baroda for a year for \$3000, and an allowance for first class travel going and coming.

"While Borden is a man of mature years, you will notice from the data enclosed that he has had a great deal of experience along lines cognate to those desired by His Highness [imp. to note].

"If Mr. Borden's services are desired, it would probably take him about a month to adjust his personal affairs before leaving the country."
[Very fast!]

Very truly yours

(Sd) H.C. Bumpus

Encl. Borden's Bio-data
(Kept in the Biography Section)

C. N. Seddon, Acting Dewan, wrote back to Dr. H. C. Bumpus, on Dec. 17, 1909 that "H. H. ... has decided to employ the gentleman in the capacity of (1) a librarian, or (2) as an Assistant Secretary to H. H. or (3) in any other capacity in connection with the work of the education Department in the Baroda City....H. H. however wishes that instead of one year the gentleman should stay here for two years...."

/Borden/appointment to Baroda/terms of employment

It should be noted that Borden was virtually employed, i.e. received the appointment, as early as 17 December 1909 and that the Maharaja wanted him initially to work in Baroda for two years and not one year only as

Borden had argued subsequently. It might have been the understanding of Borden, but at least the Maharaja did not think in terms of only one year.

A copy of the telegram from Seddon, Dewan, dated 30 December 1909 to Dr. Bumpus, Natural History Museum, New York, reads: "Defer action on my letter seventeenth about Borden, pending further instructions."

1 Very important. Here even the name of Borden is specifically mentioned!

/Sayajirao/meets Borden in New York

/Borden/meets Sayajirao in New York

Although the Dewan had authorized the appointment of Borden on 17 December 1909, yet some unforeseen circumstances seem to have made him delay the appointment. So he cabled to keep the matter pending and to defer the action on appointment. It remained in abeyance until the Maharaja visited the U.S.A. and met Borden in New York.

end /Bumpus, H. C./role in Borden's appointment to Baroda

end /Borden/appointment to Baroda/role of Bumpus

America Contributes to Library Development in Baroda

/Laxmi Vilas Palace/Lib. organized by "European Officer"

Circulating libraries failed. Maharaja goes to the United States to find the remedy for the malady and meets Borden in New York.

It is learnt from the printed catalog of the Laxmi Vilas Palace Library of Baroda, which subsequently became the nucleus of the State Central Library, that a "European Officer" had organized it. While the Maharaja invited and utilized the services of a European Officer from the Old World to organize his palace library, he had to visit the New World to imbibe the spirit and essence of the American public library service, and consequently to invite an American Librarian to initiate a free public library system in his State of Baroda.

/America/promotes library development in Baroda

/Circulating libraries failed in Baroda
/Baroda/circulating libraries failed

Borden meets the Maharaja in New York in July 1910
/Borden/meets Sayajirao in New York
/Sayajirao/meets Borden in New York

Sayajirao left Niagara Falls for New York City on July 9, and left New York for London July 19. Borden and Sayajirao met in New York between July 9 and 13, 1910.

Sayajirao reached London on July 19, and spent a good deal of time in England and on the Continent. He left Marseilles for India December 2. He reached Bombay December 16, 1910 and Baroda on December 19. He was presented with a welcome address in his honor at Bombay. In reply he mentioned his having brought an American library expert for the development of libraries in Baroda.

//////////quote the maharaja in full//////////

/Borden/arrives in Baroda
/Sayajirao/absentee administration of Baroda

Borden reached Baroda on November 6. His Highness was in England. On his way to India from home Borden had stopped in London. Both had met and discussed the library planning. His Highness had asked him to purchase some audio-visual materials, which he did. When Borden reached Baroda, the Maharaja was not there. Borden must have received enough instructions. The Maharaja carried his administration quite a good deal in absentia (?) by proxy and through correspondence. He lived abroad for long periods of time and had his ministers and officers govern the kingdom. He had perfected the machinery of his Government to such an extent that he could afford being away from Baroda for long periods of time.

/Sayajirao/visits Japan

From the two addresses delivered by Sayajirao in Japan, as published in the collection of his speeches and addresses, it is evident that he was in Japan in the month of May 1910. Probably the Maharaja visited Japan earlier and entered the U.S.A. on the West Coast. He crossed the country going eastward and concluded his American tour on the East Coast. He must have embarked on a ship at New York and crossed

the Atlantic to reach London.

1 Note: My thinking was right. All this was written in 1977.

Borden - The Great Assignment:

1 Source: PLMB: My Baroda history

/Great Assignment

All the work that Borden did before he came to Baroda was preparatory to his magnum opus, the establishment of a free public library system in Baroda. The New Haven Register reports:

/Borden/appointment to Baroda/role of Bowker
/Borden/appointment to Baroda/role of Bumpus
/Sayajirao/Borden recommended to,

It happened that in 1910, a native prince of India, the Gaekwar of Baroda, was visiting in New York City. The dusky-skinned noble was deploring the lack of education and the lack of books in his native country, and at the same time expressing need for a librarian who would revolutionize the system. A friend,

1 R.R. Bowker might have been the "friend." See the correspondence deposited at the New York Public Library. Borden and Sayajirao met in New York between July 9 and 13, 1910.

The guess regarding Bowker being the friend who was responsible for getting Borden to Baroda has been proved baseless by my subsequent researches. It was H.C. Bumpus. We are not sure if Bowker had to do anything with Borden's selection and approval. A note made later: Bumpus was not a professional librarian. He was not a leader in America's library movement either. That was not his field. He must have gotten Borden's name from some other source, which could have been easily Bowker. The latter, probably accompanied Sayajirao

to the Library of Congress when Sayajirao visited it. They knew each other.

listening to him, mentioned Mr. Borden as a possible solution to the problem and it was not long after that [that] the work in Baroda was inaugurated.

2 "India's Literary Emancipator has Birthday here," [a report on Borden's life and work when he turned seventy-five], New Haven Register , 6 May 1928 (Sunday), p. 3.

Borden himself has recorded how he happened to go to Baroda. Writing in August 1912, he said:

3 "Library Situation in Baroda,"
Library Miscellany 1(August 1912):1-2.

/Borden/on his appointment to Baroda

Two years ago, through the instrumentality of His Highness Gaikwad, the present writer was induced to give up his professional work in America and come to Baroda to do for India, so far as he was able (or permitted) what had already been done for the people of his own country in the way of founding free libraries and putting good books into the hands of those most needing them--the common people.

A telegram received in Baroda bearing the stamped date of 30 July 1910, and originated at New Rochelle, New York on 29th, reads:

Seddon, Dewan, Baroda, India.
Maharaja approves librarian Borden. Please cable consent government.
Bumpus.

/Borden/appointment to Baroda/consent of Indian Government

It is evident that by "government" here is meant the Government of India, because the Maharaja himself would not ask for the consent of his own government. He was an absolute ruler of his kingdom.

The authorities in the Baroda Government did not know what salary Borden was drawing then at home.

On 8 November 1910 Borden wrote from Baroda to the Dewan Saheb. He had arrived in Baroda two days earlier, i.e. 6 November 1910. Borden said:

Sir:

"I have the honor to report my arrival in Baroda, in pursuance of the instructions received in the letter from Dr. H. C. Bumpus of New York, a copy of which is enclosed.

"I reported my arrival in person on the morning of the 6th to the Acting Dewan, Mr. Gupta.

"According to the instructions of the letter above referred to, I have the honor of forwarding to you an account of my expenses from New Haven to Baroda, which you will also find enclosed.

"I have an unexpended balance, in my possession, of one hundred and ten dollars and sixty cents (\$110.60) which I will either pay over to you upon demand, or which can be deducted from my salary, [why so?] as may best suit the convenience of yourself."

Yours Respectfully,

(Sd) William Alanson Borden

Enclosures.

/Borden/appointment to Baroda/announced by Lib. Journal

The Library Journal of July 1910 (35:545)
announces the appointment of Borden to Baroda:

Borden, Williamson [!] Alanson, has been appointed by the Gaekwar of Baroda, the mighty potentate [emphasis added] of India, to take charge of the string of public libraries His Royal Highness proposes to establish in India. Mr. Borden was for 23 years librarian of the Youngmen's Institute of New Haven. The Gaekwar has been visiting this country on his way back from a tour around the world.

1 The announcement in LJ was premature. Borden did not receive the formal letter of appointment until 16 September 1910!
Maybe the "journalists" come to know of the news before it happens! Lj (Bowker?) might have kept abreast with the developments.

(A subsequent thought): Once the Maharaja and Borden met in New York and discussed the great assignment, all that was necessary to be discussed, Borden's appointment was virtually an accomplished fact. I think he had already resigned his post at YMI by the end of June 1910. Even if some formalities had remained yet to be observed or fulfilled, the appointment was assured. Hence the report in Lj was somewhat reasonable. Or Borden himself might have caused this announcement to be broadcast. He was quite resourceful.

/Rice, Stanley/on Borden's appointment to Baroda
/Rice, Stanley/quotes the World
/Borden/appointment to Baroda/Stanley Rice on,
/Borden/appointment to Baroda/the World on,

The news of the appointment of Borden to the post of Director of Libraries of Baroda must have crossed the Atlantic immediately . Why, Sayajirao was there! As reported by Rice in his Biography of the Maharaja Sayajirao (v. 2, p. 73),

1 Pages 70-76 deal with the library movement in Baroda.

a "contemporary newspaper" of England,
the World carried the story.

2 The newspaper World of 2 August 1910 on Borden's appointment to Baroda:

Rice comments:

The Gaekwar of Baroda,' wrote the World, (2nd Aug. 1910),' has appointed an American, Dr. William Borden of Yale University, to take charge of the chain of libraries which he intends to establish in his principality. The appointment not only testifies to the ability of Dr. Borden, but it is a distinct compliment to the library system which has been developed in the Universities of America; and inversely it implies that the university system in this country is antiquated and unpractical. And this is not far from the fact. The Gaekwar, himself an Oxford man [which was of course a figment of the kindly imagination] has probably had experience of the miserable lack of method....' and so on, with a fairly comprehensive gibe at the methods of the Bodleian.

Having quoted the above "comments," and without completing them, Rice adds: "and so on, with a fairly comprehensive gibe at the methods Bodleian."

Here is the full text:

"The Gaekwar of Baroda has appointed an American, Dr. William Borden, of Yale University, to take charge of the Chair [!] of libraries which he intends to establish in his principality. The appointment not only testifies to the ability of Dr. Borden, but it is a distinct compliment to the library system which has been developed in the Universities of America; and, inversely, it implies that the university library

system in this country is antiquated and unpractical. And this is not far from the fact. The Gaekwar, himself an Oxford man, has probably had experience of the miserable lack of method and obsolete index-system which prevents the Bodleian and other similar libraries from being in any sense useful, and converts them into mere chaotic book-repositories. If anyone connected with an Oxford University library had had a practical knowledge of indexing and cataloguing and the classification of books according to modern ideas, probably the appointment would have gone to him. But the Gaekwar has wisely decided to have none of the laborious manuscript catalogues, none of the useless and cumbersome indexes with which Young Oxford is provided, in the model libraries of Baroda. It seems incomprehensible that, with the lead which the British Museum and the London Library have given, the Universities, and particularly Oxford, should continue to muddle along with a system which was outgrown half a century ago, and has been discarded by every library worth its name the world over. If university reforms are in the air, here is one that is worth undertaking."

1 Those thoughtless as well as heartless--unthinking as well as unfeeling--librarians of India who do not see any difference between America and England in terms of library philosophy and practice may get their vision corrected if they read the above passage with a dispassionate mind.

My Comments

We believe the paper exploited the event to the best of its capacity through the art and craft of journalism. If the reference to the Gaekwar of Baroda as an "Oxford man" was "a figment of the kindly imagination" (as noted by Rice), so were the references to Borden as "Dr." (unless it was meant only as a compliment and courtesy and was intended to mean only the learned) and the "establishment" of a "chair of libraries" in Baroda. The Maharaja had invited Borden, a public librarian, not to adorn a chair at a university (there was no university in Baroda at that time) but to plan and establish a public library system--a chain of libraries. Furthermore, the paper had used one more imagination when it stated that Borden was "of Yale University." Of course, Borden had worked in a Library forming part of Yale, but only for a very short period (during the years 1895/97).

Then he went back to the YMI public library, which post he held until he left for Baroda.

He was certainly not "of Yale University" at the time of his appointment.

BORDEN'S CONTRIBUTION: SURVEY OF LIBRARIES IN BARODA

Arrival in Baroda

/Borden/arrives in Baroda

/Borden/discusses lib. plans with Sayajirao in London

/Sayajirao/discusses lib. plans with Borden in London

As stated earlier, Borden reached Baroda on November 6, 1910.

Sayajirao was still in Europe. Borden had met him in England on his way from home to India, and they had discussed the library plans and proposals. This is evident from the fact that the Maharaja did not return to Baroda until the end of the year and Borden had started the work as soon as he had reached Baroda.

/Sayajirao/returns to India after world tour

/Sayajirao/on Borden's appointment

/Sayajirao/plans for public libraries in Baroda

Sayajirao returned to Bombay after his world tour on 17 December 1910. He was presented with an Address of Welcome in Bombay. Replying to it, he informed his admirers that while returning from America he had brought along with him a library expert. He hoped that several beneficial results would be achieved through his help. He had been thinking for many years of establishing a network of free public libraries throughout his State. He was not sure how far he would succeed, but he would not remain exclusively dependent upon it.

1 This account is based on Shah, pp. 131ff.

Preliminary Survey

/Sayajirao/hopes for library development through Borden

/Motibhai/work well-known in Baroda

/Motibhai/appointed Asst. to Dir. of State Libs.

/Motibhai/reaches Baroda (1911)

/Borden/surveys libraries in Baroda

The work of Motibhai was well known in the State. The Government appointed him as an Assistant to the Director of State Libraries. Motibhai went to Baroda on January 4, 1911. When he arrived there, the Central Library had already started functioning (stress added). Plans were being worked out for the establishment of a State-wide public library system. It was necessary for Borden to make an exhaustive survey of the library conditions then existing in the State before he could prepare any comprehensive plan for the future library development. Also, he had to visit important towns like Patan, Sidhpur, and Dabhoi. Motibhai was asked to accompany him.

/Motibhai/accompanies Borden on survey of Baroda libs.

2 Borden had no knowledge of the primary (local) regional language, i.e. Gujarati. Motibhai must have served as a competent interpreter.

This was written before 1969. As an after-thought or a post-script I might add that in many large towns the leaders of the people and the teachers in the schools might be already conversant with English. And what about the state officials? It may be different in small villages of the interior.

BORDEN IN BARODA--BORDEN INITIATES HIS PLANS--19 DECEMBER 1910

1 This is the text of the plan. It was incorporated into my Baroda study (PLMB). Source :

Baroda State Records [1910-1911] 1, ex.no.1 pp.1-10.

This is a direct quotation.

Capitalization and punctuation marks generally retained to preserve the flavor of the original.

/Borden/on state of libraries in Baroda
start /Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/

On 19 December 1910 Borden submitted the following library plan to the Maharaja:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS.

I find the library situation in Baroda not only in advance of the rest of India, but much in advance of what I had been led to expect: and I had expected considerable.

There are several rather good libraries in Baroda City, the Palace Library, the Shri Sayaji Library, the Baroda College Library, the State Library and the one in the office of the Minister of Education. All of these are roughly classified by subject, are catalogued to a certain extent, and aggregate about 40,000 vols.

There are also in Baroda City several collections of books in connection with the various State Departments; Those in the Dewan's Office, the Museum, the Department of Agriculture, the Military Department, the Chief Engineer's Office, the Purdah Reading Room, and probably other places I have not yet found.

Distributed through Baroda State are several other Libraries, owned by the Municipalities and not under State control, but which, without a doubt, could be brought under the control of a Central Library System if proper inducements were offered. Of these there are:

In Baroda Prant 14 Aggregating 14,139 vols.

Kadi	11	6,770
Navsari	9	12,688
Amreli	6	6,018
-----	---	-----
All	40	39,615

There are also, one hundred and ninety-one very small Libraries in connection with the schools in various towns and

villages of the State, and under the control of the Department of Education. These Libraries though individually small, yet aggregate about 25,000 vols., and, being already organised, they offer the best kind of foundation on which one may build something better.

Thus I find that there are in Baroda State something over 241 Libraries, aggregating a little over 100,000 vols.; some under municipal control, some under the control of the Department of Education, one under the control of YOUR HIGHNESS, and one under the control of Shrimant Sampatrao Saheb.

I do not find any of these libraries adequately housed, nor do I find them shelved in such a manner as to make them most attractive to readers or convenient to those in charge. At the same time, those I have examined are excellently selected, are managed by intelligent and courteous Librarians and Assistants, and would undoubtedly be much used were their contents made easily accessible and their surroundings more attractive to the ordinary reading public.

/Department of Public Libraries (Baroda)/proposed

/Children's Library (Baroda)/proposed

/Women's Library (Baroda)/proposed

/Travelling library service/Baroda/proposed

Should YOUR HIGHNESS feel disposed to grant me the necessary authority, I propose to organise a Department of Public Libraries, to rank with the other Departments of Your State, with the necessary equipment of officers & clerks, etc., and to bring all the Libraries above mentioned under its control and management; to bring all the books now distributed among these Libraries in Baroda City into one Central Library (except such technical books as bear directly upon the work of each Department); to add to this Central library, as fast as the Library force can properly catalogue and classify them, such general and technical books as a well rounded collection should have, to be of general use; to erect a suitable Library Building, of fire proof construction, large enough to hold such collections, with the accompanying reading rooms, study rooms, Women's Library, Children's Library, Lecture Hall, Library

School, and Executive Offices; to make that Library the Free Public Library of Baroda City, and also the main store-house for all the valuable historical documents and papers now in private hands in the State, but which the owners would probably be glad to have stored in a safe place; to make it also the center from which Travelling Libraries should start and from which the books, new and old, could be distributed to the various Branch Libraries in the different towns, cities and villages of the State.

[Borden capitalizes "Library," but not the preceding adjective.]

/Central Library (Baroda)/building/proposed
/Classification/Borden's scheme for Baroda/proposed
/Borden/classification scheme for Baroda libraries

I have prepared a ground plan of such a library building (in consultation with Mr. Coyle, the State Engineer) that will be adopted [adapted?] to a tropical climate, as well as to the different activities I have enumerated; and I have also prepared a properly graded system of classification, designed not only for this Central Library, but for all the branches of that Library, whether large or small. This plan and scheme of classification are herewith submitted, as a part of this report, for YOUR HIGHNESS's approval or criticism.

1 "Selections from the Baroda Records"
did not contain copies of these two enclosures. They must have accompanied the original but got separated. Borden's Scheme was published subsequently. So we know what it was. But we have no idea of the nature and scope of the library building plan.

/Borden/library training/Baroda
/Library training/Baroda/proposed by Borden

I further propose to select a class from the most intelligent of the present Librarians, and to instruct that class in practical Library work and in the theory of Librarianship, so that they can assist me in the classification and the cataloguing

of the books now in the various Libraries or to be purchased for them, and with their assistance (after having thus done practical library work) to ultimately found a Library School that can graduate expert assistants for the main Library and the different branch Libraries of the State.

Such a plan as I have thus roughly sketched would naturally take some years for its accomplishment, and although the expense of it, in its entirety, might be considerable, it would be distributed somewhat evenly over five years or more, and would be considered, from the increase in the national intelligence it would foster as good an investment of capital as one could make.

Personally, I would gladly take charge of such a work, if arrangements can be made therefor that shall be mutually satisfactory; and should I do so I have no hesitation in making the assertion [original has assertion!] that I can give the State of Baroda the finest system of Libraries and the finest Library Building in India, and a Library that will take its place with other well-known Libraries of other countries; and, what I conceive to be of still more importance, a library that will be much used by the people of Baroda State and be of much use to them, and a library of which YOUR HIGHNESS may well be proud.

I have the honor to be
YOUR HIGHNESS'S most obedient
servant

Baroda

Dec. 19th 1910.

W. A. Borden

end /Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/

Borden--1910 (Dec. end)

/Sayajirao/wishes to discuss Borden's proposal

Maharaja Sayajirao returned to Baroda on December 19, 1910. Borden had submitted his proposals to the Maharaja on the same day. Maharaja's

ADC wrote to Dewan Saheb from Lakshmi Vilas Palace on December 28, 1910:

"His Highness Maharaja Sayajirao wishes [you] to bring Mr. W. A. Borden with you to him one of these days to discuss his Library scheme in his Highness's presence.

Thus we see that His Highness expressed his desire to see Borden within ten days of his arrival in the capital.

First Royal Order

Here is the first Royal Order on Borden's Primary Library Plan for Baroda:

HUZUR ORDER

B

H.K.K.E.D.H.O.No.I

Mr. Seddon and Mr. Masani should discuss this proposal with Mr. Borden and then submit the matter for final Orders to Huzur.

L. V. Palace
21-12-10

By order
Shiv Raj Singh
A-D-C

To be filed.

Huzur order

Ex. No. 2

start /Masani, A. M./on Borden's library proposal
start /Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/Masani on,
/Central Library (Baroda)/Masani on,

A. M. Masani, Vidyadhikari, supported Borden as follows:

Mr. Borden the Library specialist, has submitted a short scheme of library organization in Baroda, bringing all the scattered collections of books into one central library, amalgamating Shri Sayaji Library and the Palace Library and

bringing them under one roof. His suggestions are based on his varied practical experience of large public libraries in America and Europe, and the system of classification that he has proposed is the outcome of the close study of library economy and practical utility of various systems of Library classification including Decimal classification of Dewey, Director of New York State Library.

/Dewey Decimal Classification system/practical utility

/Classification/Borden's scheme for Baroda/Masani on,

2. In various libraries in Europe and America the Decimal system of Dewey is greatly in vogue, as to make out a new set of heads would involve great labour. [Question mark on the margin in the original!]. However, as Baroda is fortunate in securing the services of a specialist, his experience should be turned to good accounts and his labours and investigations may be fully utilised. Hence it is a practical wisdom not to interfere with the method of classification devised and elaborated by Mr. Borden, it had better be adopted in its entirety.

/Borden/finds Baroda libraries more progressive than he imagined

3. It is a source of great satisfaction to learn that Mr. Borden found the State [capital in original] of Baroda libraries was [!] more progressive than he at first imagined. [Not good writing in terms of construction and grammar. By the way, the original is typed, and has corrections in hand.] There are 241 libraries in all, and about 1,00,000 volumes. Though the books already in libraries are well selected, the various sections of the field of knowledge are not sufficiently well represented. To make the collection complete, Mr. Borden proposes to add in course of time as many as 1,30,000 volumes to those already collected, to reorganise the whole system of Baroda libraries and to place them on a more satisfactory basis[,] the purchase of books is quite essential. The sum of Rs.25,000 may be sanctioned for the purchase of new books. When the sum is fully spent, ??????????????

/Central Library (Baroda)/purchase of books for,/Masani on,

/Department of Public Libraries (Baroda)/Masani on,

4. The question of organizing a new department of public libraries to rank with the other departments of the State may be

considered at a later stage.

/Central Library (Baroda)/building/Masani on,

5. If it be decided to amalgamate the various libraries, the problem of providing a capacious architectural building has to be first solved. The plans of the building submitted by Mr. Borden afford full accommodation, and comprise rooms for the special needs of the various activities of the library, the women and children libraries being the characteristic features. The cost is estimated at from Rs. 3 to 4 lacs. Whether such an extraordinary expenditure can be borne without a financial strain is for the Government to judge. There is a pressing demand for good schoolhouses from all quarters and it is scantily met at a very slow rate.

/Children's Library (Baroda)/Masani on,

/Women's Library (Baroda)/Masani on,

6. It will be some time before the children's library and purdah women library will be in real demand. There is a women library in the Baroda City where attendance is not very satisfactory. It is in the heart of the City --- Ghadiali pole --- where ladies can quietly come and go and their wants are attended to by a lady librarian. When the Educational Department wanted to attach this library to the Female Training College building, it was the opinion of the Lady Superintendent that very few will come to such a public place. Under these circumstances, it may happen that the ladies may not come forward to take advantage of the Purdah reading room in the Public Library.

1 This fear was found baseless, because the Ladies' Library section in the Central Library was very heavily used from the very beginning.

/Library training/Baroda/Masani on,

7. The proposal to form a Library class is commendable. A class may be started in Baroda College and held in the morning to enable the Baroda educated class, who are engaged during the day

2 It is assumed that Baroda offices worked in the late morning or early afternoon.

time and who feel interested in the Library work, to attend. Mr. Borden wants to train ten intelligent graduates in practical method of classification and wishes them to work during office hours under his general supervision and assist him in classifying and cataloguing the books. The library staff at present engaged in Baroda libraries will be drafted into this work and five additional graduates may be selected on a salary of Rs.50/ each to be trained up specially for library work.

) Sd/ A. M. Masani.
)

Baroda, 24th December, 1910) Minister of Education.

end /Masani, A. M./on Borden's library proposal
end /Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/Masani on,

/Seddon, C. N., Dewan/on Borden's library proposal
/Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/Seddon on,
OPINION [of the Dewan]

I have discussed the matter with Mr. Masani and agree with

The proposed scheme,) what he writes:- that is, provided we though good, is not) are ready to spend a good deal of money. necessary, just at) In my opinion, indeed, the building present)

/Central Library (Baroda)/building/Seddon on,
/Central Library (Baroda)/purchase of books for,/Seddon on,
/Library training/Baroda/Seddon on,

of a large Central Library, the stocking of it with a large number of additional books, and the

training of a small body of Librarians, are luxuries. It does not appear to me that the time has yet come when such a thing can be considered in any way necessary [underlining in original] to our continued development. We are spending a good deal on Education, and in the successful prosecution of our endeavours, there are many urgent needs, and much money must be spent upon them. If the money so badly wanted for these things is diverted into another course, I should be very sorry. I trust it will not be so.

25-12-10 C. N. Seddon
 Offig. Dewan

/Seddon, C. N., Dewan/condemns Borden's library proposal

1 Seddon was an imperialist Englishman, loyal to his Empire, but a true enemy of India's progress. A snake will only emit venom! Those ignorant as well as arrogant librarians of India, who try to tell us that the Indian libraries and librarianship were equally helped by the British are not speaking the whole truth. Or they are simply pretending. Maybe they are jealous of America. They know the whole truth but are not honest enough to tell it. It is to be further noted that Seddon was merely an "Officiating Dewan." Even the dust cleans the mirror. Seddon's destructive comments might have given birth to Maharaja's Noble Library Creed wherein he has probably alluded to Seddon's branding libraries as "luxuries"!

A general note:
There are many spelling errors.

/Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/approved
FINAL ROYAL ORDER on BORDEN'S PROPOSAL (1910)

Huzur Order No. H.K.K.E.D. h-o*. No. 1/6:

The Idea of the Central Library is Approved.

The idea of the Central Library as indicated in Mr. Borden's report is approved and it will be taken up in sections from time to time, so that when the whole building is finished it will be one harmonious whole as indicated in the plan. Separate rooms for men, for women, and for children should first be provided for in this Central Building.

Re--Instruction Class.

2. His Highness has already been pleased to pass an order about opening an Instruction class in Library work. This class should consist of ten men, five of whom would be selected by His Highness as being men qualified to collect information in different branches of learning*, should His Highness desire such information, and who would be in receipt of scholarships of Rs. 25/- per mensem provided they bind themselves to serve the State after they are duly qualified in Library work. In addition to these ten men Mr. Kudalkar and others connected with Libraries should also be trained in this Library work.

/Kudalkar, J. S./recommended for library training

Re--Abolishing Branch Libraries.

3. At least for the present there is no necessity of abolishing Branch Libraries in State Departments.

Re--Sanction for Purchasing Books.

4. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has been pleased to sanction a sum of Rs. 10,000/- (ten thousand) per year for the purchase of new books, if necessary. These books should properly represent all branches of knowledge, or at least those branches in which the people appear to be interested. The sanction for the amount of Rs. 10,000 is deferred until a proper organization of buildings is made when a fresh tippan may be submitted.

1 Neither the Government nor the Maharaja always gave in full what was asked for. Vidyadhikari recommended Rs. 25,000/-. Maharaja gave only Rs. 10,000/-. Even that sanction was deferred!

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has been pleased to pass the above order today in the order book.

Baroda

(signed) K. V. Sarangpani

BORDEN'S FIRST PROPOSALS TO THE MAHARAJA (1910)

My Comments

/Borden/surveys libraries in Baroda

/Borden/on state of libraries in Baroda

On 19 December 1910 Borden reported to the Maharaja: "I find the library situation in Baroda not only in advance of the rest of India, but much in advance of what I had been led to expect: and I had expected considerable."

According to Borden, there were several rather good libraries in Baroda city, the Palace library, the Shri Sayaji Library, the Baroda College Library, the State Library, and the one in the Office of the Minister of Education. All of these were roughly classified by subject, were catalogued in a certain extent, and housed a total of about forty thousand volumes.

There were also in Baroda City several other collections of books in the libraries of various State Departments: those in the Dewan's Office, the Museum, the Department of Agriculture, the Military Department, the Chief Engineer's Office, the Purdah Reading Room, and probably other places which Borden had not yet discovered.

Distributed through Baroda State were several other libraries, owned by the municipalities and not under State control, but which, "without a doubt, could be brought under the control of a central library system if proper inducements were offered." The following table presents the details:

Prant	Libraries	Volumes
Baroda	14	14,189

Kadi	11	6,770
Navsari	9	12,688
Amreli	6	6,018
-----	-----	-----
Total	40	39,615

There were also 191 very small school libraries in various towns and villages of the State and under the control of the Department of Education. These libraries, though individually small, held about 25,000 volumes, and being already organized, they offered the best kind of foundation on which one might build something better.

Borden continued:

Thus I find that there are in Baroda State something over 241 libraries holding a little over 100,000 volumes; some under municipal control, some under the control of the Department of Education, one under the control of Your Highness, and one under the control of Shrimant Sampatrao Saheb.

Borden did not find any of those libraries adequately housed, nor did he find them shelved in such a manner as to make them most attractive to readers or convenient to those in charge. At the same time, those he had examined contained books well-selected, were managed by intelligent and courteous librarians and assistants, and would have undoubtedly been much used were their contents made more attractive to the ordinary reading public.

/Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/
Borden proposed:

Should Your Highness feel disposed to grant me the necessary authority, I propose to organize a Department of Public Libraries, to rank with the other Departments of Your State, with the necessary equipment of officers and clerks, etc. and to bring all the Libraries above mentioned under its control and management.

Borden's proposals further included:

- 1) To unify all the collections of books in Baroda City into one Central Library;
- 2) To add to this Central Library general and technical books;
- 3) To erect a suitable Library building of fire-proof construction, with Reading Rooms, Study Rooms, Women's Library, Children's Library, Lecture Hall, Library School, and Executive Offices;
- 4) To make that Library the Free Public Library of Baroda City, and also the main store-house for all the valuable historical documents and papers now in private hands in the State, but which the owners would probably be glad to have stored in a safe place;
- 5) To make it also the center from which Travelling Libraries should start and from which the books, new and old, could be distributed to the various branch libraries in the different towns, cities, and villages of the State.

/Central Library (Baroda)/building/proposed

Borden had prepared a ground plan of such a library building (in consultation with the State Engineer), adopted to a tropical climate, and suited to the different activities; and he had also prepared a properly graded system of classification, designed not only for the Central Library, but for all the branches of the Library whether large or small.

Borden further proposed to select a class from the "most intelligent of the present librarians," and to instruct that class in practical library work and in the theory of librarianship, so that they could assist him in the classification and cataloguing of the books then

available in the various libraries or to be purchased for them with their assistance (after having thus done practical library work) to ultimately found a Library School that could graduate expert assistants for the main library and the different branch libraries of the State.

It was realized that such a plan as Borden had sketched would naturally take some years for its accomplishment, and although the expense of it in its entirety might be considerable, it would be distributed somewhat evenly over five years or more, and "would be considered, from the increase in the national intelligence it would foster, as good an investment of capital as one could make."

Borden concluded:

"Personally, I would gladly take charge of such a work, if arrangements can be made therefor that shall be mutually satisfactory; and should I do so I have no hesitation in making the assertion that I can give the State of Baroda the finest system of libraries and the finest library building in India, and a library that will take its place with other well-known libraries of other countries; and, what I conceive to be of still more importance, a library that will be much used by the people of Baroda State and be of much use to them; and a library of which Your Highness may well be proud.

/Masani, A. M./on Borden's library proposal
/Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/Masani on,
The Maharaja invited the opinions of the Minister of Education, Mr. Masani and the Dewan, Mr. Seddon.

In general Mr. Masani's reaction was favorable. He agreed that Borden's suggestions were based on his varied practical experience of large public libraries in America and Europe.

1 Similar sentiments were expressed also in the "Testimonial" (i.e. farewell address) presented to Borden when he left Baroda.

Masani made some interesting remarks regarding Dewey's system of classification and recommended that Borden's proposed scheme of classification be accepted as it was, without making any change therein, on the ground that it was "a practical wisdom not to interfere with the method of classification devised and elaborated (?)" by an expert. He was highly satisfied that Borden found Baroda library situation so progressive.

On Borden's proposal to add a collection of 130,000 volumes to those already existing, Masani recommended an initial book grant of Rs. 25,000/- to be augmented when further amounts were needed. Masani approved the plan of building. The cost was about Rs. 4 lakhs. He commented: "Whether such an extraordinary expenditure can be borne without a financial strain is for the Government to judge. There is a pressing demand for good school houses from all quarters and it is scantily met at a very slow rate."

Masani believed that it would be some time before children's Libraries and Purdah Women's Libraries would be in real demand and use. There was already a women's library in the heart of the city, but it was not used much. Masani was afraid ladies might not come to the Central Public Library.

With regard to the Library School, Masani said: The proposal to form a Library class is commendable. He proposed starting the class in the Baroda College in the mornings so that the working people could derive the benefit. He also recommended a stipend of Rs. 50/- p.m. to the students.

/Seddon, C. N., Dewan/on Borden's library proposal
/Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/Seddon on,
Mr. Seddon, the officiating Dewan, seemingly agreed

1 Seddon was extremely clever, cunning, and cruel. Was he not an imperialist British? He seemingly agreed, but in reality condemned the whole scheme. In one of his speeches, the Maharaja enunciated his library creed, wherein he argued that the libraries were not "luxuries." Probably, he was reacting to the adverse views expressed by the Dewan, a British civil servant! He was the only British ever to serve the

Maharaja as a Dewan. The snake can only emit venom!

with Masani and said that the scheme could be implemented "provided we are ready to spend a good deal of money." He added, however:

2 It is to be noted that Baroda was already reputed as holding progressive views. If there was any danger to the Great Britain's British Empire in India from any part of the vast sub-continent, it was from such a region as Baroda. Naturally, therefore, a pillar of the empire would not approve any enlightenment in Baroda.

/Seddon, C. N., Dewan/clever, cunning, and cruel

In my opinion, indeed, the building of a large central library, the stocking of it with a large number of additional books, and the training of a small body of librarians, are luxuries. It does not appear to me that the time has yet come when such a thing can be considered in any way necessary [underlining in original] to our continued development.

According to Seddon, the State was already spending a good deal on education,

3 Seddon forgot that the expenditure on libraries was merely the premium for insuring the safety and preservation of what was invested in education.

and in the successful prosecution of their endeavors there were many urgent needs, and much money had to be spent upon them. Seddon did not stop there. He concluded: "If the money so badly wanted for these things is diverted into another course, I should be very sorry. I trust it will not be so."

/Seddon, C. N., Dewan/condemns Borden's library proposal

/Sayajirao/accepts Borden's library proposal

/Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/approved

Nevertheless, the Maharaja accepted Borden's proposals, at least in

principle, and ordered that the whole scheme might be implemented in phases, stages, or installments. This view is further strengthened by the fact that Borden was given the necessary authority and was allowed to continue his work in Baroda for another three years. The Royal order, sanctioning Borden's proposal decreed:

1. The idea of the Central Library is approved.
2. Separate rooms for men, women, and children should be first provided.
3. Instruction in Library work be initiated.
4. Branch libraries in the State Department should not be abolished.
5. Rs. 10,000/- sanctioned for books.

1 Royal Order No. H.K.K.E.D.H.O. No. A/6 Feb. 1, 1911.

1st February 1911.

Naib Dewan

RULES FOR THE FORMATION OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES PROPOSED

Selections from the Baroda State Records

/Borden/Rules for the Formation of Free Public Libraries
/Rules for the Formation of Free Public Libraries

On 8 May 1911 Borden submitted for sanction the "Rules for the Formation of Free Public Libraries" and a request for Rs. 24,996/- for the following:

/Village libraries/funding grant
/Town (Taluka) libraries/funding grant
/Prant libraries/funding grant

Total estimated no. of Heads of Expenditure	Libraries requesting grants/ Amount of grants	Total Grant
Village Libraries	300/20	Rs. 6000
Town Libraries	30/150	Rs. 4500
Prant Libraries	3/500	Rs. 1500
Building Grant		Rs.12000
Establishment		Rs. 996

Rs. 24,996/-		

The Minister of Education agreed in general with Borden's proposals. However, he had doubts if the local boards would contribute their share--one third of Rs. 24,996/-. He said: "Will the finances of the Boards be in a position to contribute one third of the budgeted amount?"

Borden did not believe that the maximum amount permissible under the Rules would be provided (raised) by the people. The numerator is the expected amount of local contribution, while the denominator is the maximum permissible. [This sentence not very clear. Needs verification.] Thus the maximum amounts prescribed in 1911 were more than adequate.

The Minister of Education also recommended that there should be more than one library in a town. He stated: "It will be better to start a new library with Government aid in addition to the one already existing supported from private funds which may be allowed to stand on its own resources."

/Masani, A. M./recommends more than one library per town
/Prant libraries/trained librarian expected to staff

Masani was a library-minded generous official. He wanted the three Prant libraries at Patan, Amreli, and Navsari to have a complete collection of books published in Gujarati. Each of the three libraries was expected to have a trained librarian.

One of the most important recommendations of Masani was to omit the

words "if the funds at their [of the Panchayats] disposal allow" on page six line five and on page nine line six, "as the Prant Panchayats will never come forward to make any voluntary contribution." However, this modification was not accepted by the Government. Otherwise the history of the Baroda libraries would have been quite different. Vidyadhikari's "remarks" are dated 11 May 1911. The Accountant-General supported the Vidyadhikari. He too did not want the local boards to be exempted from contributing their share. He said: "The Local Boards need not be exempted from contributing to the present expenses of the scheme. It is said that the Local Boards have no money at their disposal. This is not correct."

/Accountant-General on Borden's funding request

Borden requested Rs. 24,996/- but only Rs. 5000/- were sanctioned. The Accountant-General said: "The present year will be one of scarcity, if not of famine, and people will find it hard to contribute.

Borden asked for extra posts of staff. The Accountant-General reacted: "To go so fast in the direction of organization of libraries seems to me to be of doubtful utility."

/Borden/first proposal for Baroda Central Library/approved

The Proposal of the Director of State Libraries was sanctioned by the Council with the slight alterations made in the Rules 2, 8, 21, and 23 on 27-6-11.

The Library Department was created under H. O. No. a/19 30-1-11 for the purpose of organizing libraries in Baroda State.

Originally the Director of State Libraries (Borden) was paid Rs. 750/- p.m., Amin 100/-.

Borden requested a total of Rs. 18,389 for the operation of the Library Department for the first year to be expended on books, staff, etc.

2

RULES FOR THE FORMATION OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The Text

/Borden/Rules for the Formation of Free Public Libraries
/Rules for the Formation of Free Public Libraries

Borden's Immortal Work--An Important Document

Whereas it is the laudable aim of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb to create taste for reading among his subjects and to spread knowledge far and wide by an extensive use of books, newspapers, periodicals, etc. and to open free public reading rooms and libraries in villages, towns and cities, it is provided under Huzur orders as follows:

1 Selections from the Baroda Records, Doc. No. 53.

This Preamble was added to the "Rules" by Legal Remembrancer, Nyaya Mantri, Manubhai N. Mehta. The "Rules" were drafted by Borden, of course, assisted by Motibhai and perhaps by Kudalkar as well. Originally the "Preamble" was not numbered. Hence there is a difference in numbering in this text and that given by Dutt.

These Rules may be called "Free Public Library Rules."

Village Libraries:

1. When the citizens of any village shall raise the sum of Rs. 50/- annually for the maintenance of a free reading room, the Panchayat of the Prant shall, if the funds at their disposal allow,

2 A very controversial clause.

pay to the said reading room a further sum of Rs. 50/- annually for the maintenance of a reading room or library or both, and the Central Library Department will also pay the said reading room the sum of Rs. 50/- annually.

Should the citizens of the said village raise a less sum than Rs. 50/- annually, then the amounts received from the Panchayat and the Central Library Department shall be proportionately reduced.

2. When the citizens of any village shall raise by subscription, donation or other means, the sum of Rs. 25/- and shall pay the same to the Central Library Department, the same Department will present them with Vernacular books of the value of Rs. 100/- selected by a committee of three gentlemen appointed by the Dewan [originally, His Highness]. Such books shall form a public library and shall be free to be drawn out by all citizens of the said village, under such rules and regulations as the subscribers or the local committee of management of the said Library may frame.

3. Each free public library so organized in a village shall be entitled to receive the regular travelling libraries of vernacular books sent out by the Central Library Department.

Town Libraries:

4. When the inhabitants of any village or town having a population of more than 4,000 shall raise by subscription, donation or other means any sum, not exceeding Rs. 300/- annually, for the maintenance of a free public library in that village or town, the municipality or

1 Subsequently changed to "and."

the Prant Panchayat shall, if the funds at their disposal allow, and the Central Library Department, will, each furnish an equal amount annually for the maintenance of the said Library.

5. Such Town Libraries shall be entitled to receive the regular travelling libraries of Vernacular books and also the regular travelling libraries of English books.

6. Each Town Library so organized shall have the general control of all such village libraries in its neighborhood as the Central Library Department may assign to it, and shall see that they receive the regular travelling libraries of vernacular books.

7. The Central Library Department will be ready to consider any proposal for the establishment of extra free reading rooms in any town or village.

Prant Libraries:

8. When the citizens of any Prant shall raise by subscription, donation, or other means, any sum not exceeding Rs. 700/- annually, for the maintenance of a Central Library for that Prant, the said library to be situated in the city containing the Government Headquarters, the Prant or the municipality

2 Original--"Panchayat may, and." Thus "shall, if . . . and" is a correction.

Panchayat shall, if the funds at their disposal allow, and the Central Library Department will each furnish a like amount annually for the same purpose.

Each Prant Library shall be subordinate to the Central Library Department.

9. Central Prant Libraries shall have the general control of all the Town Libraries of that Prant.

Library Buildings for Villages and Towns and Prants:

10. When the inhabitants of any village or town having a free public library shall raise by subscription, donation or other means one third of the sum necessary to erect an adequate library building the Prant Panchayat and the Central Library Department may

1 The condition of the availability of the funds at the disposal of the Prant Panchayats was not applicable in the case of the building grants. It was still "may" and not "shall.

furnish the

other two-thirds of the said sum for the erection of the said building, provided the plans of the said building meet the approval of the Central Library Department.

Hours of Opening:

11. Every village library or reading room of the State shall be open for reading and for the free circulation of books at least 14 hours every week and shall be open for at least two hours on every holiday.

12. Each town Library or Reading Room and each Prant Library of the State shall be open for reading and for the free circulation of books at least six hours on every day of the year, holidays included; preference, however, should be given to the hours that are not office hours.

Reports and Control:

13. Each village Library of the State shall send a quarterly report of its work to the Town Library to which it is attached on blank forms furnished for that purpose.

14. Each Town Library of the State shall send a quarterly report of its own work and the work of the Village Libraries under its control to the Central Prant Library on blank forms furnished for that purpose.

15. Each Central Prant Library shall send a quarterly report of its own work and work of each Village and Town library under its control to the Central Library Department at Baroda on blank forms furnished for that purpose.

16. Should there be no Central Town Library in any Taluka, each village or town library shall send its quarterly reports to the Central Prant Library of its Prant.

17. Should there be no Central Prant Library in any Prant, each Library otherwise obliged to report to such Prant Library, will send in its quarterly reports directly to the Central Library Department at Baroda.

Expenditures:

18. All village libraries of the State receiving Government aid shall expend their entire income in each year in the following manner and proportion so far as practicable.

For Books	25 percent
For Periodicals	30 percent
For rent and furnishing	20 percent
For the increase of any or all the above items, or for any other library use	25 percent

19. All Town and Prant Libraries of the State receiving Government aid shall expend their entire income in each year in the following manner and proportion so far as practicable.

For books	25 percent
For periodicals	15 percent
For furnishings	10 percent
For maintenance	25 percent
For increase of any or all of the above items or any other Library use	25 percent

Librarians, Staff, etc.:

20. Each village library shall be under the direct charge of the village school master or some other responsible person duly appointed by the subscribers or the local committee of management.

21. Each Town Library shall employ as many servants as are necessary for its purpose, and shall also employ a librarian. Town libraries having yearly income of Rs. 500/- shall employ (a librarian, preference being given to a candidate who may)

1 () In original only "a librarian who shall have.

have passed the 1st year of the Training College or the English 5th standard. The librarian shall have direct charge of the said Library and be responsible for its proper conduct.

22. Each Central Prant Library shall have as many sepoys and clerks as are necessary for its work and one or more librarians as may be necessary, who shall be of the same standard as the librarians of the Town Libraries. The Librarian or Chief Librarian shall have a competent knowledge of library science, and shall have direct charge of the Library and be responsible for its proper conduct.

Management:

23. The management of all Village, Town or Prant Libraries of the State shall vest in a committee of from 3 to 9 persons who shall be elected annually by the whole body of subscribers to the annual fund of the said library.

Pending the election of a new committee the existing or old committee shall continue in office.

Vacancies in the committee during the year may be filled up by selection by the committee.

Every committee may frame rules for the conduct of its own business, and for the election of members and may also make rules and regulations for the library or reading room. (A copy of such Rules and Regulations shall be sent to the Director of State Libraries.)

1 The sentence enclosed in parenthesis here was an addition.

/Travelling library service/Baroda
Travelling Libraries:

24. Subscription, club, or other Libraries in the State not aided pecuniarily by the Government may, with the consent of the Central

Library Department, receive either the Vernacular or the English travelling libraries or both.

Open and Free:

/Free access to tax-supported libraries in Baroda

25. All libraries established under these Rules, or which receive Government aid in any shape shall be open and free to the public without distinction of caste, race or creed.

Government Contribution:

26. The contributions payable by Government under these Rules will not be paid to more than one library in any village or town; and all Government grants to libraries are liable to be reduced or withdrawn at the pleasure of Government after giving one year's notice to the library concerned.

Government Control:

27. All State aided Libraries shall be under the supervision and control of the Government.

Library Taxation:

28. The Government will be prepared to consider favourably any proposal that may be made by a Prant Panchayat or any other local body for raising funds for library purposes by means of special taxation such as the imposition of a small library rate, as for instance, one or two annas, annually, per head of the literate adult male population.

These "Rules" became the "Library Law" of the State under which all State-aided libraries in Baroda were organized and administered.

/Borden/Comprehensive Scheme
/Baroda/Library System/established (1911)
/Borden/Rules for the Formation of Free Public Libraries
/Rules for the Formation of Free Public Libraries

The basic request for the sanction of "The Rules for the Formation of Free Public Libraries" and of the expenditure of Rs. 24,996/- was submitted by Borden to the Council on 8 May 1911. The Rules had already been sanctioned by the Maharaja, yet the Naib Dewan ordered that they be submitted to the Council for approval.

In the very beginning Borden gives a "Short History":

"Since the His Highness Government had introduced the system of free and compulsory education throughout the State, and thereby enabled every boy and every girl to learn to read and write, it has been its supreme duty as a natural consequence of the same system to provide for its people materials of healthy literature that may inform, inspire and build character. This can be done effectively and economically only through public libraries.

"Knowledge, to be accessible to all the classes of people, rich and poor alike, must be free as air or water."

1 Very valuable thought.

The proposal of Borden for creating the Central Library Department is not included in this collection of documents. That he had made such a proposal, before he submitted the Rules for sanction, is evidenced by the following statement:

In paragraph 1, sub-paragraph 4 of the Tippet regarding [the] creation of the Central Library Department submitted to and sanctioned by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, the fourth function of the Central Library Department was briefly

mentioned as under:

- [1] Organizing libraries in various Talukas of Baroda State and
- [2] Especially creating a taste and a desire in the people for having libraries of their own in their own villages.
- [3] Putting the existing libraries on a better footing and
- [4] Opening new libraries whenever necessary.

Borden then elaborates how the above objectives are to be achieved. He says: "In brief the Central Library will undertake to create a demand for good reading and to awaken a sense of obligation which rests on every citizen to make his neighbor, so far as possible, a reader of good books."

"Efforts of the people to organize libraries and to put them on sound basis have not met with complete success.

"To accomplish the ends mentioned above, it is necessary that the Government and the Panchayat should enter into complete cooperation with the people."

Some notes on the Two Million Rupee Plan
/Two Million Rupee Library Plan
/Borden/Scheme for Organization of Libs. in Baroda

Borden had submitted "A Report on Borden's Scheme for the Organization of Libraries in Baroda" for His Highness on 21 July 1911. His Highness ordered that it be re-submitted in the form of a proposal. So Borden submitted it again on 20 March 1912.

Borden first divides the towns and villages into several groups:

/Baroda Library System/
The Central Library was the first. Then came the Prant towns--Baroda, Navasari, Mehsana and Amreli. Next in importance were the large Taluka towns--Patan, Visnagar, Petlad, Sidhpur, Dabhoi, Vadnagar, Kadi, Sojitra,

Bhadran, Dwarka, Gandevi, and Vijapur. Then came the smaller towns with a population over 4,000. Fourthly came the villages with a population from 1,000 to 4,000. Lastly were the small villages with a population of less than 1,000.

"Their (of the towns and villages) coming forward with a part of the required outlay is a necessary prelude to the establishment of any library" (of any type) declared Borden.

Borden's conception of the Central Library is worth noting:

This is the one [organization] from which all the others are to be controlled; from which they are to receive travelling libraries and also the books not possessed by them individually; from which they are to look for expert help necessary to complete their organization; and to which they will all look for models in all forms of library activity.

The sanctioned book budget for 1911/12 was Rs. 13,000/- and Borden wanted to incorporate Sampatrao Library into the Central Library. He gave preference to large town libraries over Prant libraries because the Prant libraries were already good though not free. All large Taluka towns were ready to cooperate, smaller ones needed persuasion--they were "in need of missionary work," as Borden put it. Out of 387 villages in Baroda with over 1,000 population, 172 had their "libraries already, some active, some painfully passive." Part of their passivity was due to the a general lack of interest, the other part was due to the fact that the libraries presented to them by the government upon payment of Rs. 25/- had become altogether too small to retain their interest for any length of time.

Borden summarized his demands as follows:

Head	Whole Cost	Government Share
------	------------	------------------

Buildings	920,000	733,000
Books	326,000	306,000
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	1,246,000	1,039,000
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

This amount excluded annual maintenance.

1 A note: Borden's scheme may be further detailed here with the chart.

/Baroda/government/acts and reacts on Borden's proposals

The Commissioner for Education remarked:

/Commissioner for Education on Borden's proposals

The scheme submitted by the Director of State Libraries

2 The title of Borden stated in the official document is worth noting.

is a comprehensive and useful one and affords very instructive reading. It seems however too ambitious to be inaugurated now.

The N. Dewan commented:

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb attaches great importance to this subject of Library extension which is only a supplement to free compulsory education in towns and villages for the purpose of spreading knowledge. We shall therefore have to devise means whereby we can give effect to the proposed scheme when our finances are restored to their normal state.

The year was one of financial depression. The N. Dewan further believed that the taste for reading in the general public was too limited. A decade was too short a period to implement such an extensive scheme.

The Council noted the whole scheme, but decided that the sanction will be given on individual items, one at a time.

When subscription libraries were converted into free libraries the use of books increased.

**BORDEN'S COMPREHENSIVE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN
COSTING MORE THAN TWO MILLION RUPEES.**

**BORDEN CALLED IT
THE "SCHEME OF OPENING
LIBRARIES IN PRANTS, TOWNS AND VILLAGES.**

1 SBR Doc. No. 8, dated 20 March 1912. This is a direct quotation.

SHORT HISTORY

Tippan submitted as desired by His Highness.

1. In accordance with the wishes of His Highness communicated to the undersigned by Mr. Dhru, the Asst. Secretary, a report on the Scheme for the Organization of Libraries in Baroda State was submitted with this Office No. 11th dt 21-7-11. But His Highness, the Maharaja Saheb expressed his desire to submit the same in a tippan form for orders; hence this tippan.

Towns and villages divided into groups.

2. In order to present my Scheme for the Organization of the Libraries of Baroda State in a logical manner it is first necessary to divide the towns and villages into a few groups, and then deal with those groups mainly rather than the individual places.

Requirements of Prant Libraries.

3. GROUP B. First in order, after the Central Library at Baroda come the Prant Towns, Navasari, Mehsana and Amreli. These require large libraries, mostly English, and largely technical or administrative.

Requirements of Town Libraries.

4. GROUP C. Next in importance are the large Taluka towns, Pattan, Visnagar, Petlad, Sidhpur, Dabhoi, Vadnagar, Kadi, Sojitra, Bhadran, Dwarka, Gandevi and Vijapur. There are twelve of these towns and they require libraries of about 4000 vols. each, still largely English and technical, but with a good supply of vernacular books.

Requirements of smaller towns having a population of 4000.

5. GROUP D. Then come the smaller towns of the State, towns having a population of over 4000. Many of them are Taluka towns in as much as they are the seat of Taluka Government, but their smaller size will not permit them to enter the list of the first class towns. For these towns a library of 2,000 will be sufficient and as a general thing, these libraries should be largely vernacular, the quantity of English books varying with the number of the English-knowing inhabitants.

Requirements of villages having a population of 1000 to 4000.

6. GROUP E. Fourthly come the villages of from 1000 to 4000 inhabitants. A library of 500 vols. would be sufficient for these and it should in most cases be entirely in the vernacular.

Requirements of small villages.

7. GROUP F. Lastly come the small villages of less than 1000 inhabitants. It is quite doubtful if any general system of libraries

can be inaugurated for these, at least at present. The system of travelling libraries can be extended to include such of them as show signs of being able to appreciate such attention, and the question of permanent libraries for them, save in exceptional cases, be left for future consideration.

Prant and Taluka towns prepared to bear due proportion of burden.

8. But concerning all of these groups there is the great question of appreciation. To what extent will each individual of the group show a due appreciation of the advantages of the library it is proposed to found for them, by coming forward with a proportionate amount of the money such a library will cost? Their coming forward with a part of the required outlay is a necessary prelude to the establishment of an library.

By personal canvas we know that the Prant towns are an their due proportion of the burden; so also with many, if not all, of the large Taluka towns. With most of the smaller towns there is much doubt of their present interest in the matter. In the case of villages there is no doubt--they take no interest, save here and there; and that interest will have to be stimulated by missionary work.

Provision of a grant has to be made for towns in each group.

9. Although these towns will be considered in groups and exploited in like manner, it is not to be supposed that all the towns of any one group will come forward together; consequently provision must be made for satisfying each of them whenever it chooses to perform its part of the contract, whether we are working on the group to which it belongs or not. Thus it will be seen that some lee-way must be allowed for in the grants.

Question of Central Library to be considered.

10. GROUP A. Of all the libraries of the State, the first to be considered should be the Central Library at Baroda. This is the one from which all the others are to be controlled; from which they are to receive the travelling libraries and also the books not possessed by them individually; from which they are to look for the expert help

necessary to complete their organization; and to which they will look for models in all forms of library activity.

Present building found insufficient to accommodate books.
New building badly wanted.

11. At present this library is indifferently housed and can offer no models of children's rooms, women's rooms, reference rooms, or of scarcely anything; its stock of books is woefully insufficient, but there is at present no room for any more books than we already have, and hardly enough for them. We need a new building very badly. To be sure, the books "in sight" do not amount to more than 40,000, but as soon as we get our force of assistants to a point where they can take care of the books as they are purchased, and that time is now here, there should be accommodation for at least 100,000 books and, if possible double that number. What is to become the main store house for the books of the State, books to be drawn upon by at least three hundred libraries, should not only be of ample size to begin with, but capable of indefinite enlargement.

Question of the building according to the plan already sanctioned anxiously anticipated.

/Central Library (Baroda)/building/proposed

12. The ground plan of this building, with its various stack-rooms its Technical Library, Oriental Library & General Popular Library; general and special reading rooms; its library school, children's library, women's library, and study rooms; its administration building, printing office, and bindery; in short, all its modern varied activities was sanctioned by Your Highness some months ago. The sooner the erection of the building is begun the sooner will we see the beginning of the fructification of the plant so laboriously tended, and so anxiously anticipated.

The cost of the building to be distributed over three years.

13. The cost of this building, as estimated by the State Architect, will be about Rs. 4,00,000. The stacks and furniture will be at least Rs. 2,00,000 more. As the building can hardly be finished inside of two years and the furniture and the books stacks can not be put in, the

books transferred, or purchased, and the whole establishment settled down to steady work in much less than a year more, this expenditure can be distributed over three years, giving up Rs. 2,00,000 a year for that time.

The grant sanctioned for the purchase of books is sufficient at present.

14. The annual budget available for books for the Central Library for the coming year (1911-12) is Rs. 13,000. This should be sufficient, as I wish to see the cataloguing and classification of the Palace Library completed before more than the books required to keep it in touch with modern progress are purchased, and I also want to incorporate the Sampatrao library with it during the year. After the next year, however, I should wish to round out the combined libraries in subjects in which they are weak, so that when we have a completed building we will have a completed library to occupy it.

Question of Taluka Libraries to be considered.

15. Of next in importance to the Central Library are those in the large Taluka towns. The Prant Libraries can well wait until these are thoroughly established, as they have good libraries already, although they are not free.

Amount required for purchase of books in town libraries.

16. GROUP C. The twelve Taluka towns have libraries now but they are not as a rule worthy of the towns they cater to. The proper a Taluka Library should be at least 4000 books to start with, and liberal allowances should be made for periodicals and for maintenance. There should be a large proportion of English books as the English knowing population is mostly found in the large towns where there are English High Schools. I would recommend that Rs. 36,000 be expended in books for these libraries, the selection being made partly by the libraries themselves and partly by the Central Library, and the books distributed among the twelve libraries in such way as would give each Library about four or five thousand books.

Grant required for purchase of books in town libraries.

17. Six of these libraries have buildings already. Some of them are large enough to house the enlarged libraries, but others will need ? additions, while six will have to be built new. Rs. 40,000 should be enough to adequately house all of them. This sum can be raised by the citizens, the Panchayat and the Government contributing equally to it. In some cases. like Pattan, where but little outlay will be required on the building, the money contributed by the citizens and the Panchayat could be used for the purchase of books. In the main, however, I think their individual proportions of the money for the buildings will be all that can be expected from them for a year or so.

Maintenance charges for the twelve Taluka town libraries.

18. The maintenance of these libraries would be about Rs. 500/- a year each, or Rs. 6,000/- for the twelve which of course would be divided in the regular way.

Amount proposed as Government contribution if citizens and Panchayat contributed towards these expenses.

19. To summarize, I would recommend that if the citizens and Panchayats of these twelve towns will raise Rs. 26,600 for the buildings and Rs. 4,000 a year for maintenance, the Government may agree to give them Rs. 36,000 for books, Rs. 13,300 for buildings and an annual sum of Rs. 2,000 for maintenance. So far as my information goes the citizens of these towns will go as far as their means allow them in their endeavours to second the Govt. in its efforts to found free public libraries.

Contribution can be expected from Navasari and Amreli towns.

20. GROUP B. The same may be said of the citizens of Navasari and of Amreli. The other Prant capital, Mehsana, is more of [a] railway Junction than a town, and could not be expected to contribute much money for even so laudable an object as a library. It has a library however and a library building, the gift of a public spirited citizen.[1174.4]

Three Prant town's library buildings required to be increased in size.

21. Each of these three Prant towns has a Library and a Library Building, but both should be increased in size to meet the requirements of Central Libraries for the Prants.

Citizens of Prant towns ready to co-operate with Government.

22. This should be the next work after the founding of the main Taluka libraries because the citizens of these towns are ready to co-operate with Government in the work, whereas those of the smaller Taluka towns are still in need of missionary work to bring them to a state of wanting libraries.

Nature of books to be kept in these Prant libraries.

23. These Prant libraries should contain the official and departmental libraries of the Prants, books for the prant officers to consult, miscellaneous books to form the free public library for the citizens, and as they would be the Central libraries for each prant, they should have a good stock of the more expensive books that would be beyond the ability of the Taluka library to buy, which could be loaned to such libraries when the necessity should arise.

The stock of books to be kept.

24. 20,000 vols would be none too many for each of these libraries, and each one should be obliged to enlarge its building to enable its force to cope with the increased stock and the increased work.

Navasari and Amreli's share in annual maintenance.

25. Navasari and Amreli would undoubtedly bear their share of this outlay; Mehsana, as I said before, would probably be unable, but each would bear its share in the annual maintenance of Rs. 2,000/-.

The Government initial and maintenance charges for these libraries.

26. The Government contribution to the cost of founding these three libraries, would probably be at least Rs. 1,00,000, and its annual

contribution for maintenance Rs. 2,000/-.

27. Such a considerable sum should be left until after the Central Library at Baroda is finished.

Missionary [work?] to be pushed on while the libraries in larger towns are opened.

/Missionary work for libraries

28. GROUP D. While this work is going on, the missionary work in the smaller towns and the villages should be pushed forward, particularly in the smaller towns, so that when the sixteen larger libraries are founded and are in working order, the smaller towns can be taken in hand. There are twenty-seven of them in the state; twelve of them have libraries at present and seven of them have Library buildings, so they do not by any means offer an unfruitful field for missionary work.

Stock of books to be kept in libraries in smaller towns.

29. To be of adequate size they should have 2,000 vols. each and each should have a building worth Rs. 2,000; each one, again, should have an income of Rs. 300 a year for periodicals and maintenance.

Total expenses required and Gov't. contribution towards these expenses of libraries in small towns.

30. To found new libraries in such towns as at present have none, to ensure buildings where they are wanting and to bring all the libraries up to a standard size of 2,000 vols. would require an outlay of Rs. 50,000 for books, Rs. 40,000 for buildings and an annual expenditure of Rs. 8,000 for maintenance. Some part of the outlay for books might be contributed by the citizens and the Panchayat, but if these two factors succeed in bearing their respective shares of the building fund and of the annual maintenance it will be about all I should expect. At least Rs. 30,000 for books would have to be contributed by Gov't. added to one third of the building fund Rs. 13,000 and also about Rs. 3,000 a year for maintenance.

More books needed in Libraries already existing in small villages.

Money for building also required.

31. GROUP E. There are 387 villages in this state of over 1000 inhabitants each. 172 have libraries already, some active, some woe (?) fully passive. Part of this passivity is due to general lack of interest, the other part is due to the fact that the libraries presented to them by the government--upon a payment of Rs. 25/- have been altogether too small to retain their interest for any length of time. We are trying to remedy this state of things by circulating travelling-libraries of standard vernacular books among them, but a more effectual [!] remedy would be to give each village interested a standard vernacular library of 500 vols. and allow us to make the travelling libraries entirely of the new books as they are published. Each village also should have a building for the library that should also accommodate the village reading room and be a literary gathering place for the people. Such a building could be had for Rs. 500/- and a sum of 100/- a year would be ample for its maintenance.

Total expenditure to be incurred after the libraries in small villages.

32. This means for the 387 libraries the expenditure [of] Rs. 1,80,000 for books, 2,00,000 for buildings and an annual outlay of Rs. 40,000 for maintenance. In the last two items the citizens and the panchayats might share, but I assume that that would be the limit of their powers.

Government contribution.

33. The Government outlay for these villages would thus amount to Rs. 2,50,000, together with an annual expenditure of Rs. 13,000/-.

The expenditure may be tabulated as follows:

BUILDINGS		BOOKS	
WHOLE COST	GOVERNMENT SHARE	WHOLE COST	GOVERNMENT SHARE

9,20,000 7,33,000 3,26,000 3,06,000

Total Government Share

10,39,000/-

Annual maintenance charge of the Central Library.

34. This table does not take account of the annual maintenance of the Central Library nor of any of the others. During the first year the Central Library would require Rs. 36,000/ for maintenance, and during the next two years Rs. 50,000/ each year. This is while the building is being erected. After that it should have an income of Rs. 1,00,000.

Table showing the expenditure accompanies.

35. The accompanying table

1 I have here with me this table in Borden's beautiful hand. It can be reproduced only photographically.

will show the most economical method of distributing the expenditure of ten lakhs, (plus the annual maintenance charges of all the libraries as fast as they come into being) over the next ten years.

/Two Million Rupee Library Plan/issues
ISSUES

1. Should the scheme of libraries as proposed in the tippan in details be sanctioned?
2. Should the sum of Rs. 20,60,869 be sanctioned as proposed in the table mentioned in para. 35 of the tippan?
3. Should the amount of Rs. 20,60,869 be distributed over the next ten years as shown in the table mentioned in para. 35?

4. Should the sum of Rs. 1,20,300 be sanctioned for annual maintenance after ten years are past?

OPINION

Yes for all issues.

[Countersigned by J.S. Kudalkar] (Sd) W. A. Borden
Director of State Libraries.

Through the Vidyadhikari and Accountant General.

(Sd) W. A. Borden
Director of State Libraries.

1 Note:

Borden's Scheme is typed. The following opinions are hand-written.

Opinion of the Vidyadhikari

The Scheme is comprehensive, useful but ambitious._

The scheme submitted by the Director of state Libraries is a comprehensive and useful one and affords very instructive reading. It seems however too ambitious to be inaugurated now.

1 Note: The opinion of the Vidyadhikari ends here. It seems incomplete, because there is no signature, etc. The opinion might have continued on another page.

This should be placed before the council.

2 Here begins the opinion of the Naib Dewan, Manubhai:

We shall have to devise means to give effect to the proposed scheme.

2. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb attaches great importance to this subject of Library extension which is only a supplement to free compulsory education in Towns and Villages for the purpose of spreading knowledge. We shall therefore have to devise means whereby we can give effect to the proposed Scheme when our finances are restored to their normal state.

Cost

3. The present year however is one of financial depression and it is too soon yet to ensure financial support to the proposed measure which is estimated to cost Rs. 20 lakhs from next year. The annual provision for the next ten years as asked for will average about 2 lakhs, and will be reduced to Rs. 160,000 only after ten years.

Taste for reading in the general Public is limited.

4. The taste for reading now noticeable in the general Public is too limited to allow any such large expenditure with advantage for a few years yet and ten years is perhaps too short a time for any large culture of this taste. However in course of time with a reduction in the Building Programme for the Police and Forest Departments a corresponding increase may be provided in the budget for Library Buildings.

Manubhai

22 April 1912.

N. Dewan

This tippan is postponed to the next meeting of the Council.

14th May 1912. [Signature illegible]

Council Secretary

This tippan is postponed to the next meeting of the Council.
25th May 1912.

Council Secry."

Postponed to the next meeting.
10th June 1912.

Council Secretary.

ORDER

Orders will be passed on applications for books under the Rules.

The whole scheme is noted but orders will be passed on individual applications either for books, libraries or library buildings under the Rules. When any such application is received, the Department should send it up with a separate Tippan with the agreement of local citizens and the Local Boards as provided in the Rules.

Baroda [Signatures of 4 council members]
Gupta, Manubhai, Sampatrao Gaekwad

No. 94/of 1911-12 Vidyadhikari's office

Baroda 8th July 1912

Forwarded to the Director of State Libraries
[A. M.?] Masani

Reed [Read ?]
9-7-12 Vidyadhikari

As no action is to be taken at present this may be filed, keeping all the papers with the tippan.

[JSK]
P. A. to D. S. L.

Note: The original has missed many page nos.

Town Library Scheme

/Borden/requests funds for Town Library Scheme

/Travelling Libraries Scheme

On 15 May 1913 Borden submitted a request for the amount required every year under the Town Library Scheme of Baroda and for Travelling Libraries Scheme of Baroda.

The request amounted to:

1. Rs. 8000/- a year for three years in addition to Rs. 12,000 already sanctioned.
2. Rs. 3000/- a year for traveling libraries.
3. Rs. 4000/- a year for grants to libraries to be started under Section 3 of the Rules.
4. Rs. 8000/- for maintenance charges for two years and Rs. 10,000/- for the same in the third year.

Vidyadhikari expressed his opinion on 26 May 1913 as follows:

His Highness has expressed a fear that if libraries are started in places where people take evanescent interest they stand the danger of dying out as fast as they are created, and a further warning note has been sounded that the growth should be slow but sure.

He recommended the sanction of Rs. 17,000/- , to be distributed as follows:

1. 5,000
2. 3,000
3. 3,000
4. 6,000

Rs. 17,000/-

But the Dewan did not sanction any amount over the sanctioned amount of Rs. 24,000/-.

There are some comments and notes in pencil in the original, but they are not in the copy from which this is entered!

Borden's Contribution to Baroda

Classification Scheme

/Classification/Borden's scheme for Baroda/

/Borden/classification scheme for Baroda libraries

1 Based on:

Va%ododar@ r@jyan# pustak@laya prav%rtti , p. 9.???? Cf. comments of the Vidyadhikari on Borden's scheme. SBR.

Borden had designed a scheme of library classification while working at the Youngmen's Institute Library, New Haven, which still remains classified by it.

[The present librarian (1968/69) is very critical. She does not like it.] He developed it further in Baroda and modified it to a great extent to meet the needs of the Baroda libraries. His purpose in publishing it was also to provide a text book in classification for his newly-organized School of Library Service (or the program of library training for Baroda Librarians).

The Central Library of Baroda began with a rich collection of 20,000 volumes, constituting the Laxmi Vilas Palace Library, so generously donated by the Maharaja. The total collection of the Central Library had to be classified by a scientific system of library classification. There was an urgent need to develop a scheme which would fill the needs of the entire Baroda Library System. It was also necessary to provide the students of library school at Baroda with a textbook.

Therefore, Borden adapted his scheme to the needs of Oriental libraries, named it the Baroda Scheme, and got it published in 1911 under the title of the Scheme of Classification for the Libraries of Baroda State . The scheme was based on the Decimal Classification of Melvil Dewey and the Expansive Classification of Charles Cutter. The main classes or divisions were 26, based on Cutter's Scheme, from A to Z. And the Arabic numerals were used to subdivide the main classes. Since the numerals could be further subdivided into groups of nine, the subdivisions could be obtained to any depth. Borden also designed Author Tables. Thus Baroda secured a Scheme of Library Classification which could be used in any library, large or small.

2 Library Journal , 36(Sept. 1911):384. Evidently the scheme remained confined to Baroda, as far as India is concerned.

He also prepared and published another work entitled Comparative Study of the Baroda, Expansive and Decimal Classification (first and second divisions) . The Library Journal of September 1911 noted the Scheme and published its review.

/Borden/comparison of classification schemes
/Classification/comparison of schemes by Borden

Incidentally we might add here that Ratanchand Manchand, a library leader of the Panjab, who visited Baroda and wrote a very extensive and appreciative report on the Baroda Library Movement, recommended that Borden's scheme should not be introduced in Indian Libraries! He advised his fellow librarians as follows: "I should only add that so far as the system of classification of books is concerned, librarians who are reorganizing their libraries on modern lines should not adopt the Borden system of classification given in the book (of Dutt), but should follow the Dewey Decimal Classification, which is the most popular system of classification in the world.[Hail America!]

(Modern Librarian 1(1931):66.

It is not easy to determine whether librarians in India would have followed Borden's scheme if Ratanchand Manchand had not

advised them against it!

In the "Comparative Study," Borden presented the tables of the Decimal Classification and Expansive Classification regrouping them beside the Baroda Classification "for the use of the students of the Baroda Library School."

start /Bliss, Henry/on Borden's class. scheme for Baroda
Henry E. Bliss reviewed Borden's scheme in the Library Journal of November 1911 (pp. 595-96). At the very outset, Bliss remarked:

"This is indeed interesting. Shall we get points in library classification from India! Ah! But Mr. Borden, now Director of state libraries in Baroda has been an American and before he made his classification for the librarians of India, he studied our American systems of classification and found them unsatisfactory" [!].

Quoting Borden, Bliss says why Borden devised his own scheme of classification. According to Borden, Dewey has too few divisions in his initial classification and Cutter too many in his subsequent ones. Borden decided to steer clear between the two. He struck a medium path, a *via media*.

Bliss commends Borden's remarks--his reasons for devising a new scheme, and states:

"Terse as an epigram, and a wise conclusion."

"Mr. Borden's 'scheme' comes forward with a purpose that reminds us of the plea of Charles Wagner, the sincere and wholesome plea for simplicity."

Bliss discusses the merits of the elaborate schemes of classification, but concludes that it is not necessary to burden the small libraries.

On another point Bliss comments:

" Not alone for the plea for simplicity have we to thank Mr. Borden. He has set forth a better arrangement of the main classes than our leading American systems have employed ." (emphasis added).

Bliss admits that Borden's scheme too is expansive, that is, it can be expanded and further subdivided.

Bliss compares Borden's arrangement with those of Brown, Dewey, and Cutter. He likes especially Borden's "classifying psychology with the sciences...which is interesting, coming [p. 596] from India, the land of philosophy." But he criticizes some other placings which might have been more helpful.

"This commendably simple and practical 'scheme' was evidently drawn up for small libraries."

It is not easy to agree with the view of the reviewer Bliss here. Borden had planned the ultimate book collection of Baroda's Central Library to be around 200,000. Now in India a library with 200,000 volumes in 1921 could not be called a "small" one.

Borden states that he has "followed Mr. Dewey's subdivision very generally." Bliss comments on this statement and says: "I regret to record this. But to his credit be it said that he has evidently removed some of the worst distortions.

Bliss brings out in proper relief Borden's other contributions. He says: "In notation Mr. Borden makes two contributions...."

Using letters for main classes and figures for divisions and subdivisions, he is enabled by combining letters to mark mnemonically books that cover two classes, or treat of the relations between them.

I = Social Sciences

B6 = Ethics. Therefore,

IB6 stands for the combination of sociology and ethics, or the relation between them.

1 Germs of SRR's phase analysis.

Bliss has a long discussion on the issue and says that there are many problems. "This principle of compounding notation was proposed by Mr. A. F. Adams and discussed by Mr. Cutter in the Library Journal for February 1898."

It is noteworthy that Borden's classification scheme was already used in YMI. His work in manuscript form is still preserved there and (a copy of which I have already taken in microfilm form) is dated 1887. "The other contribution is for book-numbers." Bliss is not sure if there is any gain in giving up the mnemonic value of the initial of the author's name and rendering the entire number in Arabic numerals.

Bliss probably overlooks the multiplicity of languages and scripts in India. Arabic numbers certainly transcend many problems inherent in the various forms of scripts--their varieties and vagaries. It is not clear if Borden wanted to surmount this difficulty. He does not seem to have stated it anywhere. He has not stated it anywhere in clear terms. We can only infer this might have weighed in his mind. Central Library had books in Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi, besides in English and Urdu, etc. Bliss thought in terms of only one alphabet, i.e. Roman. Borden was faced with so many! Probably YMI does not use Arabic numerals for author nos.

Commending Borden, Bliss remarks:

/Bliss, Henry/commends Borden

Whatever we may think of the value of these contributions to the important and still unsolved problems of library classification, we find them interesting and worthy, and we extend our greeting to our distant fellow librarian.

end /Bliss, Henry/on Borden's class. scheme for Baroda

Students of library science in India today hardly get any knowledge of this scheme! And the reason for this neglect lies in the fact that they are never told about this scheme! There the entire creation begins with one person--ādipurusha--the Primordeal Being--??? and that super person is none other than S.R. Ranganathan. Brahma ha vā idam agra āsīt! The creation began with the Brahman!

/Ranganathan/receives all credit for classification in India

Kolhatkar and others had proposed in 1947 or so the use of "vowels" for subdivisions and claimed originality, which was bestowed upon them by their guru, along with glory and riches, but the Baroda librarians had already designed and used it as early as 1910's when these geniuses were not even born!

1 See Ranganathan's article entitled "Anteriorizing classes and Date's invention"! (Check for the exactness of the title.)

Guh@'s Pr@cyavarg#kara%napaddhati also is not studied or taught in India nowadays. It is not certain how far Guha was influenced by Borden.

At least some of the many devices employed by "Colon" can be traced in embryonic form to Borden's scheme.

A subsequent report of the Baroda Library Department (by Waknis) says that the Reference Collection of the Library (Central Library, Baroda) was reclassified by Dewey.

1 Find out the citation. Turning the clock back!

Borden's Scheme of Classification for Baroda (1911)
Report by Waknis.
Review by Bliss, etc.

Improvement of Library Technique

- (1) Borden's Scheme:
- (2) Its Adaptations

Even in the year 1943 the Central Library in Baroda was still classified by Borden's Scheme of Classification.

/Waknis, T. D./on Borden's class. scheme for Baroda

Waknis says:

2 T. D. Waknis, *Baroda Libraries* (Baroda State Press, 1943), 6.

The classification scheme is the Borden scheme which is a mixture [blend, or improvement?] of Cutter and Dewey. There are twenty six basic divisions as in Cutter and these are subdivided decimally as in Dewey. The classifications for vernacular books are adaptations of this. There are many more than twenty six divisions in these adaptations, as the Devanagari alphabet has more than twenty six letters and the sub-divisions are not decimal but vowel and consonant combinations according to the syllabary or the `dw@dash@kshar#`. The charging of books to readers is since August 1937 done according to the English System.

Did Ranganathan know about this adaptation--or even of the Borden Scheme? Would it be correct to assume that Waknis changed the charging system? What was the earlier one? American? Probably Newark.

3 This very system was adopted by Dickinson in Lahore.

Comparative Study of the Baroda, Expansive, & Decimal Classifications-- and--"Scheme of Classification for the Libraries of Baroda State (India)"

by Borden. This collection of "Notes" ends with a reference to the lack of knowledge on the part of today's Indian library Science students of Borden's work in Baroda. Kolhatkar's plagiarism was hailed as a great invention by his guru in early fifties. Borden's Scheme reviewed.

Borden the Classificationist

Borden prepared and published a Scheme of Classification for the Libraries of Baroda State in April 1911. The objectives that prompted him to prepare and publish the book are enumerated by him in his "Foreword" as follows:

1. To give a text- book to the library students at the Central Library Department of Baroda State;
2. To give the librarians of other Indian institutions what he considered a more logical scheme for the classification of their books than any they had then; and
3. To give his fellow librarians in England and the United States the results of a quarter century's experience with scheme of classification and with author tables.

This is the only reference made by Borden, so far known to the present writer, to his "fellow librarians in England." He might have developed some contact, some acquaintance with them, especially while coming to India. When he left his home, Sayajirao was in England. Sayajirao and Borden had met there.

Kudalkar mentions the purchase of film projection equipment by Borden in London.

/Borden/professional literature

Borden's Works Prepared For Baroda Reviewed

Borden, W.A., Scheme of Classification for the Libraries of Baroda State (India) by William Alanson Borden. Baroda, printed at the Lakshmi Vilas Press Co., Ltd. 1911. 2+84 p. 24 1/2 cm.

Borden, W.A., Comparative Study of the Baroda, Expansive and Decimal Classifications (first and second divisions). By William Alanson Borden. Baroda, printed at the Baroda Printing Works, 1911. 10 p. 25 cm.

1 Library Journal , 38(November 1913):644-45.

Mr. Borden's book and pamphlet are of much interest, as reflecting his remarkable work in carrying American library ideas and methods to the Indian State of Baroda [emphasis added] while Director of State Libraries there. His Scheme of Classification may be described as a "mild blend" of the Decimal Classification and the Expansive Classification in which the letters of the alphabet (in part following the E.C.) form the primary divisions. Each main class is sub-divided by added decimals and Dr. Dewey's subdivisions are very generally followed. Mr. Borden's reason for adopting this plan is that "Mr. Dewey has too few divisions in his initial classification and Mr. Cutter too many in his subsequent ones. I have tried to steer between them." Mr. Borden also has a table of author numbers, by the use of which as decimals a book that stands in the shelf in its numerical order also appears in its alphabetical author order.

////reviewer's name?//////// See Lj

George F. Bowerman reviews Borden's Schemes of Classification.

1 Library Journal , 36(Sept. 1911):484.

Borden, William Alanson.

A Scheme of classification for the libraries of Baroda State (India). Baroda, 1911. 84 p.

/Bowerman, George F./reviews Borden's schemes of classif.

Mr. Borden, previously librarian of the Young Men's Institute, New Haven, Ct., resigned from that position in the fall of 1910

2 He resigned in June.

to become director of State libraries of the State of Baroda, India.

3 True.

This scheme of classification, which will be reviewed in these columns, was published in order to give a text-book on classification to the library students at the Central Library Department of Baroda State, and to serve as a guide in classifying Indian libraries. Mr. Borden had developed this scheme during his long service to librarianship in the United States.

He might have developed an idea, but he worked out his scheme in an elaborate manner only to meet the special needs of Baroda, its libraries, and their holdings.

Remarks:

New Haven's Young Men's Institute Library is still classified by Borden's scheme of classification.

Review :

"In Mr. Borden's Comparative study of the Baroda, Expansive and Decimal classifications the tables of the D.C. and E.C. are regrouped beside the Baroda classification "for the use of the students of the Baroda Library School." George F. Bowerman.

Borden's Scheme of classification reviewed by
Library Journal

Borden's Contribution To Professional And Technical
Library Literature : Classification.

Borden, William Alanson, "Outlines of a Scheme of Classification for Oriental and Other Libraries," in Library Journal 53(1928):127-28. ///check the year of publication/// 28, 1928. month?

"The scheme is intended for libraries in countries which are given a minor number in the D.C. so that they may be able to emphasize their own literature and beliefs. It is not meant for America or any of the larger countries of Europe."

1 An abstract. Source : Burton and Vosburgh: ///check///
Bibliography of librarianship , London, 1934.

BORDEN'S EXTENSION OF SERVICE IN BARODA

start /Borden/extension of service in Baroda

In a letter written in his own hand, dated 8 April 1911, addressed to H. E. The Dewan Saheb, Borden pleaded for more money (a raise). This letter began a controversy which did not yield much benefit to Borden. It is evident that his original appointment was only for a year and that he did not bring his family to India along with him. But at the close of the year, it seems, he was asked to continue for a second year, as the State asked him to stay in Baroda for one more year. Borden did not agree to stay on the original salary of \$3000. He demanded \$5000. He advanced his own arguments justifying the amount. Borden said:

Sir: There seems to be considerable confusion in the minds of various officials concerning the terms of my agreement with H. H. the Maharaja Saheb.

A year ago, or thereabout

1 I am not sure if Borden was able to keep proper chronology and remembered the time sequence correctly. He wrote the above letter on 8 April 1911. "A year ago" would mean April 1910. Borden's original appointment took place in 1909, and not 1910. The matter was postponed and then revived. This question needs further investigation.

Also it is worth reiterating that the letter is in Borden's own handwriting. It has some obscure passages. One is puzzled why this kind of writing? There are not only errors of writing therein, but strange grammatical constructions. One who is familiar with his writings at New Haven cannot understand why he was not correct and clear in this correspondence.

I received an offer from H. H through

Dr. Bumpus, and in answer thereto said I would come to Baroda for one year for \$3000 and my expenses both ways.

/Borden/appointment to Baroda/role of Bumpus

Some time in the winter, a letter was sent to Dr. Bumpus authorizing him to close with me on the terms, but before that letter reached Dr. Bumpus[,] he received a cable from H. H. telling him to hold matters up, pending further instructions. The letter thus sent and countermanded by cable contained the clause, so often quoted here, that the engagement was to be for two years and terminable on three months' notice.

About two weeks after the receipt of this letter, the "further instructions" referred to in the cable were received. They said that as H. H. was not keeping well he had decided to spend the hot weather in Europe, and as he could receive the most benefit from Mr. Borden's visit only when he was himself in Baroda, the whole arrangement had better be considered annulled. It could be opened again at some future time.

When H. H. reached Seattle, or Vancouver

1 This shows further how uncertain Borden was about the time and place!

he wrote another letter to Dr. Bumpus, saying that if Mr. Borden was still of a mind to come to Baroda, he would like to talk over matters with him in New York, early in July.

Up to this time you will please observe [that] all offers and acceptances had been definitely abrogated and a new arrangement was to be made.

/Borden/meets Sayajirao in New York

/Sayajirao/meets Borden in New York

I met H. H. in New York [quite an important point to note] and made a verbal agreement with him, in the presence of Dr. Bumpus, for one year only [mark the word "verbal"] and at a salary of \$3000 plus my expenses going and returning. It was

expressly stipulated by H. H. that, although the work on hand [has "had"] laid out together [?] was going to occupy much more than one year, the engagement was to be for one year only and that I was to come to Baroda for that year without my family. At this time he authorized Dr. Bumpus to engage me and to arrange as to when I should begin my work for the Baroda Government.

In agreement with Dr. Bumpus, I, therefore, began work on the 16th of September, 1910 and he gave me a letter to that effect which I have given you, in copy. By this agreement my contract terminates on the 16th of Sept. 1911, which is also inclusive of the usual leave of one month, making my working year terminate on the 16th of August.

In this agreement nothing was stipulated about a furnished bungalow or a State carriage. On my arrival in Baroda, however, I spoke to Shrimant Sampatrao about that matter and he furnished me the carriage and said he would arrange the matter with His Highness on his return from England. On the arrival of His Highness in Bombay, Sampatrao spoke to him about the bungalow and carriage and H. H. was pleased to say that I should have both.

start /Borden/salary in Baroda

This much as to the present agreement. If H. H. wishes me to stay longer than the first year, I am not only willing to do so but would like to do so. But I should be unwilling to stay longer in Baroda without my family, and I cannot support my family here and bring them out for less than a salary of \$5000 a year, to be continued for at least two or three years, plus a furnished bungalow and a State carriage.

Should H.H. sanction these terms, I am ready to draw up and sign such an agreement at any time.

Yours very truly
Sd/ William Alanson Borden

A note in pencil at the bottom of the letter says: "Not more pay than at present. If he likes that, clear a year's extension [?] certain. 10/4 CNS [4 April 1911].

H. H. said Borden might have Rs. 100/- more. If he did not agree then he might finish up. CNS 11/4

Draft letter on the back of the above letter, which is folded, 3 pages written, 4th page blank.

H. O. 3711 Huzur Cutcherry

My dear Sir:

With reference to your letter dated 8th, I beg to inform you that H. H. is willing to pay you a salary of Rs. 100/- in excess of what you now draw and that if you accept this then your services will be retained for one year certain and perhaps for a third year.

Yours etc.

11.4.11

13

CNS

To W. A. Borden, Esquire
 Baroda

Borden writes to the Maharaja:

1 Submitted after Borden had worked in Baroda for about six months, i.e. before the first year ended. This was a copy made by someone else.

To H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda

London, England

Dear Sir:

"As your Highness suggested, I have given the subject of remaining in Baroda a good deal of careful thought since our last conversation.

I consider myself bound by a moral obligation to complete the library organization of your State now so happily begun and not to leave it in an unfinished state as I should be obliged to do were I to return to the States at the end of my original contract [emphasis added]. This obligation is strong enough to force me to risk some probably pecuniary loss, should your Highness be pleased to accept the offer I am about to make.

That there may be no misunderstanding, allow me to state that I am at present receiving \$3000 a year and my return fare on completing my tour by original agreement, and by your Highness' sanction in Bombay a furnished bungalow and a carriage. [This sanction must have been given through some other authority because Borden did not meet the Maharaja in Bombay. It was through Shri Sampatrao. See Borden's letter to Dewan, dated 8 April 1911.]

My experience during the past six months has demonstrated to me that this salary and allowances is not quite sufficient either to enable me to maintain two establishments, one here and other in New Haven, or to allow me to bring my wife to India and thus maintain only one. A short time ago Your Highness was pleased to offer me Rs. 100/- per month in addition to my present salary and allowances, if I would stay longer.

That offer I was obliged to decline as it would oblige me to work at a decided pecuniary loss. If, however, your Highness would be pleased to increase that offer to Rs. 250/- rupees per month in addition to my present salary and allowances, I should feel under obligation to accept it in order to fully complete the work for which I came to India.

Knowing that your Highness will appreciate my position in this matter and that however strong the obligation to finish my work may be, it should not be powerful enough to warrant my encroaching any further upon my capital, I have the honour to remain,

Your Highness'
Most Obedient Servant
(sd) William Alanson Borden

Director of State Libraries

And in this way from his original demand of \$5000 per year, i.e an addition of \$2000, Borden came down to Rs. 250/- per month as an increment (including Rs. 100/- already granted).

It is just possible that Borden's desire to remain in Baroda was truly so great that he did not insist on his own terms. As he says, he might have "encroached upon his own capital" to fulfill his desire to remain in Baroda and to get his family over there. He got Rs. 250/- more, making a total of \$4000. His family did come, but they could not stay in Baroda long and had to return home on account of the climate and health.

end /Borden/salary in Baroda

BORDEN AT BARODA--14 April 1911

A letter in Borden's own handwriting, dated Baroda 14 April 1911, addressed to H. E. The Dewan Saheb, sets forth the conditions under which he might stay in Baroda for another year or two. Incidentally it might be added that Borden was frugal; wrote letters on small pieces of paper, 6" x 4" folded double.

Borden said to the Dewan:

Dear Sir:

In [original has "I"] response to your note of yesterday, would say [! probably Borden wanted to say: I,

1 The letter could very well begin: I, in response to your note of yesterday, would say....

in response...]1

That I cannot afford to maintain my family in the States for another year at my present salary. I have been willing to do so this year, in order to achieve a certain definite result, which result will have been accomplished by the end of my present engagement.

I am willing to extend the term of my engagement for one or two years at the increased salary mentioned in my note to you (\$5000 & Bungalow & Carriage) as that increase was based on the probable expense of bringing my family out and sending them back again at the end of my engagement.

I am also willing to accept the terms offered by His Highness (Rs. 850/- (or 250/- ?) per month & bungalow & carriage) for one additional year, provided the Government will defray the cost of a first class passage for my wife, my daughter of 15 and my son of 12 from New Haven to Baroda and return, it being understood, of course, that whatever extension or new engagement I may become a party to, does not release the Government from their obligation to provide a first class return passage for myself at the end of my renewed period.

If you will excuse the introduction of a personal note into this correspondence, I would like to call your attention to the fact that I am not a bluffer, neither am I a "Yankee on the make", but am perfectly willing to give the Government good expert work at a fair remuneration.

Yours very truly,
(Sd) W. A. Borden

The following note appears at the bottom of the above letter, on the 3rd page:

My dear Sir:

I beg to reply to your letter of 14th April which was submitted to H. H. by me.

H. H.'s Govt. regret that they cannot undertake to defray the cost of the passages mentioned by you.

23rd April 1911

Yours etc.
CNS

This was a draft only. I thought that it would have been fair-copied, and I found, yes, there is a typed copy next to this.

BORDEN'S TENURE AT BARODA--16 June 1911

Terms & conditions of appointment and its continuation

/Borden/appointment to Baroda/terms of employment

Correspondence Re. Borden's bungalow, Rent Rs. 121/10/6 per month.

Extract from a letter dated London 16 June 1911 from the Secretary to H. H. the Maharaja addressed to His Excellency the Dewan Saheb:

(5) Mr. Borden in his letter of May 4th has referred to the question of his extension. His Highness has no objection to give him an increment of Rs. 250/- per month inclusive of the Rs. 200/- offered to him some time back--provided he is willing to remain in Baroda for a period of two years more which may, if so required, be extended by a year or so. His salary & carriage have of course to be charged to the Education Department.

1 It was a real bargaining like a baniyā ! Borden got more money. He got his family in Baroda, but they could not stand the heat. Maybe Mrs. Borden did not want to stay. So the family went back home and Borden stayed behind all alone. He was a true missionary for the Library Religion.

It is important to note that the Maharaja was thinking in terms of

keeping Borden even beyond the period of two years for which the extension was negotiated before the first year ended.

BORDEN AT BARODA--1 July 1911

On 1 July 1911 the Dewan wrote to Borden from Huzur Cutcherry:

Dear Sir,

With reference to the letter addressed by you to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb under date the 4th May last, in connection with the extension of your services in the State, I have to inform you that His Highness has no objection to give you an increment of Rs. (250) two hundred and fifty per mensem inclusive of the RS. 100/- per mensem offered to you some time back--vide my letter dated the 11th April last, provided you are willing to remain in Baroda for a period of two years more. This period might, if so required, be extended by a year or so.

I shall thank you to let me know if you are willing to continue in service on these terms.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd) C. N. Seddon

The Maharaja had a second thought on the duration of Borden's stay in Baroda. He had already sanctioned Borden's extension for two years, but later on he changed his mind and wanted to extend the period of stay by only one year, because a telegram from London dated 3 July 1911 dispatched by the Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb said: "Borden's extension one year for present, if previous order not communicated."

A letter reading as under was prepared for the signature of Dewan:

Dear Sir,

In continuation of this office letter No. M-5178 of the 1st instant to your address, I hasten to inform you that the Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has this day

cabled to me that the period of your service will be extended at present for one year only.

Yours

A note in ink at the bottom:

"H. E. The Dewan Saheb remarked that as the previous order was communicated to Mr. Borden it was not necessary to address this note to him."

5th July 1911

Sd/-G. Nimbarkar?

BORDEN AT BARODA--16 June 1911

15 Princes' Gate
London SW
16-6-11

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 4th ultimo regarding your personal matter, I am communicating today to H. E. the Dewan Saheb the order of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb that he is prepared to give you an increment of Rs. 250/- inclusive of 100 Rs. offered to you some time back, provided you agree to stay on in Baroda for a period of two years more which may be extended by one year or so if so required.

Yours truly
(Sd) Buldeoji L. Dhru

1 Horrible British influence! How terribly the name is distorted!!

Secretary

To

W. A. Borden, Esq.

And this ended the controversy.
end /Borden/extension of service in Baroda

Some Notes on

BORDEN'S SALARY

/Baroda/rupee lower value than British India
/Borden/salary in Baroda

Baroda rupee had a lower value as compared to that of the British India. At the time Borden left Baroda, he was drawing Rs. 1020 per month. If he was given an increment of Rs. 250/- p.m. at the end of his first year, his original salary would have been $1020/- - 250/ = \text{Rs. } 770/-$. In terms of U.S. dollars, the salary was \$3000.00 per year, or \$250 per month.

He had spent a sum of \$ 489.40 in coming to Baroda, i.e. first class travel from New Haven all the way upto Baroda, including his stop-over in London.

Borden was appointed at \$3000 per annum plus first class travel both ways. SBR Document No. 2, states that this monthly salary was Rs. 750/-. So the exchange rate at the time could have been \$1 = Rs. 3/-. After he had reached Baroda and had worked there less than a year, there was a very heated and prolonged discussion about the extension of his employment with the State. This controversy began with Borden's letter of 4 May 1911.

2

BORDEN'S TENURE AT BARODA--27 February 1912

/Borden/tenure at Baroda (12 March 1912)

On 27 February 1912, Borden wrote to Mr. Gupta:

Owing to my wife's health (she cannot stand the hot weather) I have temporarily moved to Bungalow No. 5 in the camp.

I have not given Villa C, and shall probably move back there as soon as my family sail for England which will be early in May [1912].

The camp bungalow will be much cooler for my wife during March and April.

Of course, it is needless to tell you that I am paying the rent of the camp bungalow out of my own pocket.

I figure that it will be much cheaper than sending them to the hills and fully as effective.

Yours

This was confirmed by Anne Brown, the adopted daughter of William Borden. The family joined him in Baroda subsequent to his arrival there, but they could not stand the heat and so his wife and children had to come back home.

BORDEN'S TENURE AT BARODA--12 March 1912

On 12 March 1912 Sampatrao Gaekwar, Khangi Karbhari (Private Secretary), wrote to the Manager, H. E. Office, Baroda:

My dear Sir:

In reply to your letter No. M/3663 dated the 2nd instant I write to inform you that His Highness told me that Mr. Borden should be given a furnished house and a carriage.

The following note appears at the bottom of the above letter:

Submitted. It may be within your Excellency's recollection that His Highness the Maharaja Sayajirao was

graciously pleased to tell us both orally [!] that unless the order given by him are [!] recorded then and there no action should be taken. No such order seems to have been recorded in the present case.

initials
SD

Further note:

Yes, but this order has been given effect to.
BLG (not clear)

Borden's influence over India, Khurshid on

/Borden/inspires India/Khurshid on,
/Khurshid, Anis/on Borden's influence on India
/Madras/University Library/influenced by Baroda
/Madras/Library Association/influenced by Baroda

The libraries, which had begun to provide 'public appeal,' during Borden's sojourn in India, had become forcefully pervasive, at [the] least in the Madras State, where the Madras University Library and the Madras Library Associations were engaged in excellent promotional work.

Borden worked in Baroda during the years 1910-13. Madras University Library and the Madras Library Associations did not become active until late twenties!

Khurshid does not speak convincingly of the cause and effect relationship!

In fact, Borden, Baroda, and Sayajirao cannot be separated in determining the influence of Baroda over other parts of India. It was a collective effort wherein Motibhai Amin too played a very significant role, though his name does not get due place in the literature. He was a silent worker and functioned mostly incognito. Shah,

his biographer, has brought out his noble personality quite well.

/Motibhai/plays significant role in library movement

Khurshid enumerates Borden's achievements in Baroda in five major areas:

/Borden/achievements/in Baroda/Khurshid on,

1. Baroda Library System

1 P. 194. If by "system" Khurshid means only the organization, it won't be adequate. There were many innovations, such as children's lib. Why scheme [3] only, total universe of library science and art.

2. Library Training

3. Scheme of Library Classification

4. Librarian's Club

5. Library Miscellany

/ Library Miscellany /Khurshid on,

/Khurshid, Anis/on Library Miscellany

Khurshid comments about the last:

Although the Library Miscellany was short-lived, it did spread the message of Baroda libraries far and wide [emphasis added].

Burma, Mysore, and many other states showed interest in the system and some even tried to develop travelling libraries on the Baroda pattern.

At another point Khurshid states:

/Khurshid, Anis/on Dickinson's contribution to Panjab

/Dickinson, Asa Don/Khurshid on,

"However, the development in Baroda had its far reaching impact

on the library situation elsewhere in India. The Librarian's Club originally comprising librarians of Baroda libraries had its echo in the Punjab where Asa Don Dickinson in 1915 founded the Punjab Library Association. It was an American missionary,

1 The question was--How an American missionary became the Vice Chancellor of the Punjab University? In pre-independence days, around 1915? Later on I found that Ewing was also a "sir." The answer he had completely identified himself with India. His body and soul both had been unified with India!

Dr. J. C. R Ewing, the then Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Punjab, who was responsible for inviting a fellow American, Dickinson, to organize the university library and to teach modern library methods to the librarians of the Punjab.

[Asa Don Dickinson, "Memoires," typewritten manuscript, 1949, p. 290]
[It is evident that the title of the work which was in essence a diary or autobiography was supplied by Khurshid.]

Khurshid assumes that Dickinson was uneasy over his appointment because he had remarked:

"Would his majesty wish me to come and teach library science to his rebellious subjects [his friends had sent him newspaper accounts of reported insurrections of the native Indians against the British [Raj?]] amid the blackened ruins of his empire."

[Dickinson's reference: "On His Majesty's Seravicae Only,"
Public Libraries 21 (March 1916): 132.
Khurshid's ref. p. 198]

Borden's contribution to Baroda

/Baroda/Library Movement/a total success
/Baroda/Library Movement/inspires Madras
/Madras/library law/influenced by Baroda

The following is an extract from my PLMB:

Public Library Movement in Baroda , pp. 329-30

Borden established in Baroda not merely scattered libraries here and there but a whole library system. That is the greatest value, the greatest gain. Libraries had been in existence in India and Baroda even before the Baroda Library System was established, but there was no unified library organization anywhere in the country. Its first appearance in India outside Baroda could be traced to 1949, the year when Madras enacted its library law and put it into effect. Baroda exercised a tremendous influence on the minds of contemporary public leaders in India. Baroda lit the torch that was carried forward by many native states and British provinces in India. A seed sown into the earth disappears, but shoots forth a sapling which develops into a great tree, providing sweet fruits and cool shade to many. Something similar happened also in Baroda. Its library system disappeared in 1949, ironically enough, with the advent of independent India, but the inspiration it had already given to the Andhradesa (the country of the Andhras) which formerly formed an invigorating part of Madras, enabled that State to have the first public library act in the same year. Thus Madras made history, but it owed much to Baroda. The emergence of a public library system in Madras in 1949 was almost like the transmigration of soul, a kind of resurrection, a lamp lighting another lamp. In this sense, the library movement in Baroda was a total success .

BORDEN'S WORK: A SUMMARY

/Borden/achievements/in U.S. (to 1910)

/Borden/achievements/in Baroda (1910-1913)

Accomplishments in Design (in the U.S.A.) to 1910:

Book-end

Newspaper file (stick type)

Newspaper reading table
Removable-drawer catalog card cabinet
Library technical services - Prepublication
cataloging and supply of printed catalog cards.
Professional Organization - Formation of the
Connecticut Library Association.
Library Education - Lecturing at the School of Lib-
rary Economy, Columbia College, New York, 1887.
Library Training at Young Men's Institute, New Haven.

Accomplishments at Baroda (1910-1913):

State Library System - consisting of:

1 Central Library (200,000 volumes planned),
4 District or Divisional libraries, each containing
20,000 vols. (Only three established, Central Lib-
rary of Baroda city serving also as the Prant Lib-
rary for Baroda Prant),
45 Town libraries,
More than 1,000 Village libraries and Newspaper
Reading Rooms.

Central Library housed
Children's Library
Ladies' Library

Travelling Library Service, constituting wooden
boxes.

Visual Instruction Branch

Baroda School of Library Economy for "apprentices"

Baroda Library Club

Library Miscellany

Post-Baroda

Cantilever steel bookstack (1916)

In his honor--

Borden Library Club established at New Haven, 1929.

Borden Memorial Trust Fund at Baroda.

His writings--Library classification schemes.

19 February 1913

LIBRARY EDUCATION

ONE MORE CONTRIBUTION OF BORDEN TO BARODA:

Town Librarians' Class in Baroda

/Town librarians' class in Baroda/Borden's contributions

start /Library training/Baroda

/Borden/library training/Baroda

Borden's stay in Baroda was limited. He established the Baroda Library System and organized the Central Library Department. He trained his own staff and prepared them to shoulder the responsibility after he had left. The Central Library served as the laboratory and they received a good practical experience.

Borden did not remain satisfied with all the above achievements. He went further. He developed a progressive scheme for training town librarians. His former students were commissioned as the instructors now and the medium of instruction was Gujarati. The content of the curriculum was geared to the needs of town libraries and was planned to be indigenous as far as practicable.

Borden submitted his proposal

1 The proposal appears separately.

to the Government on 19 February 1913. Rs. 1200/- were sanctioned to provide twenty scholarships of Rs. 12/- each for the prospective student-librarians.

; The Report on Public Instruction for the year 1912-13 noted:

The library class opened in 1911 supplied the needs of the central institution. But for training up librarians for the mofussil libraries, proposals were submitted for sanctioning scholarships and they were accepted. (p. 71)

Though primarily intended for the town and village librarians of the State, the class was open to other persons in and out of the State. The following announcement, signed by Borden himself and dated 2 April 1913, appeared in the Baroda press including the Library Miscellany :

A Library class of twenty students has been instituted in the Baroda Central Library beginning with April 1 to prepare librarians for village and town libraries of the State of Baroda. A practical training in the various branches of library science will be provided in this class. The selected candidates will receive a monthly scholarship of Rs. 12/-. Priority will be given in selection to the librarians of this State. Those not desirous of scholarships and the librarians from outside Baroda State also will be admitted into it.

1 Library Miscellany 1(February 1913): p.?

This announcement was signed by Borden as the Director of State Libraries, Baroda State.

The scope for admission to the course (i.e. entrance requirement) was wide. There was hardly any prerequisite. Anyone who had passed the first year of the Male Teachers' Training or the fifth standard of High School was eligible for admission. The education was free. Seventy applications were received, but only twenty-one candidates were selected, sixteen of whom belonged to different

1 Education Report , 1912-13: 71.

town libraries.1

/Town librarians' class in Baroda/subjects taught

The course was inaugurated on 1 April 1913. Among the subjects taught may be mentioned book-selection, book ordering, checking,

accessioning, classifying, lending, preparing quarterly and annual reports, billing, children's libraries, travelling libraries, and the knowledge about the new outlook of librarianship. C. D. Dalal was in charge of the training program, which was completed in July. The candidates were examined and certificates given to those who were declared successful. Eighteen students passed, ten in second division, six in third, and two by grace. [p. 446 ends]

The Library Miscellany of August 1913 (vol. 2, pp.22-23) noted this: "It was the first attempt to impart library education in a regional language." The note is preceded with a picture of the instructors and students. A copy of this picture is still preserved at the Young Men's Institute, New Haven, Connecticut. Borden and Kudalkar, both garlanded, are seated on the chairs. Motibhai and Dalal also appear.

/Library education in a regional language

/Borden/on library education in Baroda

With regard to his success in the field of library education in Baroda, Borden himself

2 "Borden, Baroda, India, and its Libraries," Library Journal 38 (December 1913): 662.

says2:

I began by selecting a class of ten men and women of exceptional ability and I gave them a thorough training in the theory and practice of librarianship. After they had had one year of instruction and another year of practical work in the Central Library, I opened a summer school for town librarians in Baroda City, making the course last five months, and putting the members of the original class in as instructors.

end /Library training/Baroda

Library Training in India

Baroda inspires

1 Dickinson had been in correspondence with Kudalkar before he reached India. One Ranchod, who had been Mr. Borden's second butler at Baroda, was among those who went to the pier of Bombay to receive Dickinson when he arrived in India.

/Library training/India/Baroda inspires

The Library Department of Baroda was ever prepared to give a free course of practical instruction to young men, desirous of taking up librarianship as their calling. Among those who had undergone such training were librarians deputed by the States of Mysore, Indore and Dewas, the Elphinstone College, J. N. Petit Library, Bombay, and other institutions.

2 Dutt, Baroda and its Libraries , p. 53.

/Baroda/Library Movement/promotes lib. development in India
/Dickinson, Asa Don/inspires Panjab
/Panjab/Library Primer/first text on Library Sci. in India
/Bombay University Library/sends libn. to England for training

The development of libraries in Baroda promoted the library movement in other parts of India. Bombay University took the lead and deputed its librarian to England for professional training. The University of the Panjab proved more progressive. It invited to Lahore an American University Librarian, Asa Don Dickinson, to "organize the Panjab University Library, and teach modern library methods to as many of the librarians of the Panjab as could be gathered together." Dickinson not only reorganized the Library on modern scientific lines, but also established a library school for the training of the librarians of the affiliated colleges, who received certificates from the University. He wrote a textbook entitled Panjab Library Primer which was published in 1916 and is called the first book on Library Science published in India.

3 But it is not true. Mehta, Bhanusukh Harisukhram, Hints on Library Administration in India , with an introduction by William Alanson Borden (Surat, V. H. Mehta, 1913) was an earlier publication!

/Panjab/Library Association/formation influenced by Dickinson
/Madras/University Library/sends libn. abroad for training

Also a Panjab Library Association was formed through Dickinson's influence. Madras University followed the example and sent its librarian abroad for professional training. The Library Department had assisted in the project by supplying the needed information.

1

1 Dutt, Baroda and Its Libraries , p.56; Dickinson, "On His Majesty's ... p. 132.

LIBRARY EDUCATION CONTINUED IN BARODA

1 VRPP , pp. 72-73. [Original in Gujarati.]

/Library training/Baroda
/Town librarians' class in Baroda/second (1913)

It has been already reported that Borden instituted the first library training class in Baroda in 1911 to prepare the staff for the newly created State Central Library at Baroda. The second class of town librarians was conducted in 1913. Twenty-one candidates were admitted, each being given a scholarship of Rs. 12/-p.m. They studied library economy for five months and returned to their respective libraries after the training was over. The study enabled them to administer their libraries on better and more systematic lines. The native states of Mysore, Indore, and Dewas deputed their librarians to Baroda for training in library economy. Also the Elphinston College of Bombay derived the benefit offered by the Baroda Library Department and deputed its librarian to

Baroda for library training.

The training of librarians was continued by the Central Library. Every year town librarians were invited to Baroda and were given the necessary guidance in library management. The Department was ever-willing to impart library training to anyone who sought it. Baroda was always ready to contribute its share to the advancement of all the activities undertaken to promote the library movement in India.

/Motibhai/ conducts library training

The Assistant Curator of Libraries visited district libraries periodically for inspection. Whenever and wherever he went, he gathered together the librarians from the neighboring towns and villages and conducted a short library training course, giving them a basic knowledge of library administration.

Borden's Achievements in Baroda

What the New York State Does for Libraries
and
What the Baroda State Does

1 Library Miscellany 1(Feb. 1913): p.97-99

/Borden/achievements/in Baroda

/Baroda/Library System/compared with New York

The information given in column 1 is taken from the April Number of "New York Libraries" and an attempt is made to give in column 2 parallel activities of the Baroda State for her own libraries. It must not be forgotten, however, that the New York State is six times as large as the Baroda State, has four times larger population than Baroda, and is immensely richer.

New York State

Baroda State

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Gives to each free library (observing) Regents requirements, an annual grant of \$100 for the purchase of books, on condition that an equal amount is applied from local sources for the same object.</p> | <p>1. Gives to each town or village library every year for the purchase of books, [news-?]papers etc., twice the amount (half of which comes from the Panchayats) raised by the Library Committee on behalf of the people, on condition that the free use of the library is given to all people, without distinction of caste, creed, or race.</p> |
| <p>2. Incorporates with provisional charter libraries having property to the value of \$100, and grants an absolute charter where property worth \$1000 is held. No fee is charged for incorporation.</p> | |
| <p>3. Exempts from taxation all properties of libraries used for public library purposes.</p> | |
| <p>4. Sends travelling libraries to schools, clubs, granges, or communities, also to local libraries to supplement their collections.</p> | <p>4. Sends travelling libraries to schools, clubs, or communities.</p> |
| <p>5. Lends pictures and lantern slides to any library, which exhibits them to the public without charge.</p> | <p>5. Sends men from the Central Library to give free Cinematograph and magic lantern exhibitions to different communities, and lends stereoscopes and stereographs to schools, clubs, and female circles.</p> |
| <p>6. Maintains an advanced school</p> | <p>6. Maintained a school for training</p> |

for the instruction and training of librarians and a summer school for elementary training, also cooperates with the State Library Association in the conduct of Library institutes and round tables.

people in librarianship for one year at its own cost, allowing scholarships of Rs.25 per month, and is ready to maintain a Library School, if sufficient numbers of volunteers come forward.

7. Assists in the selection of books (a) by passing judgment on lists sent in for approval by individual libraries, (b) by printing annually a carefully selected list of 250 best books of the previous year, (c) by sending to registered libraries gratuitously the A.L.A. Book list, (d) by notes and suggestions in the Quarterly Bulletin, (e) by the publication of numerous bibliographies on various subjects of interest, (f) by advice given on personal visits.

7. Assists in the selection of books (a) by passing judgment on lists sent in for approval by individual libraries, (b) by printing a carefully selected list of vernacular books, (c) by sending to registered libraries and others gratuitously Bulletins of New Books published every month or earlier, (d) by notes and suggestions in the "Library Miscellany," (e) by the publication of special lists of books on different subjects, (f) by advice given on personal visits.

8. Aids local libraries in reference work by sending from the State Library information or material on request.

8. Is ready to give such aid to local and moffusil libraries.

9. Gives advice and assistance in planning library buildings and furnishes to library boards material on the subject.

9. Gives advice and assistance in planning library buildings to library committees.

10. Provides free of cost the services of an expert in library law in interpreting and applying the law of the State to local conditions.

10. Provides free of cost information in interpreting and applying the law of the State to local conditions.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>11. Provides for annual visits to libraries from a trained and experienced librarian for the purpose of giving advice and counsel in all matters of library economy.</p> | <p>11. Provides for periodical visits from a trained and experienced librarian for the purpose of giving advice and counsel in all matters of library facilities.</p> |
| <p>12. To free libraries just organizing or to those needing re-organization provides free of cost the services of an expert library-organizer for a period not exceeding two weeks.</p> | <p>12. To free libraries just organizing provides free of cost books published by the Baroda Government; is about to open a class for library training for district librarians.</p> |
| <p>13. Publishes a quarterly bulletin for the purpose of disseminating library news and promoting sound ideas in library economy.</p> | <p>13. Patronizes a quarterly magazine called "Library Miscellany," edited and published by its own officers trained in Library work for the purpose of disseminating library news and promoting sound ideas in library economy.</p> |

//////////Why not at the end of Apostle?//////////

Borden's Influence

Borden Appreciated, 1913 (February)

By a British Educationist

- /Gould, F. J./visits Baroda
- /Borden/appreciated by British educationist
- /British educationist appreciates Borden
- /Gould, F. J./on Borden in Baroda

F.J. Gould, "the well-known Lecturer and Demonstrator for the Moral Education League of England, who was invited by the Bombay Government to deliver lectures

on moral instruction, paid a flying visit to Baroda at the invitation of His Highness the Gaekwar."

In a short note headed "The Child and the Book," Gould said:

Short as my visit to Baroda was, the things I heard and the things I saw assured me that the State has little to learn from other civilized centres....And when I glance over the pages of the Library Miscellany I discover ample evidences of up-to-date appreciation of the importance of literature to young citizenship. I have visited children's libraries in the United States...and when I learn that the Baroda librarian is an American (emphasis added) how can I dare to suggest new ideas to the citizen of a country which leads the world in the establishment of good sound juvenile literature....
[Hail America!]

I do not dare any such thing: so I humbly put down a few notes, in the full consciousness that Mr. W. A. Borden knows all I am going to say.

The case of the Baroda Library Club meeting, where Principal Clarke proposed a post-graduate two-year diploma course in library science and His Highness responded so well is an indication of the degree of influence Borden had exercised on the minds of the Baroda elite. Here is another example.

1 Library Miscellany 1(February 1913):89-90.
On the Children's Library in Baroda.

BORDEN ON BARODA (BOB)
Same as APOSTLE

The following will go as the frontispiece of the whole book//////////

The Foundation

I determined to introduce into Baroda what we in the United States have recognized as a goal to be ultimately attained, but which we have not yet reached....If there is any value in this library cooperation throughout a large state, let it be remembered that it was first introduced, not in the home of the modern library movement, our own country, but way down in India 10,000 miles from here....

What America could only dream of, Baroda could do, and, in a measure, has done.

WILLIAM ALANSON BORDEN

Originator of the
Baroda Library System
(1913)

.ll 72

3

A SPECTRUM OF ALPHA

1

America's Library Promotional
Heritage in Asia

1

* * *

1

General Editor

Sarla D. Nagar

M.A., M. Ed., M. Lib. Sc.

2

* * *

2

Cataloging in Publication

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3

Array 3 : William Alanson Borden

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LIBRARY SITUATION IN BARODA

/Borden/reports on Baroda

First Published Report of Borden, August 1912.

Library Miscellany , 1(August 1912):1-3.

"Library Miscellany" represents one phase of the general movement toward library efficiency, already started in Baroda State, and about to start in other parts of India.

This movement is essentially one of cooperation, working together. Such a cooperative movement was started in America in the year 1876 by a

general meeting of the principal librarians of that country, and the formation of the American Library Association, a body organized for mutual help, encouragement, and discussion. This Association has met annually ever since and has a membership of about two thousand, drawn from every section of the United States and Canada.

Simultaneously with the inauguration of this Association, the Library Journal was founded, financed by some of its members, to act as the organ of the Association and as a medium of intercommunication between members of the profession.

Although no general Library Association has yet been formed in India, (perhaps the time is not yet ripe for one) there has been a Library Club organized in Baroda and some members of this Club aim to make "Library Miscellany" serve India as the Library Journal has served America, by making it a means of communication between librarians, an incentive to enthusiasm, as in library methods and library work.

/Sayajirao/invites Borden to Baroda

Two years ago, through the instrumentality of His Highness the Maharaja Gaikwad, the present writer was induced to give up his professional work in America and come to Baroda to do for India, so far he was able (or permitted), what had been already done for the people of his own country, in the way of founding free libraries and of putting good books into the hands of those most needing them--the common people.

In the first issue of this periodical [a noteworthy statement], therefore, it may well be to briefly outline what has been done and what we hope to accomplish in the not far distant future.

It is the firm belief of this Government that all Libraries supported by public taxation directly or indirectly, partly or wholly, should be absolutely free to every member of the community, should have books of interest to every member of the community, and should neither favor, nor disfavor, any class, creed, or caste.

The whole people pay the bills; the whole people should get the goods.

Two years ago Baroda State had 241 Libraries and Reading Rooms possessing altogether about 100,000 books. Some of these were partly supported by Government, others were independent, but all confined their benefits to small groups of so-called subscribers. In launching the present Library Movement a new set of "Library Rules" was made, under which Government offered to bear one third (or more) of the expenses provided such libraries were made free to all classes; it also withdrew all public support from such libraries as refused to open all departments to such free use.

Under the liberal provisions of these rules, the number of Libraries and Reading Rooms in the State has increased from 241 to 373, of which only 20 or so expect to continue as subscription libraries independent of Government help.

This is a fair measure of what the Central Library Department has done. What we hope to do is far greater.

We hope to make the Central Library a Reference Library of 200,000 volumes and these volumes to be the use of every citizen of the State.

We hope to house this collection in a building that shall be a model for India.

We hope to establish a Reference Library of 20,000 volumes in every Prant of Baroda State, open to all citizens of the Prant.

We hope to establish a free circulating Library of from 2000 to 5000 volumes, with an adequate building also, in every Taluka Town.

And we are looking forward to the time when each one of the three thousand villages of the State shall have a free circulating library commensurate with its size, or at least a travelling library.

This programme would mean a collection of an immense number of volumes well distributed over the entire State, and open and accessible to every man, woman, and child in it.

Baroda College offers a liberal education to whomsoever will come to it. The Free Library System, the People's College, will bring to

every man's home the opportunity to acquire a practical education that shall make him a better son, a better father, a better citizen, a better man.

COMMENTS ON BORDEN'S PRECEDING PAPER

/Borden/defines "The Free Library System"

We have already presented Borden's first article on Baroda (pp. 6-8). It is the first significant report [1912] by Borden on Baroda that I have read. It lays down what the goal was, what policies were formulated, and what methods were followed to achieve the goals.

Borden says "permitted." It is just possible that all his proposals were not carried out. [I read this paper and commented thereon long before I saw the documents named collectively later as "Selections from the Baroda State Records." These documents corroborated my conjecture.]

/Subscription libraries forced to become free

/Free access to tax-supported libraries in Baroda

Subscription libraries were forced to become \ufree\w libraries. Otherwise they were barred from receiving the government aid. Surat offers similar instances. [Change in old rules.]

/Govt. aid to Baroda libs./conditional on local contributions

Yet we see that \uall\w the people of a town or village did not contribute to the Library Fund (i.e. the local contribution)! It was voluntary. The management was entrusted to a committee elected by those who paid toward the Library Fund! It must be admitted that both the reading and lending facilities were available to all, yet the people who subscribed to the Library Fund were allowed to borrow more books! They were also given certain additional privileges. This was certainly a kind of distinction--a discrimination. This was not an equal opportunities to all. The basis of raising the initial funds was not all-pervasive. It was not comprehensive. It was not obligatory. The funds were collected through voluntary contributions of those who could afford or would care for. Was this a healthy policy? NO!

/YMI/restricted to members

Borden's library (Young Men's Institute, New Haven) is still

restricted to its members only. His original plan of circulating the books at New Haven, too, was confined to the subscribers--those chosen few who were willing to pay. Yet this is understandable because it was not a public institution supported by the tax paid by the people.

2

BORDEN'S WORK IN BARODA

An Autobiographical Writing

[The very basic, most authentic, and truly comprehensive account of his own work in Baroda, by Borden. Report dated 15 April 1913]

Baroda and Its Public Libraries

A paper (that was) to be read before the annual conference of the American Library Association. Library Miscellany 1(May 1913): 187-94.

/Borden/Baroda and Its Public Libraries

It is not right for the Christian white
To worry the Aryan brown.
For the Christian riles, and the Aryan smiles,
And he weareth the Christian down.
And the end of the fight is a tombstone white
With the name of the late deceased,
And the epitaph drear--A fool lies here
Who tried to hustle the East.

Thus Kipling, some years since. Thus, also, many in England and still more in India, to-day. And yet they are not right; neither are they wholly wrong. The East can be hustled--when she is willing. The East, herself, can hustle--when she chooses. Though the East cannot be driven,--but that is another story, and the telling of it is not yet finished.

If the East be approached in sympathy she responds fervently and

with her best. Whatever measure of success my mission in India has achieved has been largely due to the sympathetic help of His Highness, the Maharaja Gaikwad, and of his principal officers, and to the enthusiastic co-operation of my staff of assistants that gathered around me.

Now that my mission here is completed it seems to me that an account of that mission is due to my conferences (?) of the American Library Association. I would like much to have been able to deliver that account in person, but my contract with the state does not expire until the middle of June and Baroda is ten thousand miles from the Catskills, with no airships running. As I expect to pass the rest of my life in God's Country, provided some library work be forthcoming, I shall probably meet many of you during Library week, or at the future conventions of the A.L.A.

Borden subsequently spoke during Library Week of 1913.

If one were to gather together all the other people of the world who acknowledge England's sway he would find in this vast aggregation no greater variety of human type than is presented by the inhabitants of this geographical expression known as India. Like Europe, she is not a country, but a land of many countries. Like Europe, too, she is governed, not in one way, but after many models, each one more or less suited to the temper of the people concerned. These models may be assembled under two general heads, the British District and the Native State. It is with one of the latter class that we are now to deal--Baroda.

/Borden/on Baroda

Some of these states and districts are progressive in intention, though, after the manner of the tropics, the intentions are not working very hard at present. Some of them are also progressive in fact. Baroda may be said to lead the latter class. She is not a subject nation, but "a friend and ally" of England and bound to her by treaties.

She is much closer to independence than many of the other native states, and her relation[s] with the sovereign power are not much unlike those which exist between the government of the United States and the separate states of the Union. In size she about equals the state of Massachusetts; in population she falls behind a third; how much she falls behind in culture and civilization is a subject we never mention.

[Borden was born in Massachusetts.]

But she is of the East, not of the West. The East is the mother of languages, and her daughters have spread over the earth. The East is the mother of religions, and though Christianity never has been nor never can be the daughter nearest the mother's heart, she has borne other daughters who have soothed the sorrows and guided the aspirations of men. She may yet bear sons. If that time ever comes, it may behoove the sons of the West to look well to their laurels. For the East is capable and she is adaptable. She is the old, old mother of the human race, and though her teeming millions are as yet uneducated, they are intelligent. Their minds are quick and facile, but are still more given to philosophic contemplation than to the practical affairs of life. Believing, as they do, that this world is all illusion, they are more interested in discovering the reasons for the illusion than with the illusive appearance.

In the fullness of time she may cease believing that all is vanity; she may adapt herself to modern life and bring her capacity to the solution of modern problems; a capacity that has solved many problems in the past, and which is still virile. Men may say her sun has set; but she has since lived through the long night and but now awaits the morning. Japan already sees the sunrise. Those who have lived long in India have felt the hush that precedes the coming day.

And Baroda is India in her most capable mood. Though the Himalayas be far away, she has caught the gleam of them. Though the roads hither be long and dust-covered, though they be still untrodden save by lingering feet, her feet are eager and they hunger for heights yet unpressed.

In the old days the Marathas conquered the people of Western India, those of Gujerat with the others. The old days are gone, never, let us hope, to return. In these new days, under the Pax Britannica, their conquering spirits turn to the adverse conditions of Eastern life, the poverty and the squalor of it, the indolence and ignorance of it. For they are natural leaders, these Marathas, and they have impressed their vigor upon the quieter Gujeratis whom they govern. Since the accession of the present Maharaja Baroda has kept well in the van of this social battle, though Indore would fain touch shoulders with the older prince, and Mysore's arm is not far distant. A prince of India. It was an auspicious day for Baroda some forty years ago, when this Maratha boy

was selected to succeed his deposed kinsman. Though his opportunities are great, he lives up to them. Though his horizon is large, he fills it.

Though much farther advanced than India, taken as a whole, Baroda is still uneducated. Her largest town contains only twenty-four percent of literates. Her forty other towns can produce only fifteen percent. Her four hundred large villages might bring forward ten percent which is the literacy of the whole state. Down below these in the scale there are over twenty-six hundred small villages; agricultural villages mostly. For reasons of protection, that are both historical and of the present time, all of the farming population live in villages. Though wild men are not as common as of old, wild beasts still roam over the country. What literacy there may be in these small villages is an amount almost negligible, but not quite; even in them schools have been founded, and education is now both free and compulsory throughout the state. When the children of to-day become the men of to-morrow, Baroda will no longer be only twice as literate as the rest of India.

/Sayajirao/Borden on,
/Borden/on Sayajirao

The Maharaja of Baroda is a man whose one purpose in life is to improve the condition of his people. I have known him intimately for three years and I say this advisedly and emphatically. Not being gods we all make mistakes, he with the rest of us. But he is making no mistake in educating his people, and in founding free libraries to supplement that movement.

A few years ago, in anticipation of this expected period of increased literacy, and also to hasten its advent, the government began to encourage the organization of small subscription [called "circulating"] libraries throughout the state. Nearly two hundred were started, but the results were not those that were expected. The expectations were the elevation of the masses; the result was the delectation [=enjoyment] of the well-to-do. His Highness knows much more about libraries now than he did then.

Borden claims to have tutored the Maharaja. In his order sent from the U.S.A. to the

Educational Commissioner in Baroda, Sayajirao had assured him (EC) to guide, if any difficulty arose in implementing his library proposals, on the basis of his (of the Maharaja) experience of European and American libraries.

All these subscription libraries (that lived) have now been converted into free libraries and are really doing the work they were formerly expected to do. [contrast from Bombay]

The systematic scheme for the development of the libraries of Baroda State dates from the latter part of the year 1910. From the library standpoint Baroda was a virgin field. What few institutions of the kind there were had no vested interests that would interfere with a general plan of organization [unification or integration] that would cover the whole state, bringing all the libraries under one central control and thus insuring a complete co-operation among them. [It was never achieved.]

start /Borden/on Baroda libraries

The experience of American libraries had shown the possible advantages of having a few central storehouses for the little used or the more expensive books, each storehouse with a network of inter-depending libraries around it. I do not mean to say that this had been tried out in America, except to a very limited extent,

Only in large cities with branch library systems. [Prototype.]

but it had been thought out as a goal to which we might in time aspire. What America could only dream of, Baroda could do, and, in a measure, has done. The plan has been worked out and its fructification provided for. A few more years will see it accomplished.

This plan includes:

- 1st. A Central Library of 200,000 vols. in Baroda city.
This is to be, mainly, a reference library, but all its books will be at the call of every library in the state. [Was this figure ever reached?]

2nd. Three reference libraries, of 20,000 vols. each, in the other county towns of the state, all of whose books are to circulate throughout the county (or Prant, as it is called here).

3rd. Libraries of about 5,000 vols. each, in every one of the thirty-eight other towns, and these books to be at the call of any of the surrounding village libraries.

4th. Libraries of 500 vols. in each of the four hundred and twenty-six large villages of the state.

5th. Ultimately, standard libraries of 200 vols. in every small village whenever they reach the necessary point of literacy. Added to this there is to be a system of travelling libraries,

all different,
that shall go regularly from one village to another.

6th. A complete system of control is to run from the Central Library Department at Baroda down to the smallest village, though each library has its own self-government, and every library in the chain is to be absolutely free to every citizen.

It is too much to call them "travelling libraries." They were merely boxes that were transported from the Central Library in Baroda to any other delivery center in the State. They were not on wheels. "Transportable" would be a better name.

Originally it was planned to circulate library boxes among delivery stations mutually and independently from one library to another. It was done, but the plan was abandoned because it was difficult to assign

the responsibility to a specific library if there was a loss--no one would take the responsibility! So the idea was given up. The communication became direct. The travelling library was sent to a center directly from the Central Library in Baroda City and the center returned it directly to the Central Library.

By means of this system every citizen of the state will have quick access to the ordinary books he may want, and ultimate access, through his village, town, and county, to every state-owned book. Through the same system, the whole movement can be pushed and guided by the central authority in Baroda city.

But a very important part of this whole movement must now be considered. By devoting a greater part of its income to this one object, the government of Baroda might have established this whole scheme at once; but the other interests of government would have been sacrificed to little purpose. People do not properly value what is given to them with no effort on their part, and these libraries were to be for the use of the people, not for monuments to the Maharaja. In order to have them used the citizens must first be brought to want them, and to want them badly enough to be willing to contribute a good part of the expense out of their own pockets. This meant missionary work in every town of the state and in many of the villages. It was done, however, and so well done that government is now rather troubled to keep up its end of the bargain. A code of rules was passed under which government offered to bear two thirds of the cost of libraries or reading rooms whenever the citizens of any town or village should first come forward with one third of the cost of the institution they were entitled to have. This offer included the cost of establishment, the annual maintenance, and the library building.

This system has now been in operation for nearly two years. By means of it, four hundred and fifty-one free public libraries and reading rooms have already been established, and new institutions of the kind are coming into existence at the rate of five every month. In addition to this, one hundred and forty free travelling libraries have been started on their rounds among the smaller libraries and the reading rooms of the state.

These libraries are not large, but neither is the income of the state. They are as large as either the income or the literacy of the state will at present warrant. Their gradual growth is provided for by these same "Rules," which command every state-assisted library to expend at least one quarter of its annual income for the purchase of new books.

I have been asked, by many people, how the library conditions in Baroda compare with those in the rest of India. This is not an easy question to answer, but I can give a general idea of the situation in the following way. In the larger towns of Baroda State, towns such as Baroda, Pattan, Navsari, Sidhpur, Petlad, and Mehsana, there are at present some fifteen or twenty privately owned subscription libraries over which government has no control and which are not included in the foregoing enumeration. Some of these libraries have three or four thousand books, others are much smaller. If there were no other libraries in the state but these, Baroda would still be on the par with the rest of India, population considered.

And now as to the practical carrying out of the plan that has just been outlined. A period of ten years has been allowed for its fulfillment, and the following is the result of the first two years.

A reference and circulating library of about 40,000 vols. has been established in Baroda City and 25,000 more books are waiting to be added to it as soon as room can be made for them. This library contains over two thousand Sanskrit manuscripts and many rare books in the vernaculars. It is at present housed in one of the old palaces, but plans for an adequate new building have been prepared by the state architect, in consultation with myself, which have been approved, and work will be started at once.

Two of the three county libraries have been established, of 3,100 and 3,600 vols. respectively, and the third one has been arranged for.

Thirty-six of the thirty-eight town libraries have been established. These are small, as yet. They run from 4,000 down to 300 vols., but it should be borne constantly in mind that the entire literacy of these towns is only about fifteen per cent and that the plan is being developed in proportion to the literacy of the districts. One or two of these town libraries circulated some 7,000 books last year, and quite a

few of them have circulated more books during the first half of the present year than during the whole of the former one.

Let us take one more step down the scale of literacy. Of the 426 large villages of the state, 216 have established libraries of an average size of 200 vols.

Now let us take the next step down the scale, and a long step, too. There are 2,628 small villages in the state of less than 1,000 souls; at least we will assume that they have souls, though their own opinions differ as to that. Some of them have but a handful of men who can read, and others even less. And yet 86 of them already have libraries and 110 others have reading rooms.

These libraries are not only being established, simply; they are being used. Over 150,000 books were issued from them during the past year, and this circulation is but the first fruit of the movement. Realize, please, that there are but 200,000 people in the whole state who can read even their own names, and in the vernacular at that, not, of course, in English.

These are the things we have done. With the doing of them, and with the outlining of the plan for the future development of the library scheme, my personal work in Baroda comes to its predetermined end.

Borden could have stayed longer if the Maharaja had wished. He had sent his family back home after a year of their stay in India.

My lines have been cast in pleasant places. I have been royally treated here, and loyally supported. I leave behind me a staff of workers I have trained myself, and who are entirely competent to carry on the movement.

What they intend to do, as published in the plan, is large. What they hope to do, not published, is larger still, but the future yet lies upon the knees of the gods. It may be dreamed of, but until those dreams crystalize into deeds it were as well not to speak of them.

But, between us all, we have jarred the East a little,

And the tombstone white
Is not in sight.

W.A. BORDEN,
Director of State Libraries
Baroda, India
April 15th, 1913.

end /Borden/on Baroda libraries

2

BORDEN'S WORK IN BARODA An Appreciation--May 1913

/ Library Miscellany /on Borden's work in Baroda

In the "Editorial" of its fourth issue of volume one (May 1913), the Library Miscellany offered its felicitations to Borden for his successful performance in Baroda and bade him farewell in the most endearing terms. Borden was invited to Baroda only for a year, but "he had acquitted himself so creditably that His Highness the Maharaja gave him extension of two years" (p. 217). He had come to Baroda on 6 November 1910 and left Bombay 25 June 1913.

According to the Library Miscellany, Borden had "put the system of organization [of libraries] on such a sound basis that hardly a month passed without new institutions being established." Borden had "the supreme satisfaction of looking upon his mission in India as accomplished" (p. 217).

Borden was liked both by the Ruler and the ruled (his subjects).

To everyone who came into contact with him, Mr. Borden was "the very incarnation of kindness, courtesy, and consideration, and to the staff under him, he was the eternal fountain-source of inspiration, enthusiasm and activity" (p. 217).

Borden's Success in Baroda--May 1913

/Borden/success in Baroda (May 1913)

/Sayajirao/Borden on,

/Borden/credits Sayajirao for his success

"Whatever measure of success my mission in India has achieved has been largely due to the sympathetic help of His Highness, the Maharaja Gaikwad, and of his principal officers, and to the enthusiastic cooperation of my staff of assistants that gathered around me."

Library Miscellany 1(May 1913):187.

\uObservation\w: Borden ascribes the success of his mission to the Maharaja, his officers and Borden's staff. The genesis and growth of the Baroda Library System lies in Borden, his foresight, imagination, and perseverance. Lj appreciates it.

Borden's work in Baroda: A criticism--May 1913

/Carnegie, Andrew/influenced Sayajirao

/Sayajirao/influenced by Carnegie

Borden's own times and climes were characterized by significant developments in the field of public library movement. Andrew Carnegie became a great promoter of libraries and his benevolent gifts induced the civic authorities to come forward in order to create and maintain public libraries not only in the United States but also in many other English-speaking countries. During his visits to U.K. and U.S.A., Maharaja Sayajirao could not but be influenced by this wave of popular enthusiasm and public support for the promotion of library service. In one of his significant speeches he referred to the phrase "people's university," obviously alluding to Andrew Carnegie's concept.

/Carnegie principle/followed by Borden

Following the Carnegie principle of helping those who would like to help themselves, Borden made the people's contribution a pre-requisite for State support. But unlike the Carnegie gifts, provision was also made for continuous state support on grant-in-aid basis.

/Carnegie grants enabled libs. to own independent buildings
/Govt. aid to Baroda libs./conditional on local contributions

1 It is to be noted that the local self-governing institutions had already been supporting the libraries in the West, or they had assured continuous support on recurring basis. It was comparatively easier to find some money for the annual maintenance. The libraries had the books, but there were no buildings. These latter called for capital investment of large sums which was difficult to be made available. Hence Carnegie's grant in the western world enabled the libraries to have their own independent buildings. But in Baroda the local boards had no hand in the administration of libraries. Also the people had to contribute at least one-third of the needed funds before the Government could grant its own funds.

/Baroda/compared with other countries
start /Waknis, T. D./on administration of Baroda libraries
/Motibhai/influences Borden
/Borden/influenced by Motibhai

However, the greatest difference between Baroda and other countries was that the authority of management of the libraries was not entrusted to self-governing, permanent, statutory, corporate civic bodies like the Panchayats, but to \uad hoc\w non-statutory, non-official, un-incorporated committees made of the local people elected annually by the whole body of subscribers to the annual maintenance fund of the library. Waknis believes that "this modification may have been forced upon Mr. Borden by his assistant Mr. Motibhai Amin, who knew that in India the government or semi-government agencies or institutions were always suspect in the eyes of the public."

Post War Programme of Baroda Libraries . Ref. #54 of PLMB.

Waknis concludes: "With the view that the library idea may catch a firm hold of public imagination, the running of village and town libraries seems to have been deliberately left to unofficial

agencies." The founders of the Baroda library system did not merely aim at the establishment of libraries, but at a general awakening of the masses. They wanted the people to learn the first lessons in \uSwaraj\w, the art of self-government.

/Baroda/aimed at general awakening of the masses

/Baroda/local self-government

/Sayajirao/grants local self-government

It is to be noted that Baroda was completely independent as far as the internal administration was concerned. It was governed by a benevolent ruler, who had completely identified himself with his people. Under the circumstances, political conditions in Baroda--the relations between the rulers and the ruled--ought to have been different from those prevailing in British territories. An authority (South Indian) mentions specifically the prevalence of cordiality of relations, the identity of purpose, between the ruler and the ruled in Baroda. Let it also be recalled that Maharaja Sayajirao was also the first ruler in India to grant local self-government to his people long before anyone else had even thought about it!

/Waknis, T. D./supports management by ad hoc bodies

It is surprising that Waknis supports the continuation of the management of Baroda libraries by the \uad hoc\w, non-statutory, non-official, non-permanent, transitory local committees as late as 1951 when the whole of India had moved far ahead in the field of local self-government. The ultimate outcome of the Baroda library movement might have been entirely different if the local self-governing bodies had been designated as the creators, guardians, and caretakers of the libraries in Baroda [Yogak%semam vah@myaham].

The arguments advanced by Waknis for not granting...."platter"....were not compatible with the age when India's emergence as a free nation was almost ; imminent, fairly assured--dawn before the sunrise. Borden, too, has a reference to probably "East waking up," as early as 1913!

/Baroda/independent internal administration

WAKNIS ON BORDEN

/Waknis, T. D./on Borden

/Borden/Waknis on,

Borden's Scheme for the State

/Borden/Scheme for the State

/Central Library (Baroda)/state library for Baroda

/Carnegie principle/followed by Borden

2. Mr. Borden framed a ten years' programme by which the whole State was to be covered with a network of village, taluka and district town libraries with the Central Library in Baroda serving as a state library. Mr. Borden retained the Carnegie principle of helping those who were prepared to help themselves. But he envisaged state aid as continuing from year to year and not limiting itself to the foundation year as the Carnegie endowment limited itself. Besides this, he did not entrust the management of libraries to civic authorities or statutory bodies like the Gram Panchayats, Vishihta Panchayats or Sudharais [municipalities]. He left the management to non-official nonstatutory local committees. This modification may have been forced upon Mr. Borden by his assistant Mr. Motibhai Amin, who knew that in India government or semi-government agencies or institutions were always suspect in the eyes of the public. With the view that the library idea may catch a firm hold of public imagination, the running of village and town libraries seems to have been deliberately left to unofficial agencies.

/Motibhai/influences Borden

Borden's Scheme for the City

/Borden/Scheme for the City

3. For Baroda city itself Mr. Borden conceived of a Central Library that was to be central in at least three senses. It was to be the peakpoint of library organization in Baroda State, it was to be located in the heart of Baroda city and thirdly, it was to centralize the library activities of the Palace, the Government of Baroda and the public of the city. With this end he thought of making the Central Library perform the functions of a national library like the British Museum, (London), a Government Library like the Library of Congress (Washington, U.S.A.) and an urban municipal library like the Pittsburgh or Philadelphia public library. The management of Central Library he left to the Director of Public Libraries who was to administer the Department of Libraries and who was to be a State Official. The financing of library was made the responsibility of only one agency, viz. the Government of Baroda. The library building was to cost six lacs of rupees and the annual recurring expenses

were to be one lac of rupees.

1 Ref. Source no. 54 of PLMB--"Baroda State Records"--
Post-war Programme of the Baroda Libraries,
by Waknis.

end /Waknis, T. D./on administration of Baroda libraries

THE PIJ FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library Miscellany 2(August 1913):1-3.

A speech delivered by Mr. W. A. Borden, Director of State Libraries,
Baroda, on the occasion of the opening of the Pij Free Public Library.
(Pij, a small town in Baroda State).

Borden's Work at Baroda: The Last Memorable Act

start /Pij Free Public Library/

start /Borden/dedicates Pij Free Public Library

It is with a great deal of pleasure, and a vast deal of satisfaction,
that I take part in these ceremonies here today. Pleasure in the welcome
that has been extended to me, and satisfaction in the fact that the opening of your
new library building at Pij, coming as it does at the end of my mission in India
and presenting such a vivid \ucontrast\w to what the Pij library was at the beginning
of that mission, persuades me to believe that my mission here has
been a \usuccessful one\w. [emphasis added]

A little more than two years ago I came here to examine your
library, but I saw no library to examine. I was told that the owner of
the building had used the library room for storing his corn and that the
library, being thus buried, had not been accessible for some months.

Pij was by no means the only instance of the low state of vitality
among the libraries of the Raj. My \uwhole trip\w had been rather
depressing to an enthusiast in the library movement; but at Pij this

absolute drowning of the intellectual in the material was too startling, and I probably said things about it.

And so, in marked contrast to what I said then, I say now that it gives me a vast deal of satisfaction to devote one of my few last days in India to help you dedicate this substantial and beautiful library building, and to be among you on this bright morning when the Pij library vindicates itself; when it awakes from its long sleep and stretches out its arms to all who may come, that it may make them better children, better fathers, better mothers.

"At last you have the full educational complement: the school where you learn to read and the library where you may read. But, having achieved this, do not forget that education, like most other things in this world, has two halves. The first half is the gaining of knowledge. The other half is learning to apply that knowledge to the practical affairs of life. Many forget the last half. Many even do not know that there is another half, and so unfit themselves for the things their fathers did without fitting themselves for anything else.

Don't forget the other half, for upon that depends the future of the race. What makes a man is not the letters he can write after his name, but the deeds he has written into his life.

With the completion of this building you start upon that long journey that ends only with the complete civilization of the human race.

See to it that this building contains no books that may injure any man or child of you.

See to it that it contains books that shall teach your carpenters to become better carpenters, your blacksmiths better blacksmiths, your potters better potters, your farmers better farmers. Aye! books that shall teach your sweepers to become something better than sweepers.

Get books that will make Pij a still better town; more beautiful, more sanitary. Books that will make your citizens better able to do their part in the world's advance in civilization; to take their places in that slow, sure, and grand march of the human race that has been going steadily onward for untold ages, and will still go on for countless ages

yet to come, but which is ever approaching, confidently and joyfully, some glorious future bourne whereof man knoweth not but only God.

[Note: A picture of this library building, a group photo taken at the occasion and a story on it appears in New Haven Register 1928.]
end /Pij Free Public Library/
end /Borden/dedicates Pij Free Public Library

TESTIMONIAL TO DIRECTOR BORDEN AT BARODA

Library Journal 38(November 1913):626-27.

Borden Departs from Baroda--May 29, 1913

The following characteristic testimonial was presented to Mr. W. A. Borden on his retirement from the post of Director of the Baroda State Libraries, and tells its own story as to his relations there:

start /Borden/departure from Baroda
start /Borden/achievements/in Baroda/

Having accomplished a great deal by way of planning and establishing a unique public library system, when Borden left Baroda in May 1913, his associates and admirers presented him with a Farewell Address which is memorable.

Library Miscellany , V.2, no. 1, August 1913.

The Library Journal reported the event and reproduced the address (text) in full.

W. A. Borden, Esq.,
Director of State Libraries, Baroda.

Dear Sir: We, the members of the Central Library Department of

Baroda, beg permission to express our mingled sentiments of sorrow and pleasure on the eve of your departure from among us--sentiments of sorrow because we shall be deprived of the company of one whose presence was an everliving source of inspiration and pleasure, but at the same time sentiments of pleasure at the thought that, after a three years' stay in the trying climate of India, you will be returning to your own country and to the fireside of your own home, to share the joys and pleasures of your family circle.

With your coming to Baroda, this Library Department came into existence, and owing to your untiring zeal and unceasing care, encouraged as you were all the time by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, it has continued to grow and develop and to extend its influence and the scope of its usefulness throughout the length and breadth of this model state.

The rapidity with which library institutions have risen and are rising everywhere in the state has not only exploded the superstition that the library movement at this stage of our development is a luxury, but has proved to the hilt that this movement is essentially necessary for the uplifting of the masses and the advancement of the nation.

The 450 library institutions that dot the state everywhere, and the more that will do so hereafter, will not only be the centers of light and learning, but will remain the standing monuments to the noble foresight of the ruler of Baroda, and to the creative genius of their first director. To you, sir, as the first Director of the State Libraries of Baroda, rightly belongs all the credit of popularizing this movement, and the memory of this noble work will not only be an object of eternal pride to you wherever you are, but will be a constant source of inspiration to us, to whom you are entrusting this work now.

Your presence among us is an acknowledgment of the fact that the work of library administration is a regular science, requires a systematic training and is an honorable profession. [As far back as 1911!]

Just as your royal master is the pioneer of the modern public library movement in India, so you have the credit of being the first to introduce scientific library training in this land.

The creation of this department has not only brought credit and universal praise and admiration to you, but it has also added to the glory of this state. Your presence here has been instrumental in ushering into existence two such excellent activities as the Baroda Library Club and the Library Miscellany, which both have the common aim of furthering the cause of the public library movement in this country.

By your sweet, genial and imperturbable nature you have won the hearts of all that came into contact with you.

Anger never affected the serenity, nor did the sense of authority disturb the equanimity of your temper.

You treated all equally, irrespective of their rank or scholarship. You always encouraged the deserving and sympathized with the failings of the weak. It is this side of your nature that has appealed to us most and has evoked our utmost admiration.

In conclusion, we hope that though in body you will be across the seven seas, yet in spirit, in the communion of souls, you will be with us all the time, inspiring and encouraging us by the memory of your excellent work.

We wish you, and all the members of your family, peace, prosperity and long life. In the words of the immortal bard allow us to say,

Fare thee well;
The elements be kind to thee and make
Thy spirits all of comfort!

We wish to remain, dear sir, your most humble servants,

Mrs. Lilly Lobo Miss Lilavati Peters
Mrs. Anandibai Prabhudesai

Three lady librarians!

J. S. Kudalkar, M.A., LL. B. M.N. Amin, B.A.
N. C. Divanji B. M. Dadachanji, B.A.
N. K. Shah V. R. Thakar, B.A., LL.B.
H. V. Mehta V.N. Limaye, B.A.
K. M. Pagedar B. H. Mehta, and others
C. D. Dalal, M.A.

Central Library, Baroda, May 29, 1913.

end /Borden/departure from Baroda

* * * * * * *

The farewell address presented above casts considerable light on the achievements of Borden at Baroda and his personal qualities as an administrator. Allowing some room for the benedictory nature of the address, there is enough evidence for us to conclude that Borden was blessed with a "creative genius" and his work in Baroda was indeed a pioneering achievement and embraced many fields of library activity.

Borden had endeared himself to his associates and assistants. He was the founder of the Baroda Library System. He received due encouragement from the Maharaja. Library Department exercised a great influence all over the State of Baroda, and in consequence influenced the entire land of Bh@rata.

Some believed that India, especially a native state, was too poor to establish libraries at the time the Maharaja conceived the idea of founding a network of libraries in his model state. They were wrong. Through the splendid work of Baroda, the notion that library movement was a luxury was proved to be a false one, i.e. it was practicable and feasible.

It is remarkable to note that at the first All-India Public Library Conference held at Madras in 1919 the casting vote of the President Kudalkar, who hailed from Baroda, "saved the library movement from being branded as something outlandish."

Borden's work at Baroda, though embracing only three years, part of which must have been spent in overcoming the basic obstacles, proved that the "movement is essentially necessary for the uplifting of the masses and the advancement of the nation."

As many as four hundred and fifty libraries had already been established in the State before Borden left Baroda. To Borden belonged the "credit of popularizing the movement."

Borden was also instrumental in establishing the fact, although confined in the beginning to Baroda and certain other progressive states such as Mysore, Indore and the Presidency of Madras, "that the work of library administration is a regular science, requires a systematic training and is an honorable profession." Borden was the first librarian to introduce scientific library training in India.

Borden is also credited with initiating two other useful activities in the pioneer library land of Baroda. The first was the Baroda Library Club, which provided a forum for discussion of useful library topics. It was a means of direct communication, person to person, face to face, through the spoken word. The other was a quarterly journal called the Library Miscellany the first library organ in India to carry the Gospel of the Library Movement far and wide through the printed word.

end /Borden/achievements/in Baroda/

FAREWELL TO BORDEN

Borden's Work at Baroda
Great Appreciation--Editorial

Library Miscellany 1(May 1913):217-18.

/Borden/departure from Baroda

"It is with feelings of the deepest regret that we perform the painful and unavoidable task of announcing the impending retirement of Mr. Borden, the first Director of State Libraries, Baroda. Mr. Borden, who had a great reputation as library expert, was originally brought over from America for a period of one year. During this period he had acquitted himself so creditably that His Highness the Maharaja gave him an extension of two years.

In such a short period Mr. Borden, with the cordial support and encouragement from the Maharaja, has already succeeded in establishing as many as 451 reading rooms and libraries in different parts of the State, and put the system of organisation on such a sound basis that hardly a month passes without new institutions being established. He has also trained up a small band of young, enthusiastic men, in whom he has great confidence, and of whom he entertains great hopes, to carry on the work of future development. He has thus the supreme satisfaction of looking upon his mission in India as accomplished. The term of his service expires on September 15, and he will sail from Bombay on June 15, to enjoy his well and hard earned leave of three months, prior to his retirement.

Mark the designation, title!

Order of appointment, extension.

An important statement.

A very important statement.

British bureaucratic mode!

"It is given to but few persons to win the good opinion and confidence of the Ruler, and, at the same time, to be the proud possessor of the love and gratitude of the people of such a

large state. Mr. Borden is one of the lucky few. To everyone who came into contact with him, Mr. Borden has always been the very incarnation of kindness, courtesy, and consideration, and to the staff under him, he was the eternal fountain-source of inspiration, enthusiasm, and activity. By his retirement, the State will lose one of its ablest servants, the public one of the most sympathetic officers, and the Department their truest guide, staunchest supporter, and sincerest friend. As the next issue of the Miscellany will not be out till long after Mr. Borden have gone, we take this rather early opportunity of wishing him a long and happy life in the midst of his family circle, and of bidding him a respectful, and most affectionate farewell.

/Sayajirao/appreciation of foreign institutions

/Kudalkar, J. S./studies libraries abroad

"The Maharaja of Baroda, who of all the Native Princes has travelled most, and during his travels learnt most, has the keenest sense of appreciation of the educative value of the study of foreign institutions. He has by this time sent quite a large number of his officials, at heavy expense to the State, for such study, in England, America, and other countries. It was, therefore, inevitable that sooner or later he would send some persons from the Central Library Department on a similar tour. The turn of at least one of them has now come. Mr. J. S. Kudalkar, the Assistant Director of State Libraries, has been selected to visit all the important European and American libraries, and to study their methods of work. The selection is a very happy one, for Mr. Kudalkar is gifted in a notable degree with all the qualifications, which are essential in a man who is to be the head of the Central Library Department. We congratulate him on this further recognition of his merits.

Simple euphemism!

"The event is a notable one in the annals of the Indian Libraries, as this is the first time an Indian goes to foreign countries for such a purpose. We might with good reason cherish the hope that the event will also serve the very useful purpose of bringing the extreme importance of the library profession into prominence. It is, therefore, not out of mere thankfulness to the Maharaja, but out of strict regard for our duty

as the watch-dog of the Library movement in India, that we hold forth this latest example of the foresight and magnanimity of the Gaekwar as worthy of the highest commendation and emulation."

Kudalkar was the first Indian librarian to go abroad for informal study and observation of libraries in Europe and America. And Japan too? Kunte of Bombay University Library went earlier to London for library training.

This issue was edited by B. M. Dadachanji who acted as the editor while Kudalkar was on a world tour for study and observation.

2

BORDEN'S DREAMS

Nazarbagh Palace and the Central Library

/Nazarbagh Palace/envisioned by Borden as Central Library

/Borden/envisioned Nazarbagh Palace as Central Library

Borden entertained many dreams

and visions, some of which were never fulfilled.

He says that before he left Baroda in 1913, he had arranged that the Nazarbagh Palace of the Maharaja would be developed into a new library building for the Central Library of Baroda. Very happily he noted this fact and felt proud of having provided a very fine building--probably the finest--for the library. Fondly he had hoped that what might appear as an impossible task had been truly achieved. The frontispiece of number 12 of volume 38 of the Library Journal displays this beautiful palace as the future home of the Central Library of Baroda. Borden had made several interesting remarks on his success in having persuaded the State authorities and the Maharaja to part with that palace.

It is to be remembered that Borden had submitted his plans for the Central Library building along with his original (first) proposal in December 1910.

He had entertained very imaginative dreams which did not begin with the intended acquisition of Nazarbagh Palace but they were already there in latent form.

However, Nazarbagh Palace never became the home of the Central Library of Baroda. Although the Maharaja had donated his own personal library of 20,000 precious volumes, which became the nucleus of the Baroda Central Library, he did not--or could not--give the Nazarbagh Palace for library purposes.

Somewhere else, after many years, I had noted that the palace might have been an ornamental architectural wonder, but it could not have been as functional as the ultra-modern new library building that was specifically built for the Central Library in Baroda. It is still a monument.

BORDEN'S LIFE AND WORK America's Contribution

September 1913

Borden, W. A., has returned to America after his three years' library service in organizing at Baroda, India, a \upublic library system on American lines\w [emphasis added], and is for the time living at Westport, Ct. Mr. Borden was an associate and pupil of C. A. Cutter at the Boston Athenaeum, and thereafter did much library organization work in Rochester and New Haven, whence he went to India at the invitation of the Maharaja of the State of Baroda.

Library Journal 38(September 1913):538.

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4
BORDEN--SAYAJIRAO--KUDALKAR
Indo-American Library Cooperation
Professional Meetings
24 September 1913

/Indo-American library cooperation/professional meetings

New York Library Association--Library Week
Hotel Sagamore, Lake George, N.Y., 22-27 September 1913

/Sayajirao/elected honorary member of NYLA
/Kudalkar, J. S./elected honorary member of NYLA
/Bowker, R. R./speaks at NYLA (1913)
/Borden/speaks at NYLA (1913)
/NYLA Library Week

It is here that Borden spoke. Mrs. Borden spoke. A resolution congratulating the Maharaja was passed. Kudalkar and Sayajirao were elected Hon. Members. R. R. Bowker was there and spoke! [Hence the letter to Borden which I saw at the NYPL].

This issue of the Library Miscellany also contains the document, signed by Theresa Hitchler, President NYLA, commending the Maharaja and electing him an Hon. Member.

Library Miscellany , 2(November 1913):49.

Kudalkar has written a very interesting and informative report of this Library Convention.

BORDEN'S REPORT ON BARODA--December 1913

"Baroda, India, and Its Libraries"

by William Alanson Borden,
recently Director of Baroda State Libraries.

Library journal 38(December 1913):659-63.

Amplified from the address delivered at the Lake George meeting of the New York Library Association, 24 September 1913.

We learn from the Bowker-Borden correspondence that the paper was prepared for publication by Borden at the suggestion of Bowker. This issue contains a group photo of the "Baroda Library Staff." The frontispiece features "Central Library Building of Baroda--Formerly a Palace of the Maharaja."

Outside of the native states of Baroda and Indore there are no free public libraries in India. There are libraries, of course, but no free libraries supported by public funds.

At Calcutta and Bombay there are a number of subscription libraries that have attained a respectable size, and the Asiatic Society has large collections in both capitals [Bombay and Calcutta], that at Calcutta numbering over 100,000 volumes.

There are also libraries of fair size at Madras, Benares, Allahabad, and other large cities, but the whole library movement in India has as yet only reached the stage where it appeals to scholars.

In British India, which is that part under the direct rule of the British Government, as distinguished from the native states which are governed by the native princes and only indirectly controlled by England, in British India the library for the use and instruction of the common people is practically unknown. In the establishment of what we know as the free public library movement, as well as in the movement for the education of the common people, these native states are far in advance of the rest of India, and foremost among these is the state of Baroda.

/Baroda/Library Movement/inspires Indore and Mysore
What is known as the Baroda System, which I had the honor of

originating and establishing, is now being also introduced into the state of Indore,

Baroda's influence!

and recent advices from India tell me that the state of Mysore is also preparing to adopt it, or something quite like it.

Borden might have had some correspondence with Baroda, especially with his former staff, because the Maharaja did not care about him any more as is evidenced by Maharaja's sending library building plans to Bumpus.

Many other native states have shown much interest in the Baroda movement, and I am looking forward with a great deal of confidence to the time when all of the more advanced of these states will have followed in Baroda's footsteps.

I have my doubts about the introduction of this system into any part of British India. British India is directly governed by English-men, and this is distinctly an American system, and--well, that is another story.

Ruthless British imperialism vs. native rule, though suffering from severe limitations.

/Sayajirao/biography

Shri Sayaji Rao Gaikwad, \uMaharaja of Baroda, Sena-Khas-Khel, Samshe Bahadur, Grand Commander of the Star of India\w, and the absolute ruler of 2,000,000 people, was born a poor shepherd boy.

Up to the time he was twelve years old he tended the village herds, with other children of his station, with no prospect of ever doing anything else than the ordinary work of an Indian farmer.

He was of royal descent, however, and one day a party of white robed priests invaded the village and carried him and his brothers to the capital city, he to be the future ruler of the state.

He was put under the best of English and Indian tutors and carefully educated for the responsibilities of his position under the direct supervision of the British government; and the care spent upon his education has been abundantly justified. In intelligence, in public spirit, in all the essential qualities of a wise ruler he far outranks any other Indian Prince. His sole aim in life is to advance his people in civilization, in intelligence, and in the ordinary comforts of life. That is high praise for any ruler, either of the East or West, but I have known him intimately for three years, I have seen his mind work, and I say this advisedly and emphatically. And looking at the matter broadly, and from the standpoint of the people, I will further say, with equal emphasis, that never, in all her history, has India seen his peer.

His main effort has been to educate his people, and his success along this line alone entitles him to all honor and respect. He has established over 3000 schools in his state, and a few years ago he made education both free and compulsory. It is yet too soon to realize the results from this last decree, but when the children of today become the men of tomorrow Baroda will easily rank as the premier state of the Indian empire.

But the school only educates the boy. The man requires also the college and the library. His Highness established the College of Baroda with a faculty of English and native professors, and was then kind enough to ask me to come to Baroda and institute a system of free public libraries throughout the state that should supplement and carry on, and perhaps complete this work of education.

I accepted the mission with many misgivings. I did not then know, as I have learned since, how thoroughly my efforts would be backed up by the Government or welcomed by the common people. To live also in a country whose noons varied from 85 degrees in the winter to 118 degrees in the summer, was not without its risks. What with enteric, malaria, plague and cholera India is truly the land of sudden death, and I know that when we bade each other good-bye, three years ago, you thought there was

much doubt as to whether or not we should ever meet again. Also I had read Kipling, and I was afraid that the East would not be hustled. How wrong I was in that opinion events have since proved. The East can be hustled. I think I may even say that one part of the East has been hustled, and that it enjoyed experience.

/Borden/surveys libraries in Baroda

On reaching Baroda I made a tour of inspection over the state. I found a state as large as Massachusetts and with two-thirds of its population. Ninety per cent of its people are farmers. The land is naturally fertile, but lacks water. The principal products, outside of the grains and vegetables consumed at home, are cotton, tobacco and castor beans. Baroda, the capital city, has a population of 100,000, of whom 24,000 can read the vernacular, and a good many have the English as well. The larger towns hold about 15 per cent of literates, the villages somewhat less than 10 per cent, and the small hamlets a quantity almost negligible. The placing of the libraries was thus determined by circumstances beyond our immediate control and their comparative sizes also.

There were two fair sized libraries in the capital city and about 150 small subscription libraries scattered through the various towns and large villages of the state; the latter largely in a moribund condition, the remains of unsuccessful experiments instituted some years previous to 1910.

/Library cooperation/Baroda

The field was practically untouched, and I determined to introduce into Baroda what we in the United States have recognized as a goal to be ultimately attained, but which we have not yet reached. I mean a system of centrally located book storehouses, each surrounded by a net-work of small, interdependent libraries. The small libraries to have the books commonly called for and the storehouses the books to supplement these small collections. This has been done and the result is now known in India as The Baroda System. I do not wish to claim any great amount of novelty for the idea. It is simply the system of the main library with its branches, such as we all know in New York, Brooklyn and Boston, applied to all the libraries of a state. If there is any value in this library co-operation throughout a large state let it be remembered that it was first introduced, not in the home of the modern library movement,

our own country, but way down in India, 10,000 miles from here.

/Free access to tax-supported libraries in Baroda

Our first task was to get all of these independent subscription libraries to place themselves under government control and to open their doors freely to both high and low.

In contrast with Bombay.

/Missionary work for libraries

This last required a prolonged missionary [!] campaign on account of the intense caste feeling still existing in India. We accomplished it in most cases, however, though there are still 15 or 20 of these libraries that are holding back.

/Govt. aid to Baroda libs./conditional on local contributions

We next drew up a code of rules for the formation of free public libraries. These rules upon being signed by H. H. the Maharaja, became part of the laws of the state without any of the usual bother with legislatures or that sort of thing. They prescribed, briefly, that whenever the citizens of any town or village should subscribe one-third of the necessary sum for establishing a library, the different departments of the general government would supply the remaining two-thirds. These rules applied also to the annual maintenance and to the ultimate erection of the library building. We were not anxious to give away things, but we were very anxious to help those who would first help themselves. It is for just this reason that the library movement in Baroda deserves so much credit. It was not an indiscriminate giving away of libraries by the government, influenced perhaps by my persuasive tongue, but a movement instituted by the people themselves and backed up by their hard earned rupees. They wanted libraries and I devised a plan by which they could get them.

The plan of the Baroda System, determined upon at the beginning of the movement and now being carried out, is as follows:

On page 661 appears a "Map of the Baroda Division" with the following legend:

This map shows the position of the libraries in the Baroda County of the Baroda State at the end of the official year 1911-12. The black dots show the 120 village libraries; the ringed dots the 14 town libraries. The double-ringed dot indicates the central library at the capital. There are four counties in Baroda State. This map shows how the libraries are distributed over one of the four.

1. A Central Library of 200,000 vols. in Baroda City. This is to be, mainly, a reference library, but all of its books will be at the call of every public library in the state. It hopes to contain every one of the 5,000 Gujarati books and the 5,000 Marathi books already published.

2. Three smaller reference libraries of 20,000 volumes each, in the other three counties of the state. These books to be at the call of every public library in the respective counties.

3. Thirty-eight libraries of 5000 vols. each, in the other principal towns of the state. These books to be largely in the vernaculars, and to be at the call of every public library in the surrounding villages.

4. Libraries of 500 vols. each, mostly vernacular, in each of the 426 large villages of the state.

5. Standard libraries of 200 vols. each, entirely in the vernacular, in each of the 2600 small villages, whenever each village reaches a standard of literacy entitling it to have a library.

6. A system of travelling libraries, of 40 or 50 vernacular books each, that shall go from one village to another, stopping about three months in each place. These are intended to supplement the reading rooms in the villages too poor to afford libraries, and to keep the libraries in touch with the newest, or the best books.

7. A system of control is to run from the Central Library

at Baroda down village, though each unit is to be largely self governed.

8. Each library in the chain is to be absolutely free to every citizen, whatever his caste or want of caste.

By means of this system every citizen of the state will have quick access to the ordinary books he may want, and ultimate access, through his village, town and county, to every state-owned book.

By these means, also, each community will be saved the expense of buying many costly or little used books which all libraries have hitherto felt compelled to purchase for their individual readers. The central storehouses will now buy these books, and in sufficient quantities to meet the demands of the other libraries. The traveling libraries will supply the impetus that shall induce the different communities to establish, first, reading rooms, and then change them into libraries.

I suppose I might keep you here for an hour or two explaining the Baroda system of classification I introduced into India, or the peculiar form of catalog that was required by these mutually depending libraries. I went down to India, not to introduce American methods into Indian libraries, but to engraft the spirit of those methods onto Indian conditions. The resulting methods were in many cases new. We may go into them on some future occasion.

But before the plan just outlined could be put into good working order a trained staff was required, not only in the Central Library, but in the larger town libraries as well. For my mission in India was only to start things moving. The practical management of the system was to be ultimately, in native hands.

I began by selecting a class of 10 men and women of exceptional ability and I gave them a thorough training in the theory and practice of librarianship. After they had had one year of instruction and another year of practical work in the Central Library, I opened a summer school for town librarians in Baroda City, making the course five months, and putting the members of the original class in as instructors. This summer class, opened this year, consists of 25 men, whose expenses are paid by the government. In future years this number will probably

be increased.

And now as to the practical carrying out of this plan for a system of interdependent libraries. A period of ten year was allowed for its full completion; the following shows the progress of the work for the first 2 1/2 years--one quarter of the time.

A reference and circulating library of 40,000 vols. has been established in Baroda City and 25,000 more books are waiting to be added to it as soon as shelf room can be made for them. This room has now been arranged for. Nearly two years ago I asked H. H. the Maharaja Saheb to give to the Library Department a beautiful white marble palace, situated in the exact center of the walled city and surrounded by five acres of artistic ground. Three hundred years ago such presumption would have cost me my head, and, as it was, it caused a gasping for breath among officials that undoubtedly influenced weather conditions, for we had a light monsoon that summer, followed by a famine in the winter.

I persisted in my demand, however, and I finally got the palace. It is now being changed over for our purposes and will be occupied as soon as possible. It is 190 ft. long and 110 ft. deep. It varies from two to four stories in height, and these stories are all 19 ft. between floors. The picture of it which is used as a frontispiece to this issue of the Library Journal will show something of what it is. I have never seen a more beautiful library building.

Thus the central storehouse, the key of the whole system, is provided for. The subsidiary storehouse[s] in the counties are not yet necessary; they will be provided when the time comes.

Thirty-eight town libraries have been established. These are small, as yet, but they will grow. They vary in size from 4000 to 300 vols. They are as yet largely in the vernaculars, but will add English books as the demand for them develops. In one or two of them there was a circulation, for home use, of 7000 books last year.

There are 426 villages in the state having a population of over 1000. There is a smaller percentage of literates here than in the towns, and yet 216 of these villages have already established libraries

of an average size of 200 vols. Still small, of course, but any size will do for a start; the growth comes later as the demands develop.

There are 2628 small villages in the state of less than 1000 souls, at least we will assume that their inhabitants have souls, though, being Hindus, their own opinions differ as to that. Some of these villages have but a handful of men who can read (and no women), others have even less, and yet 86 of them already have vernacular libraries and 110 others have reached the reading-room stage.

We have also established 140 small traveling libraries, which are now going to the various reading-rooms, small libraries, and communities throughout the state. There has grown up in Baroda a regular system for the establishment of these small libraries. First, we send a traveling library to a small village and put it under the charge of the village school-master. Then the village wants the newspapers and magazines and we help them start a reading-room, which also contains the traveling library. Then they want a small library of their own, and we help them start that. Then they want a building and again we help them, and they find themselves a library community.

When I left Baroda these libraries and reading-rooms were increasing at the average rate of five every month. At that time the sum total was 451 libraries and reading-rooms and 140 traveling libraries. Not a bad showing for a small state in a backward country.

These libraries showed a total circulation, for home use, of over 150,000 books during the year of 1911-12. Not bad either, when one considers that there are only 200,000 people in the whole state who can read.

In addition, I have induced the members of my staff to start the Baroda Library Club, which meets monthly and which already has a respectable membership.

They have also started a quarterly magazine, devoted to library matter, called the Library Miscellany .

Furthermore, in the way of library extension, we have established a Visual Instruction Branch, for the benefit of the many who cannot read.

This branch has four cinematographs and is showing educative film in the villages and towns of the state--free, of course.

I have been asked by many people how the library conditions in Baroda compare with those in the rest of India. This is not an easy question to answer, but I can give a general idea of the situation in the following way: In the larger towns of Baroda State, towns such as Baroda, Pattan, Navsari, Sidhpur, Petlad and Mehsana, there are at present some fifteen or twenty privately owned subscription libraries over which the government has no control, and which are not included in the foregoing enumeration. Some of these libraries have three or four thousand books, others are much smaller. If there were no other libraries in the state but these, Baroda would still be on a par with the rest of India, population considered.

These are the things we have done. With the doing of them and with the establishment of the plan for their future development, my personal work in Baroda comes to an end.

My lines have been cast in pleasant places. I have been royally treated and loyally supported, both by my staff and by the government, and these two are now abundantly able to carry on the work we have begun together.

What they intend to do, as published in the above plan, is large.

What they hope to do, not published, is larger still.

But the future yet lies upon the knees of the gods. It may be dreamed of, but until these dreams crystallize into deeds it were as well not to speak of them.

2

Borden's work in Baroda--December 1913
An Appreciation

/Borden/ Lib. Journal /appreciates work in Baroda
/ Lib. Journal /appreciates Borden's work in Baroda

/Sayajirao/appreciated by Lib. Journal

Library Journal 38(December 1913):657.

"While the modern library system is absolutely the product of democracy, it is interesting to note the exception that in an Indian native state, where absolutism reigns, [not true],

The writer is not acquainted with the exceptional progress already made by Baroda (even before 1908) in implementing the ideas and ideals of democracy!

one of the most remarkable library developments in the world has been made, and that within four years past. Baroda has for many reasons been called the 'Massachusetts of India,' being the most progressive of Indian states, of about the same area as Massachusetts, though having but two-thirds its population. But while Massachusetts in the past sixty years has accomplished the triumph of developing in each of its 353 cities and townships save one a free public library (that one being Newbury, which uses the Newburyport Library), the Maharaja of Baroda has, through an American director, Mr. Borden, developed a state library system which includes 451 local libraries, most of them of course small but several of creditable size, with an aggregate of two million books for two million population, and an annual state appropriation approximating \$150,000. This combination of Asian control and American progress has indeed produced wonderful results. It is astonishing to think that in each of the two native languages used in that state there are approximately five thousand books printed, so that ten thousand printed books are at the service of the native population in the vernacular. Equal credit should be given to the Maharaja for the American progressiveness which he took back from his journeys to America, where he proved, as at the Library of Congress, one of the most intelligent and progressive of library inquirers, and to Mr. Borden for his Asian adaptation of American methods."

Comments

Borden was invited by the Maharaja of Baroda to his State specifically "to institute a system of free public libraries throughout the State that

could supplement and carry on, and perhaps complete this work of education." [pp. 659-601]

Borden hesitated to accept Maharaja's invitation. He agreed but had many misgivings. He was not sure how far he would succeed in his attempts. Ultimately, he thought he was successful and that he enjoyed the experience. As soon as he reached Baroda he conducted a survey through personal visits to various libraries and other educational institutions in the State. The State was equal to Massachusetts in size but had only two-thirds of its population. Ninety percent of the people lived on agriculture. The land was fertile, but lacked water resources.

Caste system was a barrier in opening the doors of the library to all. Prolonged missionary campaign was needed to accomplish this. Borden claims to have achieved this.

Keep separate. Does not belong in here. Repetitive anyway.

Borden on his own library schemes

/Borden/on his library schemes

Borden believed that the "gradual growth" of libraries had been already provided for by these same "Rules," which decreed that every state-supported library had to spend at least one-fourth of its income for the purchase of new books.

Borden made several comments on the Library situation in India. A comparison of the library situation at Baroda with other regions of India had led him to conclude that on account of her many other private libraries she could compare well with other parts in India even if there were no State-supported free public libraries.

In the establishment of what we know as free public library movement, as well as in the movement for the education of the common people, these native states are far in advance of the rest of India, and foremost among these is the State of Baroda.

1 Library Journal , 38(Dec.1913):659.

/Baroda/Library Movement/promotes lib. development in India

Borden called his plan at Baroda as "The Baroda System." Similar system was planned for Indore, and Mysore was thinking of following in the footsteps of Baroda and Indore. Baroda exercised a great influence over many other native states. Borden was confident that other states would follow Baroda's ideal example.

Borden also tells his readers why he came to Baroda. He was invited by the Maharaja of Baroda specifically "to institute a system of free public libraries throughout the state that should supplement and carry on, and perhaps complete this work of education.

2 Library Journal , 38(Dec.1913):659-660.

3

ORGANIZATION OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS
IN THE UNITED STATES
(Borden's paper--1917)

William Alanson Borden, "Organization of Free Public Libraries",
Public Libraries, 22(1917):177-180.

As the school prepares the child and the youth for the work of his mature life, so is the library his efficient helper in all the problems of that life so long as it remains with him. The one is the supplement of the other and equally necessary in the making of the citizen. Both should be free and absolutely accessible. The school is now within the reach of every child; the library should be made equally accessible to every adult.

The recognition of the public library as a civic necessity even greater than the school has been a growth of the past 60 years. It began naturally in the cities, those nuclei of the intellectual life,

but in the two decades just past, with the trolley, the telephone, and the mails, it has extended into every part of the rural community. But in most cases it is only the recognition of the necessity of the library that has extended, not the library itself. This need of extending library privileges into the farming country, although it has been much discussed in all meetings of city librarians these many years, is not a matter to be taken up by the cities, however able or willing they may be, but by the county or by the state, and they should be started and maintained by a county or state tax. Our farmers are not dependent upon the cities, but are fully able to pay their own way.

They need the libraries and the county or state should see that they get them. They need them even more than the cities do, not only because there are more of them than in the cities, but because their isolation has cut them off from the daily education that the man on the street absorbs from simply being on the street.

But a system of libraries that is intended to cover a county or a state should be organized on a different basis from that that underlies the city library. In a compact city the readers are always able to come to the library; in the country the library must go to the reader. Therefore the country library should be small and to a large extent transportable. No money need be wasted on monumental buildings nor on large collections of unused books. Each district should have one large collection within the reach of all its inhabitants, many would already have such in its principal city and this could generally be used as the central storehouse, but outside of the one main collection, which should contain all the technical and special books likely to be called for, each circulating library should be restricted to the ordinary books of the day, those in regular demand by the people for whom it is instituted. Ordinary books are cheap and if bought in considerable quantities quite cheap; the only books which are expensive are the special ones, those that have but a limited use, and they are usually costly because their field is limited; a few of these in each district, in each county or in each state, would be sufficient to meet all the demands of the people of that district.

This combination of central storehouses, containing special or little used books which would be available for all small libraries, with numerous small branches, delivery stations, and traveling collections

supplying the small communities, is the most modern type of library organization. It is not by any means common as yet, but an approach to it is being gradually introduced into some of the Eastern states, though what might be called the vested interests of the large city libraries in that section of the country make the full working of the system rather difficult.

These city libraries are large. They have been built up on the plan of having on their shelves all the books demanded by the citizens, whether those demands came from large groups or from small ones. The result has been that the same special books, usually expensive ones, always scarce ones, are now found in twenty or thirty of the libraries in many states, all bought with money obtained from taxation, all bought with funds that might better have been used for books in more general demand, and all but one or two of them absolutely useless because the legitimate demands of all the readers of such books in the whole state could have been satisfied by one or two copies had those copies been in some central storehouse accessible to each library in the state.

These thousands of duplicated books now stand upon the shelves of the city libraries in silent financial protest against any state organization that shall render them useless and the money spent for them wasted.

There are other problems, financial and governmental, that must be solved before many of the Eastern states can fully adopt this new cooperative idea of library organization; but there are many states in the West that are not so handicapped. A system of cooperating libraries can be founded in a comparatively new district with but a very small outlay compared with the cost of the old order of separate and independent city libraries. The writer has just organized such a system in one of the native states of India and knows whereof he speaks. The state is as large as Massachusetts, there were 150 libraries already there, and the system now contains about 500 interdepending libraries, large and small, but mostly small, for small working libraries filled with live books is the main idea of the organization. The library system of this native state is much larger than would be required by any county in this country, probably as large as most of our states would need, and yet the whole expense of its organization has not been as much as \$300,000 (outside of the cost of the central storehouse) and the

annual maintenance charges are less than \$40,000.

The writer does not claim that a system of libraries as extensive as this one in the state of Baroda can be organized in any state in America for this amount of money. There is too much difference in the cost of living. But he does claim that for a sum well within the means of any county or state in this country a system of cooperating libraries can be organized that shall give to every inhabitant of that county or state the opportunity of reading every book or magazine he wants to read and of getting those books as easily and as quickly as he now gets his mail.

The writer would also advise that the organization of such a system begin in the county rather than in the state, provided that the county government can be empowered to lay taxes for that purpose. The state is a large body with many duties to perform, whereas the county government, in most of the northern states at least, is not looked upon as being greatly overworked. The county is large enough for a thorough exposition of the system, while it is not so large that any mistakes will be very expensive to rectify. When such an organization is in successful operation in one or two counties of a state, the state itself will soon swing into line, because it will be a line of accomplishment rather than one of experimentation.

The county system, however, should not be over-large; it will eventually be only a part of the larger system of the state and any over-growth will entail a needless expense to the taxpayers.

The writer would recommend that the county system be about as follows, though no two counties are likely to have the same problems and so any general recommendations would be subject to numerous exceptions:

1. A storehouse for books seldom called for. This should be used for all the expensive, rare, special, technical and outclassed books in the entire county. Here should be found all the books not in active demand in any of the smaller libraries, but which are liable to be called for in any of them. It is the court of last resort, but as it has the resources of the whole county behind it the chances of its failing to meet a just demand are not large.

If this storehouse happens to be located in a city, and some centrally located city is the most convenient place for it, a general circulating library for the ordinary use of the citizens may be combined with it at a considerable saving in the expenses of administration and the original cost of the building.

The building to contain this collection should be designed from the standpoint of capacity rather than that of the ordinary operations of a public library; it is to hold books that do not move much and therefore accessibility must yield to compact storage. It need not be a large building to begin with, but it should be planned so as to allow for indefinite enlargement. Libraries have a trick of growing much faster and much larger than their designers expect, and a building that is so placed or so designed that it cannot be enlarged from time to time is a building that must eventually be scrapped and another one erected in its place.

There should be no attempt made to make this collection a large one at first. Large libraries are not made, they grow, and they grow along the lines of the demands made upon them. It is much easier to take care of those demands as they come up than to try to anticipate them. The central collection should begin with few books, but with as many dollars as may be possible. The calls for the first few years will occasion many purchases.

This building should also be the administrative headquarters of the entire system. Here should be gathered all the trained classifiers and catalogers, and all the expert work on the books should be done here before they are sent out to the smaller libraries. No experts will be needed in any of these smaller institutions, and so no expert salaries will have to be paid in them.

The books in this central collections are to be freely loaned to every inhabitant of the county, but it would be better if they were not drawn directly by the reader, but through the instrumentality of his own local library. The local library would be more likely to be informed as to his responsibility, and could look after the book more closely.

2. Should the county be very large, or should it contain a number of good sized cities, subsidiary storehouses might be established in each

of them and attached to the local library. In such a case many of the books and some of the expert work might be divided between the central and the other storehouses.

3. Small libraries or distributing centers should be established in every town and village of the county. They should vary in size from 500 books to 5,000, depending upon the local or the surrounding population. The larger collections might have a building, or a large public room, but the smaller ones could be located in some general store, or in the school house, and the store clerks or the teachers would be entirely competent to issue them to the readers and see to their safe return. A small salary would pay for the small amount of work that would be required. In many instances they might be kept in some private house, centrally located, particularly out among the farms, and in such cases the social prominence might be considered a sufficient remuneration.

The books in these libraries should be those that are in ordinary demand among the inhabitants of the district in which the library is situated. These books will vary as the population of the district happens to be industrial, commercial or agricultural. The books should be always up to date. When books are worn out or outgrown they should be returned to the central storehouse, where they will be saved against a possible call, or disposed of, as the case may be. The small libraries should never harbor dead books.

4. As a supplement to these small libraries the writer would suggest that there be a number of special collections of books made up and enclosed in small boxes. These collections might be all new books, or they might all be upon one or two popular topics. They should travel from one library to another and would form an agreeable variation from the possible monotony of the smaller library collections. If they were upon special topics the records of their use would give the ordering departments much valuable information in a very practical way.

5. The foregoing plan would bring the opportunity of reading and study within at least a few miles of every man's door and that is as far, perhaps, as the ordinary county would be inclined to carry its extension of the library privilege. There is a step further, however, that does bring the library absolutely to his door, and that step is the institution of a series of book-wagons, real traveling libraries.

The average reading person in a city, with a public library within a walk of ten minutes, will read three times as many books when they are brought to his door than he will when he is obliged to go and get them. Apply this fact to the case of the farmer who is usually rushed with work during the hours when a library is open, and one has the strongest kind of an argument in favor of the book-wagon for the rural districts.

To sum up the advantages of this new system of library organization in a few words: It brings the books within the reach of the people who want to read them, it brings them only the books they want to read, the special reader has the entire resources of the county or the state at his command in obtaining for him the one book whose contents are important to him, it accomplishes all or any of these things at the least possible cost because the whole system is founded upon the principle of cooperation.

* * * * *

The Library Journal of October 1917 noted Borden's above writing on the organization of public libraries in the U.S.A. "It was an argument for the establishment of a system of libraries within a given district, with a central storehouse and numerous small branches, delivery stations, traveling collections, and book wagons, similar in organization to the county library systems worked out in some states [in the U.S.A.], or to the string of cooperating libraries which Mr. Borden himself organized in Baroda, India."

The library Journal , 42(October 1917):840.

2

Borden--Library Philosophy (1917)

An Important Feature

/Borden/library philosophy

Small libraries or distributing centres should be established in every town and village of the country... the smaller collections could be located in some general store, or in the school house, and the store clerks or the teachers would be entirely competent to issue them to the readers and see to their safe return.

This is what was done in Baroda, too. But this arrangement could hardly give the needed stability. Borden believed that all people might work as selflessly as he did.

The Maharaja had said something to the effect: "The writing of books, cannot feed the belly." Amin too thought so, probably.

He believed that "the social prominence acquired by handling the collection might be considered a sufficient remuneration."

goes to his paper of 1917

BORDEN'S Philosophy of Library Service.

He expected everyone to be as generous and library-minded as he was. A storekeeper to be a librarian. Well, in the Andhra, one employee (?) was willing to look after the circulation of books in Boat Library Service. When the books were so rare, it might be true. We cannot judge the past exclusively on the basis of the present-day conditions. World has provided a good commentary on this topic.

06PSTBD

-&-

Borden Returns Home

September 1913

/America/contributes to library service in India

/Borden/returns home from Baroda

Borden returned home probably in June 1913. The Library Journal took a note of this important event:

"Borden, W. A., has returned to America after his three years' library service in organizing at Baroda, India, a public library system on American lines [emphasis added], and is for the time living at Westport, Ct. Mr. Borden was an associate and pupil of C. A. Cutter at the Boston Athenaeum, and thereafter did much library organization work in Rochester [only for a short period] and New Haven, whence he went to India at the invitation of the Maharaja of the State of Baroda."

1 Library Journal , 38(September 1913):538.

Borden and Bowker 1913- This is a summary

/Bowker, R. R./assists Borden after his return from Baroda

/Cantilever Bookstack/designed by Borden

R. R. Bowker provided great encouragement and help to Borden after Borden returned home. He tried to re-enter the library profession. Bowker tried to help him in his efforts to secure a library job. But Borden had no luck. He attempted to perfect his invention of cantilever steel book-racks. Bowker helped him in this attempt too to the extent of lending \$350 which was a large amount if one considers the value of a dollar in 1915.

/NYLA Library Week

The correspondence between Bowker and Borden after the latter came back from Baroda throws a good deal of light on Borden's subsequent life and activities. The "India Evening" celebrated as part of the proceedings of the 23rd annual meeting of the New York Library Association at Lake George must have been arranged by Bowker. Possibly

he knew Maharaja Sayajirao personally. It is also possible that it might be Bowker who recommended the name of Borden to Dr. Bumpus to be considered by Sayajirao.

/Sayajirao/elected honorary member of NYLA

The proceedings of the Conference show that Bowker proposed the resolution to felicitate the Maharaja and to elect him as an Honorary Member of the New York Library Association.

Borden wrote his report on Baroda for the Library Miscellany , which was published in its No. 4, of Vol. 1 (May 1913, pp. 187-94). It was intended to be read before the annual conference of the American Library Association [to be held at Catskills in 1913].

The same article was published, with certain changes (additions and alterations) in No. 12 of Vol. 38 of December 1913 (pp. 659-663) of the Library Journal .

This was amplified from the address delivered at the Lake George Meeting of the New York Library Association on 24 September 1913.

Borden Back Home--1913-18. Correspondence with Bowker. Borden--Post Baroda

Bowker and Borden, 1913-1918

Borden's Correspondence with Bowker

/Borden/correspondence with Bowker

/Bowker, R. R./correspondence with Borden

1 NYPL MSS DIVISION. Important letters. Bowker encourages Borden. Biography of Borden. Period--late 1913 to 1918.

Glendale
Berkshire Co., Mass.
October 8, 1913

Dear Mr. Borden:

I hope you enjoyed the company at Lake George as much as they enjoyed what you brought them. I shall be glad to have you send the Baroda article to the Library Journal office as soon as practicable, including an inserted paragraph on the languages and number of books available, prefacing the paper with a paragraph or two of the general library condition in India, at the capitals and through the country and appending the forecast of what you hope may come about,

2 Important forecast for the future.
Particularly through the spread of the "Baroda system" through the native states.

With best remembrance from Mrs. Bowker and myself to Mrs. Borden and yourself.

Truly yours
W. C. [!] Borden

3 Borden's second initial not correct!

Westport, Ct. C/O Pub. Lib.?

This copy of the letter is in typed form.
All letters of Bowker, i.e. copies are typed. All of Borden, before 7 September 1915 are handwritten.

Borden was not on very close relationship with Bowker, because Bowker addresses him "Dear Mr. Borden," i.e. He does not use the

first name. However, the letter seems to be friendly because he ends up with the following: "With best remembrance from Mrs. Bowker and myself to Mrs. Borden and yourself.

Truly yours . . . "

/Borden/search for employment after return from Baroda

Borden tries for several jobs and requests Bowker to recommend his name and give help. So many attempts! Talks about his abilities and interests, and the suitability of a particular, advertised job.

Borden writes from Westport, 16 November 1913:

"If you know the people at the head of the movement, a word from you might bring about an interview."

From Bowker, 21 November 1913: "I am interested in anything which may give you an adequate post, but . . .

Borden tries for jobs. Does not get any.

In 1913 the salary at Columbia University was \$4,000.

Bowker's letter of 17 December 1913. Borden had applied, but Bowker reacted: "I am glad you have applied there, but I do not think you can look upon such appointment as a probability."

15 December 1913: Bowker sends wire to Tacoma [WA]: "Borden excellent man; Experienced librarian; agreeable personality and social adaptability. About fifty [he was sixty]; trained in youth by C. A. Cutter; Librarian Young Men's Library, New Haven, and elsewhere. Selected for Baroda because of organizing ability and made thorough success there. Particularly useful where problems of development are to be faced."

The Bowker-Borden correspondence contains a good deal of information about the efforts Borden made to promote his steel-stacks and the ways Bowker helped him, even giving a loan of \$350. Borden was not financially well off. Or, he might have invested all his earnings and life-savings into his experiments.

/Borden/hardship in later life

Bowker speaks of the fine work Borden had done in Baroda and his

desire to help Borden.

On December 1913, Borden wrote to Bowker: "What a queer chapter from the Arabian Nights my career has been for the past four years. I wrote Tripp of New Bedford the other day that nowadays I hardly dared to fill a lamp for fear I should rub it."

1 cf. What Borden himself said in December 1913:
I have been royally treated and loyally supported.

Borden's life was full of struggle and strife--hopes and disappointments. He applied for war-service. He was told that he was too old. Borden writes from:

2

291 Townsend Ave.

2 I visited this street, at least, to see Mrs. Ann Hobart Brown.

New Haven
July 16, 1915

"I do not seem to be able to do anything in this war. The Govt. has absolutely deprived me of steel and the bookstack business. Must wait for the final victory. In the meantime, I have made several efforts to get into the Library War service, where it would seem that there might be a demand for expert librarians and library organizers, and am curtly informed--"you are over age." One wonders if inexperience has suddenly come to be a recommendation or if some young smart Aleck has discovered that all brains over 50 have gone stale.

"I have written to Putnam and am writing to Utley." ??????????????????

Today . . .
[?]

3 Borden's handwriting in correspondence is certainly not the ordained "library hand." It is very illegible.

Borden to Bowker on 15 September 1915: "My dear Dr. Bowker: . . . to be without work for two years is apt to bring one's finances to a pretty low ebb."

The letter dated 18 July 1918 is the last in the file from Bowker to Borden. In this letter Bowker says: "I sympathize with your desire to do library war service and I think I have already certified to your equipment for the work. It seems to me your success in India and your earlier experience especially qualify you."

NYPL also has another two-page article from Borden (sent to be published) which is a three-year report of the work he did in organizing the Young Men's Institute Library, New Haven. Gives comparative statistics of 1887-89.

The editor has put "Survival Revived" as the caption to be printed.

Cantilever steel bookstacks

Borden the Engineer, 1916

/Borden/designs cantilever steel book stacks (1916)
start /Cantilever Bookstack/ designed by Borden

One of the most useful library equipments designed by Borden was the "Borden Cantilever Steel Book Stacks." His theory of the bookstacks appears on pp. 241-42 of the *Library Journal* ,

V. 41 for 1916. A descriptive article is also found on pp. 256-58, while a note on p. 784 states that they are available "on market."

Borden was residing in Westport, Connecticut at this time. One of the posts of the steel book stack was tested at the Engineering Laboratory of Yale and was found to support a weight of 56,000 pounds without bending. Borden's business associate was John Adams Thayer. Although Borden was a practical librarian of long standing, yet neither he nor his associate was a practical engineer. Therefore, they deemed it prudent to associate themselves with a well-reputed engineering firm which could manufacture the steel stacks and stand as a guarantee for its quality and standard.

Therefore, arrangements were made with Messrs. Post & McCord of 101 Park Avenue, New York City, who agreed to manufacture, erect and guarantee all installations of the Cantilever stack in the United States.

2

March 28, 1916

Borden says:- Plans for Borden Bookstack Co. ready.

The Borden Cantilever Bookstacks

7

Patented and Controlled by
THE BORDEN BOOKSTACK CO.
Westport, Connecticut

7

WILLIAM ALANSON BORDEN, President
JOHN ADAMS THAYER, Managing Director

5

Manufactured, Erected, and Guaranteed by
POST AND McCORD INCORPORATED STEEL CONSTRUCTION

5

ONE HUNDRED AND ONE, PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK

7

Frontispiece: The Borden Cantilever Bookstack.
Library at New Canaan, Connecticut

Concerning Bookstacks [All quotes]

Since 1876 the evolution that has taken place in the manufacture of library bookstacks has brought about changes that are fully as great as those that have occurred in other departments of the library. In this gradual evolution many varieties of stack have been offered the library authorities. In the earlier ones the upright ends of the cases were hollow shells of sheet steel, reproducing the shapes of the older wooden ends; the same form in another material, the ordinary first step in the psychology of invention.

The shelves of these earlier stacks, though theoretically movable could not be adjusted to height in the cases without first removing all the books from them, an operation involving so much bother that most of such shelves remained fixed from year to year. In order to support these shelves, also, the steel uprights had to be pierced at every inch of the height, thus opening the interior surfaces (inaccessible surfaces) to possible rust.

The first considerable improvement in metal bookstacks came with the introduction of what is known as the "bracket" type of stack, as distinguished from the older type known as the "standard." In this type the effort was made to eliminate the superfluous metal of the older type.

This extra metal had been used in making the new stacks resemble the older wooden ones; an effort to adhere to an older type, without realizing that that type had been necessitated by the inferior strength of the material from which it was made and that the lightness and strength of the material demanded a type of its own, in fact, had already established its type in other constructions.

In this new bracket stack the upright was reduced to a square post (still hollow and still perforated) on which the bracket shaped shelves could be hung at any point. This bracket shelf had two distinct advantages over the standard shelf: it could be moved up or down in the cases, or from one case to another, without disturbing the books, and any width of shelf could be hung on the post wherever that particular

width was wanted. The bracket stacks were much lighter than those of the other type, and consequently cheaper, and were much more open to the diffusion of light and the circulation of air. From the standpoint of the librarian, the user, they were much superior to the stacks they were expected to supersede, although they were open, perhaps, to a certain reactionary criticism from some who wanted "a bookcase to look like a bookcase.

That the supersession never materialized, except in small installations, was due to the fact that, from the standpoint of the architect and of the engineer, they were decidedly inferior to the older type. Their inadequate lateral bracing rendered their ability to carry heavy loads very questionable.

They had been designed as single-story stacks and were, perhaps, well enough braced for the intended use. When the central stack room came into vogue, bringing with it the multi-story bookstack, the inherent weakness of the bracket stack, as it was then constructed, came to be recognized.

In high stacks the combined weights of the upper stories, of the books, and of the users of the books, must be carried by the upright ends of the individual cases. The ability of these uprights to carry that load is not measured by the resistance of their steel posts against crushing, but by the resistance the weakest points in these 30, 45, 60, or 75 foot columns would exert against bending. These weak points are where the individual posts are joined, end to end, at the tops of each story of the stack, particularly the joints near the bottom of the stack. In both standard and bracket stacks these joints are adequately braced against bending in a direction parallel with the rows of cases by a system of horizontal and diagonal braces strung along the middle of each row. In bracing in the other direction, across the lines of the passageways between the row, the diagonal members of this system cannot be used without blocking the passageways, and the horizontal members, alone, are not sufficient. In the standard stacks the broad uprights are substituted for the diagonal braces. They may be said to contain a rather steep diagonal within their widths. In the bracket stacks so far erected these horizontal braces have been anchored to the walls of the surrounding building, relying upon whatever diagonal bracing can be assumed to lie within the thickness of these walls--and

happily transferring all responsibility for collapse upon the mason, ex post facto.

In the Borden Cantilever Bookstack, which is a bracket stack, each individual post of the stack is joined to its fellow across the passageway by a steel arch which is composed of a pair of cantilever trusses, each firmly anchored to its own post, and joined together securely where they meet over the center of the passageway. It will thus be seen that while the rigidity of the ordinary bracket stack is questionable, for multi-story installations, and that of the standard stack is comparative, the rigidity of the Cantilever Stack is absolute. Prior to the appearance of the Cantilever stack the best stack that had been produced was the one designed for the Library of Congress by Mr. Bernard R. Green, the Superintendent of Buildings. This was a return to the standard type, the installation being large, but the shelves were so designed that they were really adjustable; the books on them did not have to be disturbed unless they were to be removed to another case. This stack has since been adopted for many of the larger installations, although architects might criticize its considerable weight and its use of cast iron for its up-rights.

In competition with this stack, the best so far produced, the Cantilever stack is now offered. The designer has been a librarian and an organizer of libraries for thirty years, and a mechanical inventor and an engineer for a still longer period.

If one were to condense the recommendations of the Cantilever Stack into a single phrase he would say that it was designed for librarians by a fellow librarian of long and varied experience, and is erected by the engineering firm that is responsible for the steel framework of the Metropolitan Tower, the Fifth Avenue Building, the Hotel Pennsylvania, and numerous other contributions to the sky-line of New York City.

[emphasis added].

THE BORDEN CANTILEVER BOOKSTACK is of the bracket type,

and similar to other stacks of that type, its shelves, with the books always on them, can be readily adjusted to height in the cases (a daily operation in a large library), and this adjustment can be performed by any of the lady assistants - in other words, the shelves are so designed that they can be raised or lowered one end at a time.

These shelves (always with their books on them) may also be moved from one case to another (when large invoices are being shelved); or they can be moved from the stacks to any part of the library where they may be wanted for inspection or consultation.

When used outside of the stacks (see Type D cases), the Cantilever cases have broad bases that can be made of any desired width up to forty-six inches. They can therefore be used for the floor cases of the children's room, for the wall cases of the reading rooms, or for the folio cases of the bound newspaper room, and in any of these positions, as well as in the stacks, they will carry any width of shelf, or any variety of widths, and with any desired spacing between these shelves. Thus but one type of case and one type of shelf meet all library needs.

The Borden Cantilever Stack wastes no room between the back edges of the shelves of a double-faced case. One hundred feet of stack room will accommodate twenty-six rows of full-sized Cantilever cases, instead of twenty-five rows, and the shelves on these twenty-six rows will measure up to the mark of eight inches in width. Our eight-inch shelves will not be found to be but seven inches wide. When we make a seven-inch shelf we call it a seven-inch shelf and we space twenty-seven rows of such shelves to each hundred feet of stack-room.

In all varieties of stacks hitherto put on the market the braces have been bolted to the sides of the uprights, projecting into the book space of the stack and interfering with the free movement of the shelves. In the Cantilever stack the trusses are integral parts of the posts they brace. They do not obtrude into the book space. Thus every inch of space between the posts, from the bottom of the stack to its extreme top, can be devoted to the storage of books--the only object for which any stack is built.

By these economies of room the Cantilever Stack is enabled to shelve from ten to twenty per cent more books than any other.

The Borden Cantilever Bookstack contains no hollow spaces.

All surfaces liable to rust are fully exposed for inspection and painting. Steel will rust when exposed to the air, and there is no method known by which such rusting can be prevented. It may be arrested by cleaning and painting, and it is therefore of the utmost importance that all steel surfaces exposed to the air should also be exposed to inspection, to cleaning, and to painting, otherwise the safety of the structure has a very decided time limit.

Each post of the Stack has a factor of safety of 4.

Its bracing is scientific. With the rows its braces are trusses. Across the rows they are either trusses or arches. These arches, or trusses, are prevented from buckling by being bolted to the deckplates thus converting the deckplates into constructional parts of the stack instead of leaving them as loads to be supported. The arches are parts of the substance of the posts for one-third of the length of each post, thus insuring an adequate anchorage in their resistance to sway.

The Borden Cantilever Bookstacks, when they leave the factory, consist of five distinct parts: the Posts, the Deckplates, the Diagonal Braces, the Footings, and the Shelves.

These parts are all machine made and are interchangeable. They are all punched to receive the bolts which hold them together, and these bolts accompany them.

Any intelligent mechanic can erect the stacks as well as it can be done by experts sent from our factory, saving expense. A further advantage from this simplicity lies in the fact that the Cantilever Stack can be easily taken down again and re-erected in another building, or moved to any other part of the library.

The "Cantilever" is the strongest stack made. It is the most convenient stack made. It costs no more than other stacks.

TYPES OF THE BORDEN CANTILEVER BOOKSTACK

The Cantilever Stacks are made in five types in order to meet, in the most economical manner, the various uses to which library shelving may be adapted.

Type A is designed for installations up to fifteen stories high. In this type the cantilevers over the passage ways are arched, as in the illustrations.

Type B is designed for installations up to ten stories high. In this type the cantilevers over the passage ways are of plain, triangular shape. Stacks made after this type are somewhat cheaper than those of type A.

Type C is designed for shelving heavy materials, and is better adapted for factories than for libraries. The shelves are often made in the shape of bins.

Type D stacks are all one story high. They are made both single-face, for wall cases, and double-face, for floor cases. They are self-supporting, having wide bases, and are movable from one place to another as desired. When not in use they may be knocked down and stored in small compass. They may be extended, by additional units, to any length required.

Type E stacks, also one story high, make a very cheap, but efficient, wall case for branch libraries, offices, or stores. They consist of steel channels, slotted as in the other types, that are fastened to the walls by expansion bolts and the regular library shelves hung on them.

Shelves: The shelves of the Cantilever Stack are interchangeable throughout any stack or any type of stack. They are made to fit into posts spaced on 36-inch centers and are either 8 inches, 10 inches, or 12 inches wide--full measure. The opposite shelves of a double-face case are only one-eighth of an inch apart at their back edges, and no book can fall down between them.

It is recommended that the bottom shelves of each story of the stack be extra wide so as to fill the spaces on each side of the deck-plates and thus make an efficient fire and dust (and book) stop. These ????

Deck-plates: Our regular construction for the decks of the several stories is steel, which may be carpeted with linoleum or cork, if desired. We will put in either marble or glass if they are specified, but do not recommend them as neither is fire-proof.

End quotes.

end /Cantilever Bookstack/ designed by Borden

American library missionaries promote libraries in India

/Dickinson, Asa Don/inspires Panjab

Borden's Pioneering work in Baroda and that of Dickinson in the Punjab--
appreciated by LJ. January 1916.

Dickinson--in the footsteps of Borden

Borden's work at Baroda as seen by a professional library journal.

/Dickinson, Asa Don/in the footsteps of Borden

Library Journal Volume 41, January, 1916. P. 3
[Editorial notes] has also noted with appreciation
Borden's accomplishment at Baroda.

Asa Don Dickinson has gone abroad as an American library
missionary to do through the University of Lahore like work to
that which Mr. Borden accomplished in Baroda (emphasis added).

Borden 1921. Borden's work in Baroda evaluated and appreciated by Lj after a decade of its foundation.

(Progress in Baroda as viewed by a contemporary professional journal of America)

Is this not included in Apostle? *****

/Borden/an appreciation (1921)

/ Lib. Journal /on Borden's work in Baroda

The Library Journal took note of the progress made by the Baroda Library movement during the first decade of its development--1911-1921. On page 624 of v. 48 (1923) we read:

"During the Library Week of 1913, William A. Borden, who had just returned from India, explained the organization of the system of public libraries in Baroda State and described what had been accomplished during the first two [three?] years of its operation.

/Govt. aid to Baroda libs./conditional on local contributions

"It should be remembered that two basic ideas underlay the whole plan. First, these libraries were not to be given away by a paternal government, but were to be initiated and partly financed by the inhabitants of the individual towns and villages; and secondly, after two years of instruction and management the whole development of the plan was to pass under native control.

/Baroda/Library System/

"The development of the initiatory phase of the movement was calculated to cover a period of ten years. During that time it was planned to organize a central department and book storehouse in Baroda City with 200,000 volumes; forty-one libraries, shelving in all 190,000 volumes, in the various towns of the state; four hundred and twenty-six libraries, with 200,000 volumes, in the larger villages; and as many

libraries as possible in the smaller villages--those with less than 1000 inhabitants (not many of whom could read.) In addition there were to be travelling libraries for the smaller villages and a system of instructive cinema shows for the benefit of the 90 per cent of the inhabitants who could not read. The literate population of the state then numbered about 200,000.

"When Mr. Borden's contract with the government terminated, in the summer of 1913, and he left the control in native hands, there had been established a central library in Baroda City, 38 town libraries, 412 village libraries and 140 travelling libraries.

"The annual circulation from these was 150,000 volumes. The Visual Instruction Branch was operating two cinemas and circulating many stereographs. Within a year came the four years of European war which interfered sadly with the plan of operations. However, at the close of the war, after seven years of operation, four years of which had cruelly tested the enthusiasm of the native librarians newly operating "on their own,"

1 The vast amounts of money and the multitudes of men, contributed by the Maharaja toward the War, UNDER COMPULSION, would have sustained the library operation for centuries!

the library system embraced, besides the central library, 42 town libraries, 560 village libraries, and 441 travelling libraries, owning all told, 327,619 books and manuscripts and circulating annually 269,093 volumes.

"At the end of the ten year period, in 1921, in spite of the war and the chaotic conditions following it, the library census of the state showed the central library, forty-three town libraries, six hundred and seventy-seven village libraries, and an increased number of travelling libraries (records missing). On the library shelves were 409,773 volumes and the annual circulation was 333,014. The Visual

Instruction Branch had steadily increased its usefulness all thru this period and during the last year had given 61 cinema shows to 178,775 people and had circulated 32,000 stereographs.

"Not only has the library school been maintained by the central library department, attracting pupils from all over India, but the department has been gradually increasing its collection of Sanskrit and old Gujarati manuscripts, now numbering 11,520, and the most important of these, hitherto undiscovered, it has been publishing as the Gaekwad's Oriental Series, which now numbers eighteen works. Incidentally it may be mentioned that between the years 1911 and 1921 the number of literates in the state increased from 200,000 to 306,800."

Borden 1928. He was 75 then. New Haven Register article. My comments. Borden Appreciated. PIJ Free Public Library.

Borden in the evening of his life

Borden 1928

/Borden/in evening of his life (1928)

start / New Haven Register /on Borden's work in Baroda
A criticism and an appreciation

Borden's Work in Baroda, as seen by an American local daily

1 New Haven Register , Sunday (6 May 1928): 3, 12.
[A journalistic propaganda and publicity, a sensational writing which does not make much sense. Not very objective.]

A feature article on Borden, written when he was 75,
under the caption "India's Literary Emancipator has Birthday here."

Material would have been provided by Borden himself. [Why?]
This report extensively quotes from and draws heavily upon the "Report"
written by Borden in the Library Journal of 1913.

The article has a picture of Borden, when he was quite old. The same picture is preserved in the free-standing revolving album, displayed at the Young Men's Institute Library, New Haven.

/Pij Free Public Library/significance to Borden

The article contains a picture of the Pij Public Library which was opened by Borden just before he left Baroda on 15 May 1913. There is also a group photo taken on the occasion. Kudalkar and several other persons appear in it with Borden and Kudalkar seated in the center, both wearing garlands.

This Pij Library Building had a special significance for Borden. Why did Borden select this to be displayed in the article? Were there no other libraries better than this? The answer may lie in the fact that Borden himself performed the opening ceremony of its new building. It was a symbol of the metamorphosis Baroda had undergone in matters of the provision of free public library service. Also it represented a vivid contrast between the conditions that existed when Borden visited it in the very beginning of his assignment in Baroda, and those which obtained when he had finished his mission there.

The sub-title of the above article reads: "William Alanson Borden built library system of great value in isolated Province at Native Noble's bid."

[Note: The whole article should be reproduced as it is, just to show that it is not true and correct in its entirety. There is a good deal of journalistic embellishment, or facts combined with fiction.]

"Bringing knowledge and enlightenment to distant corners of this world [India] has been his [Borden's] life work, and he has not only accomplished great results himself, but moreover has established a precedent which is slowly revolutionizing educational work in the most isolated sections of darkened India [!]

"...he proved to be a man of vision, for he included the training of young girls to assist in the work of the Institute [YMI].

"For several years, before he left for India, he was connected

with Yale University in the capacity of librarian of the
Linonian [!] Brothers in addition to his work at the Institute."

1 Is it true? No. He was not the librarian of both the institutions at
the same time. The article contains many errors--typographical,
grammatical, and factual.

"The work done by this famous New Havener in India came to
him in a round-about fashion and was entirely unforeseen up
until the time he left America. [Not true]

/Sayajirao/ New Haven Register on,

"It happened that [in] 1910, a native prince of India, the
Gaekwar of Baroda, was visiting in New York City. The
dusty-skinned [!] noble [not a correct statement in view of
what I saw in Baroda Records] was deploring the lack of
education and the lack of books in his native country, and at
the same time expressing need for a librarian who would
revolutionize the system. A friend, listening to him,
mentioned Mr. Borden as a possible solution to the problem,
and it was not long after that that the work in Baroda was
inaugurated."

Borden found that "the whole library movement in India had only
reached the stage where it appealed to scholars."

"Until libraries were established by Mr. Borden in India, women had
no access to books at all." [Is this true? Not at all!]

"Thus a New Havener had the honor of originating and
establishing the Baroda System and it was introduced and
copied in the State of Indore and Mysore. [True? No!]"

The article is full of journalistic propaganda and
exaggerations, and does not make a true representation of facts!

For example, it says:

"The men, by reason of an ancient [?] and outworn tradition were not allowed near the women, even in libraries, and it was for that reason that Mr. Borden's work for the enlightenment of women was so important an achievement."

Most of the data were taken from Borden's previous articles (1913). The legend under the photo of Borden reads:

"William Alanson Borden of New Haven, who introduced modern library methods in India, establishing 450 libraries, and started a library school for the special training of librarians.

The legend under the picture of Pij Library reads:

"The New Haven librarian's last official act [!] in 1913 before he left India was to open this Library at Pij, Baroda State, India. The ceremony consisted of opening a silver padlock on the front door with a silver key, suitably engraved, given to him as [a ?] token of appreciation from his fellow-citizens in India."

When Borden spoke at the opening of this Library, he brought out the contrasting situations--what Pij was at the time of his first visit, how disappointed he was, and what transformation had taken place within two years. In one of his late speeches, the Maharaja also gave a picture of the contrasts, what Baroda was in early days of his rule and what it had become when he was speaking, i.e. the close of his reign.

/Borden/"Elm City librarian"

On page 12, Borden is referred to as the "Elm City librarian." New Haven is called Elm City. It had many elm trees in by-gone days.

"When Borden left Baroda in 1913... that was an excellent and unusual showing for a backward and unenlightened country."

/Nazarbagh Palace/envisioned by Borden as Central Library

The newspaper reports in glowing terms the acquisition of the palace for the library--What Borden wrote in the Library Journal .

A picture of the [Nazarbagh] Palace appeared as frontispiece in Lj . Borden believed that the palace was given to the Library. Either the news-reporter did not take the latest information about the library situation in Baroda, or Borden did not know what was going on in Baroda. Evidently, he had lost touch of the Library situation in

1 Yes, the Maharaja had no regard for Borden after he had left. The Maharaja wanted to show the plans of the library building to Mr. H. C. Bumpus in the U.S.A.

Baroda.1

The newspaper quotes Borden: "I persisted in my demand, and I finally got the palace."

He did not get it! However he talked of the renovations which were being made at the time he left. There is no evidence to show that the building was ever assigned to the Library or any renovations were ever made.

/Hall, Charles Cuthbert/served under Sayajirao

"Mr. Borden was the only American who ever came under the Gaekwar of India." [Certainly not true. MLN May 7, 1973.]
What about the educationist Charles Cuthbert Hall?

"William Alanson Borden's last official act was to open a new library at Pij, Baroda, built by the citizens of the village. It was a former grain storehouse, and in a dreadful condition when it was discovered[!]. It was entirely rebuilt and renovated into a splendid building: The builder [?] was presented [?] with a silver padlock suitably inscribed with which he opened the doors, and, wearing at the same time, a native garland of flowers, a custom instituted for the honoring of distinguished people. [Repeated in original!].

"Through the great example of Mr. Borden, library work is progressing in India. Recently [?] another native prince has been instrumental in establishing a central library similar to this one at Baroda, and fashioned after his plans." [Where?]

; Observations:

On the whole, the article is not very authentic.

There is hardly any substantial information, except that the Pij Library is prominently displayed. Borden might have had a high opinion about it. Also, he performed its opening ceremony!

The article is purely journalistic! It is not at all authentic.

Borden--1928

Offering felicitations on his 76th birthday, the New Haven Register named Borden as "India's Literary Emancipator." The epithet, though a little bit panegyric, epitomizes the far-reaching effects of Borden's foundational work in India through the Baroda Library System.

/Borden/named "India's Literary Emancipator" (1928)
end / New Haven Register /on Borden's work in Baroda

07OBIT

-&-

/Borden/obituary/by Divanji
/Divanji, N. C./obituary of Borden

Borden's Obituary
By N. C. Divanji.

1 N.C. Divanji, "William Alanson Borden, 1854-1931," *Modern Librarian*, 2(1932):130-31. N. C. Divanji worked for the Travelling Libraries Branch, Library Dept., Baroda. This is a direct quotation.

This biographical sketch of Borden is the most extensive so far discovered. But it is not quite reliable.

It is ironical that an "obituary" report on Borden happens to be the

most detailed account of his life and work. It was written by N. C. Divanji, one of Borden's students and subsequently a colleague, yet it is full of errors. It seems it is based on hearsay rather than verified facts.

Mr. William Alanson Borden was born on the 4th April, 1854

2 LC gives Borden's date of birth as 1853. "Baroda Records" have the same authentic date.

at New Bedford, [Mass] in U.S.A. After completing his school education in 1870, he studied for three years in Cornell University and then spent a few years studying Law in the office of his father, Mr. Alanson Borden, who was a Magistrate. Mr. Borden took some time before he discovered that his real vocation in life was that of a librarian. At first, he became a farmer and then a bookbinder. He converted his bindery into a library supply house. His interest in the library profession thus aroused, he studied library technique for three years under Mr. Charles A. Cutter, one of the founders of modern librarianship, and the inventor of the Expansive Classification and the Cutter Author Tables. After completing his course, he assisted in the organization of rural library work in Rochester in 1885. In 1887 he was appointed as a lecturer in the Columbia University Library School under Dr. Melvil Dewey. In this school he worked 5 years

3 Borden delivered only three lectures in one day, only once in the year 1887.

Even the school did not last at Columbia more than two years. Dewey went to Albany and took the school along with him. We don't know why pen-holders (writers) make such irresponsible statements.

[nonsense]. He left it to join his appointment as the librarian in the Linona [!] Library at Yale University. [Wrong] Later on he organized the Library of the Youngmen's Institute, New Haven. A children's room, a library school and a system of travelling libraries were amongst the special features which he introduced in this library.

All these manifold activities were an appropriate preparation for his great work--the introduction of the free popular library system in Baroda. It was in 1910 that on the invitation of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwad of Baroda, he accepted the post of the Director of State Libraries. The Maharaja during his two visits to America made up his mind to give his subjects the benefit of a free library system similar to that established in the United States and found in Mr. Borden the proper person to carry out this ambitious scheme

1 His Highness did not know Borden. He was appointed on the recommendation of Bumpus. [Subsequent research has shown that Sayajirao had met Borden in New York in July 1910.

The first duty of the new Director was to train a band of young men and women, who were to be appointed on the staff of the newly established State Library Department. The successful candidates were set to work to convert the magnificent Palace Library (which His Highness had generously presented to the public) into the free Central Library. The library was classified on a Scheme of Classification which is a combination of the Decimal and the Expansive. This scheme was also translated into the Marathi and Gujarati languages with certain modifications. Other features of the new Department were a children's library, a travelling library and a bindery. In this work, the Director had the assistance of the erstwhile palace librarian the late Mr. J.S. Kudalker, M.A., LL.B. whom he afterwards took with him to Europe and America to gain practical experience of the libraries of the West before taking up his post as Mr. Borden's successor. The Director at the Maharaja's request also planned a network of free public libraries throughout the length and breadth of the State, and in this work he had a valuable help of his second assistant Mr. Motibhai N. Amin, B.A. who, in fact had on his own account, had already worked four years on a similar plan for the establishment of free public libraries in the State (also Gujarat as a whole).

The first year's work resulted in opening of nine free Town public libraries and 255 village public libraries and sixty newsrooms. Last year (1930-31) the number had risen to forty-five Town, 718 Village libraries and seven ladies' and three Children's libraries and sixty newsrooms. The plan devised by Mr. Borden and still in force is that

the cost of the State-aided Town and Village Libraries shall be met by contributions in equal quotas by the people, the local board and the Government.

Mr. Borden formed a library club and started a library journal, the Library Miscellany , which was published in three languages.

Mr. Borden is the founder [!] of an ingenious steel library stack known as Cantilever Stack. [This is a function, or principal feature, rather than a name to designate the stacks of this type.] This stack is being used in some libraries in the Middle West of the States.

Mr. Borden was fond of boating and yachting and served as commodore of the Pequot Club of Morris Cove. He passed away on the 16th of November, 1931 at the age of 78 and was buried in Westville Cemetery. To mourn his loss he leaves behind him his wife Mrs. Hope Lewis Borden, his son Mr. Lewis Alanson Borden, his daughter Mrs. Earle Durham and an adopted daughter Anne.

Mr. Borden was a most hard-working man and while at Baroda he endeared himself to the members of his staff by his affability, courtesy, and sympathy. Not only did he love to encourage the budding talents of the youthful members of his staff, but both by precept and example, he showed them the high aims and sense of public duty which should be the characteristic of a public librarian.

Of his library class and his assistants, there only remain Mr. Motibhai N. Amin, B.A., the present Assistant Curator of Libraries, Baroda, Mr. B.M. Dadachanji, B.A., Head of the Reference Library, Mrs. Anandibai Prabhudesai, Superintendant of the Children's Room and Marathi Cataloguer and Mr. N.C. Divanji, Superintendant of the Travelling Libraries and Editor of the Pustak@laya , a Gujarati library monthly, all of whom revere the memory of their former chief and friend and pray that his soul may rest in peace.

Borden--Some Comments on His Life

start /Divanji, N. C./obituary of Borden/Nagar's comments

The preceding obituary article by N. C. Divanji gives some additional information on what Borden did after he left Baroda, i.e. his work in the United States after his return from India.

These notes were prepared by me long before I saw the documents in Baroda. Many of my statements and views were mere assumptions. The facts were known subsequently and are recorded in their appropriate places.

Borden was born on April 4, 1853 at New Bedford, Massachusetts
Divanji does not give the name of the State.

LC gives the year of birth as 1853. This date is confirmed by
Who's Who in America and Borden's own bio-data.

Borden completed his schooling in 1870 and studied at Cornell for three years, 1870-73. Then he studied law for a few years in the office of his father Alanson

I had a doubt whether Borden's father was really "Alanson," or Divanji merely took the second component of Borden's name to be that of his father, following the usual practice of Gujarat and Maharashtra, where the second name is generally that of the father. But sources studied later have confirmed that his father's name was really "Alanson."

Borden.

He did not pursue law. First he became a farmer and then a book-binder. He converted his bindery into a library supply house. [This was also done by Dewey who started a Library Bureau.] He studied library technique under Charles A. Cutter for three [!] years [in reality only eighteen months]. "After completing his course, he assisted in organizing rural library work in Rochester in 1885.

[Who's who puts 1886]. In 1887 he was appointed as a lecturer in the Columbia University Library School"... where "he worked five years. [Not true.]

He left it to join his appointment as the librarian of Linonia [!] Library in the Yale University. Later on he organized the library of the Youngmen's Institute, New Haven. [No sense in relevance]

The above narration appears in Divanji's obituary article. Although Divanji had been closely associated with Borden and the Baroda Library System, yet his narration is neither correct nor complete. It is not known what source Divanji had used for it.

Borden's name appears in the files of the Library Journal for the first time in the year 1885, where it is mentioned that Borden, who had worked as pupil-assistant of Charles A. Cutter for eighteen months at the Boston Athenaeum was appointed as the Librarian of the Reynolds Library, Rochester, N.Y.

It is true that in the year 1887 Borden delivered a lecture or two at the newly-started School of Library Economy of the Columbia College (subsequently Columbia University), but he was not "appointed" as a [full-time] lecturer. Like many other contemporary librarians and educators, he was invited to give special lectures on certain days. His name does not appear as a full-time lecturer in the Documents for a History of the School of Library Economy of the Columbia College, 1887-1889. While lecturing, he did not call himself the "present" librarian of the Young Men's Institute, New Haven, but the Ex- or Late-Librarian of the Reynolds Library, Rochester, New York.

It is not true to say that he worked as a lecturer for five years. The School itself did not stay at Columbia for five years. Dewey left for Albany in 1889 and took the school along with him! However, it is known that he joined the YMI library at New Haven in March 1887. He continued there through 1896 or so and joined the Linonia Library at Yale. However, he did not work there long and returned to YMI in exactly two years.

It should be made clear that Borden did not join the Linonia Library directly from the School of Library Economy, Columbia College, as Divanji has put it, or that he worked with Dewey "for five years" as Divanji would want his readers to believe. In brief, either the source Divanji used was not correct, or he did not report the facts correctly.

However, Divanji has mentioned several other activities of Borden's multi-dimensional life which deserve notice. Divanji says: "Mr. Borden is the founder of an ingenious steel library stack known as

1 Described in *Library Journal* , 41(1916):241-42, 256-58 and 784.

"Library engineer since 1915."

Who's who . "Inventor of the Borden Cantilever book stack (steel) and the removable card catalog drawer now in general use in public libraries."

Cantilever stack.

It is not clear if "Cantilever stack" was the name of the stack, or was it based on the principle. The latter, perhaps. However, the writing of Divanji shows that he took note of Borden's activities after the latter had returned home.

Mr. Borden was fond of boating and yachting [!] and served as commodore of the Pequot Club of Morris Cove. [Divanji does not give the date. This is true as confirmed by Mrs. Hobart Brown, (Anne)]. Divanji says that Borden died on "16th November, 1931 at the age of 78." He could not have been "78" if he was born in "1854," as Divanji has put. Therefore, it is better to accept the date "1853" as given by LC. Also this is the year given everywhere else.

Borden was buried, according to Divanji, in Westville Cemetery, but he does not mention the name of the town. [He died in New Haven. Westville must be the locality (Mohalla).]

According to Divanji, Borden's wife was Hope Lewis, his son Lewis Alanson, and his daughter Mrs. Earle Durham. He had also an adopted daughter named Anne. They survived him. It is not clear why Borden had to adopt a daughter! To give company, as Anne told me later.

The writer of this "Obituary", N. C. Divanji was a student and colleague of Borden at Baroda.

The *Library Journal* of September 1913 (V. 38, p.538) reported Borden's returning home. He was living in Westport, Connecticut in September 1913, i.e. immediately after his return from Baroda. Borden went to Baroda in September 1910. He had worked at the YMI until the fall of 1910 [no, until the summer]. He left Baroda for home on May 15, 1913.

Borden attended the American Library Association annual convention

for the first time in 1885. In 1888, as the Librarian of YMI Library, he printed and published a membership-cum-publicity card on behalf of his Library.

Borden was instrumental in founding the Connecticut State Library Association in 1891. The circular of appeal to form this Association was signed also by his associates, Hills and Stetson.

The first annual meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held in the Public Library of Bridgeport, Connecticut on Feb. 22, 1892.

On Feb. 22, 1893, exactly a year afterwards, Borden was elected a Vice-President of the Association.

Borden had also attended the A.L.A. Convention of 1890 (Sept.) at the Fabyan House.

LJ of April, 1891 reports Borden's invention of "a desk file for newspapers.

On 6 January 1898 Borden resigned the position of the Librarian of the Linonia and Brother's Library of Yale University, where he had worked for two years, and went back to his old job (Young Mens Institute, New Haven) where he had already worked earlier for eight years. LJ of 1898, V. 23, p. 78, mentions that he had brought that Library "to an excellent state of efficiency."

[These dates are important to note.]

In 1929 a Borden Library Club was formed in his honor and Borden was elected its Honorary President. Miss Abigail Dunn, who succeeded Borden at the YMI was elected as the President. It is not known if this club survived.

In 1916 Borden perfected the design of his steel bookstack and promoted its sale. He was residing at Westport, Connecticut at that time. One of the posts of the steel bookstack was tested at the Engineering Laboratory of Yale University and was found to support a weight of 56,000 pounds without bending.

Borden's business associate was John Adams Thayer. According to Anne Brown (Borden), Thayer was a cheat.

Arrangements were made with Messrs Post & McCord of 101 Park Avenue, New York City, who agreed to manufacture, erect and guarantee

all installations of the Cantilever bookstack in the United States.

Borden and Stetson established a Library Office in New Haven. They made some experiments in pre-publication cataloging and printed catalog card distribution service. It was in the month of July 1891.

Borden looked toward contemporary senior librarians for guidance and support. Regarding his plan for pre-publication cataloging and printed catalog card distribution service, Borden said: "This plan has been submitted to Mr. Cutter, Mr. Dewey and Mr. Green and meets their decided approval."

1 Library Journal , 16(July 1891):209.

Borden was appointed to the position of the Director of State Libraries at Baroda even before July 1910, because the LJ of this month contains an announcement to this effect.

end /Divanji, N. C./obituary of Borden/Nagar's comments

2 Library Journal , 35(July 1910):345.

BORDEN--Obituary. By Dutt.

/Borden/obituary/by Dutt

/Dutt, N. M./obituary of Borden

BDNOBIT--DUTT

1 Dutt, N. M. "William Alanson Borden," Library Journal , 57(May 1932):492. A very good summary!

William A. Borden

It was in 1910 that at the invitation of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwad, the late William A. Borden accepted the post of Director of State Libraries of Baroda [India]. The first duty of the new Director was to train a band of young men and women destined to become the library staff of the newly established State Library Department. The successful candidates were set to work to convert the magnificent Palace Library (which His Highness had generously presented to the public) into the free Central Library. The library was classified on the Borden classification scheme, which was also modified into similar schemes for Marathi and Gujarati books. Other features of the new Department were a Children's library, a traveling library, and a bindery. The Director at the Maharaja's request also planned a network of free public libraries throughout the length and breadth of the State. The first year's work resulted in [the] opening of nine free Town libraries and 255 village libraries and sixty newspaper reading rooms. Last year (1930-31) the number had risen to forty-five town, 718 village libraries, and seven ladies' and three children libraries and 216 reading rooms. The library staff formed a library club with Mr. Borden's encouragement and the patronage of H. H. the Maharaja Saheb, the councillors, the Educational Commissioner, the College Principal and other officials. The Library Miscellany, an illustrated library journal in three languages, which was run by the staff between 1911 and 1919 under the able editorship of the late Mr. Kudalkar, Rendered yeoman's services to the library cause in India. Mr. Borden returned to America in June 1913.

N. M. Dutt,
Curator of Libraries,
Baroda, India

/Borden/obituary/by Lib. Journal
/ Lib. Journal /Borden's obituary

BORDEN--OBITUARY

1 Library Journal , 56(December 1 1931):1009.

William Alanson Borden, internationally known library authority (emphasis added) and organizer of more than 400 public libraries in India died November 16. Mr. Borden, a native of [i.e. born in] New Bedford, Massachusetts organized the Reynolds Library in Rochester, New York. [His greater work was at the Y.M.I.] He was in India from 1910-1913.

2

Borden Breathes His Last--17 November, 1931

On Tuesday November 17, 1931,
New Haven Evening Register announced: (p. 6):

William Alanson Borden, former librarian of the Young Men's Institute, whose death occurred yesterday. Mr. Borden also organized a system of libraries in India.

At the top of the above note is displayed Borden's old photo.

Borden--Obituary
Baroda Library Department

/Baroda/Library Dept. Report/Borden's obituary
/Borden/obituary by Baroda Library Dept. Report

The Baroda Library Department Report for the year 1931-32
pp. 10-11, notes the death of Borden:

... whose name will always be associated with the foundation of the Baroda Library Department ... at the ripe age of 78 years ... at his residence in New Haven ... The Department was closed for one day. Obituary was published in some Indian papers and some professional journals in England.

Borden--Obituary—Report
YMI

The present librarian of the Institute (YMI), Miss Abigail Dunn, studied under Mr. Borden.

In 1910 one of the native princes of India, the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda, who was travelling in the United States, met Mr. Borden by appointment and engaged him to reconstruct and reorganize the Palace and State Libraries of Baroda. [Not true in many respects.]

Mr. Borden and his family left for India. A larger program than was first considered was undertaken [!], resulting in the organization of a complete system of libraries later taken over by native librarians he trained. This resulted in the establishment of a library school for men and women and included Hindus, Mohammedans and Parsees.

More than 400 free public libraries were opened in the State of Baroda, the only work of its kind done in India at that time. On his return to this country, Mr. Borden perfected his library book stack, which was installed in a number of libraries in the Middle West and in some Yale departments.

For 15 years he lived in Westville, the last year of his life being spent in Morris Cove. He always was interested in boats and yachting and was Commodore of the Pequot Club for some time. [Not true or correct in many respects].

[He died November, 31, 1931.]

Surviving him are his son, Lewis Alanson Borden; his daughter, Mrs. Earle Durham, and an adopted daughter, Anne, as well as his widow, Mrs. Hope Lewis Borden, daughter of the late Rev. A. N. Lewis of Westport.

2

NOTED LIBRARY AUTHORITY DIES IN MORRIS COVE
William Alanson Borden Succumbs After Long Illness--

In 79th Year.

Borden--Obituary--Report

ORGANIZER OF MANY LIBRARIES IN INDIA

Also prominent as Author and Inventor

Entered Retirement in 1913

William Alanson Borden, organizer of a system of more than 400 free public libraries in India, and internationally known as a library authority, (stress added) died yesterday at his home, 301 Townsend Avenue, Morris Cove, following a long illness. He was in his 79th year and had been in poor health for the last few years. He was formerly librarian at the Young Men's Institute here.

.us

Native of New Bedford

Mr. Borden was born in New Bedford, Mass., the son of the late Alanson and Mary B. Borden. He began library work at the Boston Athenaeum in 1883, after attending Cornell Univeristy, and organized the Reynolds Library in Rochester, N.Y., in 1886. A year later he came to New Haven and organized the Institute library. He resigned his post here in 1910 and went to India.

He had been invited to go to India by the Gaekwar of Baroda, one of the most powerful potentates in that country at the time. While in India he organized more than 400 state-controlled [?] free public libraries in the state of Baroda. In addition to this he issued a library periodical. Mr. Borden also trained a large corps of workers for the libraries he established.

Author and Inventor

In 1913 Mr. Borden returned to the United States and lived in retirement in Morris Cove until the time of his death. During those years [at Baroda] he wrote "The Scheme of Classification for the Libraries of Baroda State" and during his lifetime invented the Borden Cantilever Book stack. He was president of the Borden Bookstack Co. In addition to this he perfected the removable card catalog [drawer?] [cabinet?] now in general use among libraries. He was a member of the

American Library Association.

Surviving Mr. Borden are his widow, Mrs. Hope Lewis Borden, a daughter, Mrs. Earle S. Durham, and a son, Lewis A. Borden, all of this city. Funeral services will be private.

[A newspaper clipping. Through the courtesy of Mrs. Hobart Brown (Anne) on Aug. 15, 1967.]

Borden--Obituary, November 16, 1931

A Newspaper clipping:

In this city, November 16, 1931. William A. Borden of 301 Townsend Avenue, Morris Cove, aged 78 years. Funeral private Mon.

Another Newspaper Clipping

LAST SERVICES TOMORROW FOR W. A. BORDEN
Noted Librarian Succumbs to Long Illness at Home Here
Internationally Known

Funeral services for William Alanson Borden, former librarian at the Young Men's Institute, who died yesterday, will be held at 2:30 tomorrow afternoon at his home, 301 Townsend Avenue, Morris Cove. Burial will be in Westville Cemetery.

Mr. Borden, who was 78 years old, was a Cornell man and studied in the law office of his father, the Judge Alanson Borden, of New Bedford, Mass., the city in which he was born. Mr. Borden was associated with the Boston Athenaeum in 1883, organizing the Reynolds Library at Rochester, N.Y., in 1886.

In 1887 he came to New Haven as librarian of the Young Men's Institute, where he remained for more than 20 years. For three years (?) he was librarian of Linonia and Brothers Library of Yale University, returning to the Institute at the request of the directors (an important point to note). At this time he took charge of a travelling

library, which furnished books to the houses from the shelves of the institute. In addition to his other duties, a children's room was opened and a training course for young librarians established. Many of his pupils are holding important positions today.

BORDEN REMEMBERED IN BARODA

30 July 1933

Borden Memorial Trust Fund Founded

Borden Memorial Trust Fund founded (30 July, 1933)

Borden's Memory Perpetuated in Baroda, 1933

Baroda's Gratefulness to Borden

1 Ekīkaraṇ, 3:292.

Borden Memorial Trust Fund

Donors: Secretaries, Borden Memorial Trust Fund

Total Amount: Rs.1001/-

Deposited with: P. S. S. M.

Date Deposited: July 30, 1933

The interest on the principal to be utilized for opening new Borden Memorial Free Public Libraries in backward villages of Baroda.

Note : This was the largest amount among those listed in the table for similar purposes.

I tried to get more information on the following topics:

1. How many libraries were established to date through this trust?
2. Who originated the trust?
3. What is the latest status?
4. Any other pertinent information?

The above note was made long before I visited Baroda in Feb/March 1973. Not much obtained even after a visit to Baroda and the office of the Pustakalaya Sahayaka Sahakari Mandala there. They don't have all the data that I needed. But I have collected (through Dadubhai) whatever they could give.

Abbreviations used in Subject Index

Abbreviation	Definition
ALA	American Library Association
BLM	Baroda Library Movement
NYLA	New York Library Association
PLCC	Public Library Committee, Connecticut
SFRR	Search For Research Resources
YMI	Young Mens' Institute

Part II

BORDEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS: LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT IN BARODA

Arrival in Baroda

Borden reached Baroda on November 6, 1910. Sayajirao was still in Europe. Borden had met the Maharaja in England on his way from home to India, and they had discussed the library plans and proposals. This is evident from the fact that the Maharaja did not return to Baroda until the end of the year and Borden had started the work as soon as he had reached Baroda.

Sayajirao returned to Bombay after his world tour on 17 December 1910. He was presented with an Address of Welcome in Bombay. Replying to it, he informed his admirers that while returning from America he had brought along with him a library expert. He hoped that several beneficial results would be achieved through his help. He had been thinking for many years of establishing a network of free public

libraries throughout his State. He was not sure how far he would succeed, but he would not remain exclusively dependent on it.

Preliminary Survey

The work of Motibhai was well known in the State. The Government appointed him as an Assistant to the Director of State Libraries. Motibhai went to Baroda on January 4, 1911. When he arrived there, the Central Library had already started functioning (stress added). Plans were being worked out for the establishment of a State-wide public library system. It was necessary for Borden to make an exhaustive survey of the library conditions then existing in the State before he could prepare any comprehensive plan for the future library development. Also, he had to visit important towns like Patan, Sidhpur, and Dabhoi. Motibhai was asked to accompany him. Borden had no knowledge of the primary local regional language, i.e. Gujarati. Motibhai must have served as a competent interpreter. This was written before 1969. As an after-thought or a post-script I might add that in many large towns the leaders of the people and the teachers in the schools might be conversant with English. And what about the state officials? It may be different in small villages of the interior.

Library Situation

Borden gathered detailed data on libraries in Baroda which were managed through the financial assistance of the State, municipalities or panchayats. This is what he found:

Library Situation in Baroda 1910/11

1 This account is based on Shah, p. 131

Prant No. of libraries Stock

1. Baroda 14 14,140
 2. Kadi 11 6,770
 3. Navsari 9 12,668
 4. Amreli 6 6,018
- Total 40 39,596

There were 14 libraries in Baroda Prant with a total stock of 14,140 books. Kadi had 11 libraries and 6770 books. Nine libraries in Navsari had a total of 12,668 books. And the Prant of Amreli possessed 6 libraries and 6018 books. Further- more, there were 200 small libraries, administered under the State Department of Education. They collectively contained 25,000 volumes.

Library Planning

Borden 1912

The Central Library of Baroda was planned to be a reference library for the entire state with an ultimate total stock of 200,000 volumes. The collections of these books were to be made available to all the citizens of the state. It was also planned to "house the collection in a building that shall be a model for all India 1."

Every Prant of the state was to have a library of 20,000 volumes accessible to all the residents of the Prant. Every Taluka Town was to possess a circulating library of 2,000 to 5000 volumes.

Borden was "looking forward to the time when each one of the three thousand villages of Baroda" would have established a free circulating library of good size, or at least a travelling library.

1 Library Miscellany,(August 1912):2.

Library Situation in Baroda before Borden

In 1910 Baroda State had 241 libraries and reading rooms. The total stock of books was about 100,000. Some of these received government grants. All of them restricted their services to the subscribers. This was reported by Borden.

We fail to understand how the last statement could be true. As originally planned by the Maharaja, the libraries were open to all and there was no restriction in the use of books whether a reader was a subscriber or not. All state-aided libraries were required to provide free service to all.

Borden at Baroda--8 May 1911

Selections from the Baroda Records

On 8 May 1911 Borden submitted for sanction the "Rules for the Formation of Free Public Libraries" and a request for Rs. 24,996/- for the following:

Total estimated no. of	Heads of Expenditure	Libraries requesting grants/	Total
No. receiving grants	Grant		
Village Libraries	300/30	Rs. 6000	
Town Libraries	30/150	Rs. 4500	
Prant Libraries	3/500	Rs. 1500	
Building Grant		Rs.12000	
Establishment		Rs. 996	
-----			24,996/

The Minister of Education agreed in general with Borden's proposals. However, he had doubts if the local boards would contribute their share--one third of Rs. 24,996/-.

He said: "Will the finances of the Boards be in a position to contribute one third of the budgeted amount?"

Borden did not believe that the maximum amount permissible under the Rules would be provided (raised) by the people. The numerator is the expected amount of local contribution, while the denominator is the maximum permissible. Thus the maximum amounts prescribed in 1911 were more than adequate.

The Minister of Education also recommended that there should be more than one library in a town. He stated: "It will be better to start a new library with Government aid in addition to the one already existing supported from private funds which may be allowed to stand on its own resources."

Masani was a library-minded generous official. He wanted the three Prant libraries at Patan, Amreli, and Navsari to have a complete collection of books published in Gujarati. Each of the three libraries was expected to have a trained librarian.

One of the most important recommendations of Masani was to omit the words "if the funds at their [of the Panchayats] disposal allow" on page six line five and on page nine line six, "as the Prant Panchayats will never come forward to make any voluntary contribution." However, this modification was not accepted by the Government. Otherwise the history of Baroda libraries would have been very different. Vidyadhikari's "remarks" are dated 11 May 1911. The Accountant-General supported the Vidyadhikari. He did not want the local boards to be exempted from contributing their share. He said: "The Local Boards need not be exempted from contributing to the present expenses of the scheme. It is said that the Local Boards have no money at their disposal. This is not correct."

Borden requested Rs. 24,996/- but only Rs. 5000/- were sanctioned. The Accountant-General said: "The present year will be one of scarcity, if not of famine, and people will find it hard to contribute."

Borden asked for extra posts of staff. The Accountant-General reacted: "To go so fast in the direction of organization of libraries seems to me to be of doubtful utility."

The Proposal of the Director of State Libraries was sanctioned by the Council with the slight alterations made in the Rules 2, 8, 21, and 23 on 27-6 11.

What follows is the EXACT TEXT of the plan. This was incorporated into my Baroda study.

BORDEN IN BARODA--BORDEN'S PLANS INITIATED--19 DECEMBER, 1910
<1>

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS.

I find the library situation in Baroda not only in advance of the rest of India, but much in advance of what I had been led to expect: and I had expected considerable.

There are several rather good libraries in Baroda City, the Palace Library, the Shri Sayaji Library, the Baroda College Library, the State Library and the one in the office of the Minister of Education. All of these are roughly classified by subject, are catalogued to a certain extent, and aggregate about 40,000 vols.

There are also in Baroda City several collections of books in connection with the various State Departments; Those in the Dewan's Office, the Museum, the Department of Agriculture, the Military Department, the Chief Engineer's Office, the Purdah Reading Room, and probably other places I have not yet found.

Distributed through Baroda State are several other Libraries, owned by the Municipalities and not under State control, but which, without a doubt, could be brought under the control of a Central Library System if proper inducements were offered. Of these there are:

In Baroda Prant 14 Aggregating 14,139 vols.

Kadi 11 6,770
Navsari 9 12,688
Amreli 6 6,018

All
40 39,615

Baroda State Records [1910-1911] 1, ex.1 pp.1-10.

This is a direct quotation.

Capitalization and punctuation marks generally retained to preserve the flavor of the original.

There are also, one hundred and ninety-one very small Libraries in connection with the schools in various towns and villages of the State, and under the control of the Department of Education. These Libraries though individually small, yet aggregate about 25,000 vols., and, being already organised, they offer the best kind of foundation on which one may build something better.

Thus I find that there are in Baroda State something over 241 Libraries, aggregating a little over 100,000 vols.; some under municipal control, some under the control of the Department of Education, one under the control of YOUR HIGHNESS, and one under the control of Shrimant Sampatrao Saheb.

I do not find any of these libraries adequately housed, nor do I find them shelved in such a manner as to make them most attractive to readers or convenient to those in charge. At the same time, those I have examined are excellently selected, are managed by intelligent and courteous Librarians and Assistants, and would undoubtedly be much used were their contents made easily accessible and their surroundings more attractive to the ordinary reading public.

Should YOUR HIGHNESS feel disposed to grant me the necessary authority, I propose to organise a Department of Public Libraries, to rank with the other Departments of Your State, with the necessary equipment of officers & clerks, etc., and to bring all the Libraries above mentioned under its control and management; to bring all the books now distributed among these Libraries in Baroda City into one Central Library (except such technical books as bear directly upon the work of each Department); to add to this Central library, as fast as the Library force can properly catalogue and classify them, such general and technical books as a well rounded collection should have, to be of general use; to erect a suitable Library Building, of fire proof construction, large enough to hold such collections, with the accompanying reading rooms, study rooms, Women's Library, Children's Library, Lecture Hall, Library School, and Executive Offices; to make that Library the Free Public Library of Baroda City, and also the main store-house for all the valuable historical documents and papers now in private hands in the State, but which the owners would probably be glad to have stored in a safe place; to make it also the center from which Travelling Libraries should start and from which the books, new and old, could be

distributed to the various Branch Libraries in the different towns, cities and villages of the State.

<Borden capitalizes "Library," but not the preceding adjective.>

I have prepared a ground plan of such a library building (in consultation with Mr. Coyle, the State Engineer) that will be adopted [adapted?] to a tropical climate, as well as to the different activities I have enumerated; and I have also prepared a properly graded system of classification, designed not only for this Central Library, but for all the branches of that Library, whether large or small. This plan and scheme of classification are herewith submitted, as a part of this report, for YOUR HIGHNESS's approval or criticism.

SBR did not contain copies of these two enclosures. They must have accompanied the original but got separated. Borden's Scheme was published subsequently. So we know what it was. But we have no idea of the nature and scope of the library building plan.

I further propose to select a class from the most intelligent of the present Librarians, and to instruct that class in practical Library work and in the theory of Librarianship, so that they can assist me in the classification and the cataloguing of the books now in the various Libraries or to be purchased for them, and with their assistance (after having thus done practical library work) to ultimately found a Library School that can graduate expert assistants for the main Library and the different branch Libraries of the State.

Such a plan as I have thus roughly sketched would naturally take some years for its accomplishment, and although the expense of it, in its entirety, might be considerable, it would be distributed somewhat evenly over five years or more, and would be considered, from the increase in the national intelligence it would foster as good an investment of capital as one could make.

Personally, I would gladly take charge of such a work, if arrangements can be made therefor that shall be mutually satisfactory; and should I do so I have no hesitation in making the assertion <!> that I can give the State of Baroda the finest system of Libraries and the finest Library Building in India, and a Library that will take its place with other well-known Libraries of other countries; and, what I conceive to be of still more importance, a library that will be much used by the people of Baroda State and be of much use to them, and a library of which YOUR HIGHNESS may well be proud.

I have the honor to be
YOUR HIGHNESS'S most obedient servant
Baroda
Dec. 19th 1910.
W. A. Borden

HUZUR ORDER

B

H.K.K.E.D.H.O.No.I

Mr. Seddon and Mr. Masani should discuss this proposal with Mr. Borden and then submit the matter for final Orders to Huzur.

L. V. Palace By order
21-12-10 Shiv Raj Singh
A-D-C
To be filed.
Huzur order
Ex. No. 2

A. M. Masani, Vidyadhikari, supported Borden as follows: Mr. Borden the Library specialist, has submitted a short scheme of library organization in Baroda, bringing all the scattered collections of books into one central library, amalgamating Shri Sayaji Library and the Palace Library and bringing them under one roof. His suggestions are based on his varied practical experience of large public libraries in America and Europe, and the system of classification that he has proposed is the outcome of the close study of library economy and practical utility of various systems of Library classification including Decimal classification of Dewey, Director of New York State Library.

2. In various libraries in Europe and America the Decimal system of Dewey is greatly in vogue, as to make out a new set of heads would involve great labour. <Question mark on the margin in the original!>. However, as Baroda is fortunate in securing the services of a specialist, his experience should be turned to good accounts and his labours and investigations may be fully utilised. Hence it is a practical wisdom not to interfere with the method of classification devised and elaborated by Mr. Borden, it had better be adopted in its entirety.

3. It is a source of great satisfaction to learn that Mr. Borden found the State [capital in original] of Baroda libraries was [!] more progressive than he at first imagined. [Not good writing in terms of construction and grammar. By the way, the original is typed, and has corrections in hand.] There are 241 libraries in all, and about 1,00,000 volumes. Though the books already in libraries are well selected, the various sections of the field of knowledge are not sufficiently well represented. To make the collection complete, Mr. Borden proposes to add in course of time as many as 1,30,000 volumes to those already collected, to reorganise the whole system of Baroda libraries and to place them on a more satisfactory basis[,] the purchase of books is quite essential. The sum of Rs.25,000 may be sanctioned for the purchase of new books. When the he sum is fully spent, additional sanction will have to be given.

4. The question of organizing a new department of public libraries to rank with the other departments of the State may be considered at a later stage. 5. If it be decided to amalgamate the various libraries, the problem of providing a capacious architectural building has to be first solved. The plans of the building submitted by Mr. Borden afford full accommodation, and comprise rooms for the special needs of the various activities of the library, the women and children libraries being the characteristic features. The cost is estimated at from Rs. 3 to 4 lacs. Whether such an extraordinary expenditure can be borne without a financial strain is for the Government to judge. There is a pressing demand for good schoolhouses from all quarters and it is scantily met at a very slow rate. 6. It will be some time before the children's library and purdah women library will be in real demand. There is a women library in the Baroda City where attendance is not very satisfactory. It is in the heart of the City ---Ghadiali pole --- where ladies can quietly come and go and their wants are attended to be a lady librarian. When the Educational Department wanted to attach this library to the Female Training College building, it was the opinion of the Lady Superintendent that very few will come to such a public place. Under these circumstances, it may happen that the ladies may not come forward to take advantage of the Purdah reading room in the Public Library¹. 7. The proposal to form a Library class is commendable. A class may be started in Baroda College and held in the morning to enable the Baroda educated class, who are engaged during the day²time and who feel interested in the Library work, to attend. Mr. Borden wants to train ten intelligent graduates in practical method of classification and wishes them to work during office hours under his general supervision and assist him in classifying and cataloguing the books. The library staff at present engaged in Baroda libraries will be drafted into this work and five additional graduates may be selected on a salary of Rs.50/ each to be trained up specially for library work.) Sd/ A. M. Masani.)
Baroda, 24th December, 1910) Minister of Education.

OPINION <of the Dewan>

I have discussed the matter with Mr. Masani and agree with The proposed scheme,) what he writes:- that is, provided we though good, is not) are ready to spend a good deal of money. necessary, just at) In my opinion, indeed, the building present) of a large Central Library, the stocking of it with a large number of additional books, and the training of a small body of Librarians, are luxuries. It does not appear to me that the time has yet come when such a thing can be considered in any way necessary <underlining in original> to our continued development. We are spending a good deal on Education, and in the successful prosecution of our endeavours, there are many urgent needs, and much money must be spent upon them. If the money so badly wanted for these things is diverted into another course, I should be very sorry. I trust it will not be so.

25-12-10 C. N. Seddon

1 This fear was found baseless, because the Ladies' Library section in the Central Library was very heavily used throughout.2 It is assumed that Baroda offices worked in the late morning or early afternoon.

Offig. Dewan

fn. Seddon was a mean man, an enemy of India's progress. A snake will only vomit venom!

A general note: There are many spelling errors.

A

H.K.K.E.D.H.O. No.6

HUZUR ORDER

[HUZUR KAMDAR KACHERI, ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, HUZUR ORDER]

The idea of the Central Library as indicated in Mr. Borden's report is approved and it will be taken up in sections from time to time, so that when the whole building is finished it will be one harmonious whole as indicated in the plan. Separate rooms for men, for women, & for children should first be provided for in this Central Building.

"2. His Highness has already been pleased to pass an

.....
Re-instruction class)

.....
order about opening an Instruction class in Library work. This class should consist of ten men, five of whom would be selected by His Highness as being men qualified to collect information in different branches of learning, should His Highness desire such information, and who would be in receipt of scholarships of Rs.25/ per mensem provided they bind themselves to serve the State after they are duly qualified in Library work. In addition to these ten men Mr. Kudalkar & others connected with Libraries should also be trained in this Library work.

3. At least for the present there is no necessity

.....
Re-abolishing) branch libraries)

.....
of abolishing Branch Libraries in State Departments

4. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has been pleased to

.....
) sanction a sum of
Re-sanction for purchasing books)

)
) Rs. 10,000/ (ten thousand) per

.....
year for the purchase of new books, if necessary. These books should properly represent all branches of Knowledge, or at least those branches in which the people appear to be interested. The sanction for the amount of Rs. 10,000/ is deferred until a proper organization of building is made when a fresh tippan may be submitted.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has been pleased to pass the above order to-day in the order book.

Baroda.)
) K. V. Sarangpani.
1st February 1911.) Naib Dewan.

Note: What follows is not directly related.

The Library Department was created under H. O. No. A/19 30-1-11 for the purpose of organizing libraries in Baroda State.

Originally the Director of State Libraries (Borden) was paid Rs. 750/- p.m. Amin Rs. 100/-.

Borden requested a total of Rs. 18,389 for the operation of the Library Department for the first year to be expended on books, staff, etc.

Neither the Government nor the Maharaja always gave in full what was asked for. Vidyadhikari recommended Rs. 25,000/-. Maharaja gave only Rs. 10,000/-. Even that sanction was deferred!

Selections from the Baroda Records

ROYAL ORDER on BORDEN'S PROPOSAL (1910)

Huzur Order No. H.K.K.E.D. h-o*. No. 1/6:

The Idea of the Central Library is Approved.

The idea of the Central Library as indicated in Mr. Borden's report is approved and it will be taken up in sections from time to time, so that when the whole building is finished it will be one harmonious whole as indicated in the plan. Separate rooms for men, for women, and for children should first be provided for in this Central Building.

Re--Instruction Class.

2. His Highness has already been pleased to pass an order about opening an Instruction class in Library work. This class should consist of ten men, five of whom would be selected by His Highness as being men qualified to collect information in different branches of learning*, should His Highness desire such information, and who would be in receipt of scholarships of Rs. 25/- per mensem provided they bind themselves to serve the State after they are duly qualified in Library work. In addition to these ten men Mr. Kudalkar and others connected with Libraries should also be trained in this Library work.

Re--Abolishing Branch Libraries.

3. At least for the present there is no necessity of abolishing Branch Libraries in State Departments.

Re--Sanction for Purchasing Books.

4. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has been pleased to sanction a sum of Rs. 10,000/- (ten thousand) per year for the purchase of new books, if necessary. These books should properly represent all branches of knowledge, or at least those branches in which the people appear to be interested. The sanction for the amount of Rs. 10,000 is deferred until a proper organization of buildings is made when a fresh tippan may be submitted.* His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has been pleased to pass the above order today in the order book. (1)

Baroda (signed) K. V. Sarangpani

1st February 1911. Naib Dewan

The Library Department was created under H. O. No. a/19 30-1-11 for the purpose of organizing libraries in Baroda State.

Originally the Director of State Libraries (Borden) was paid Rs. 750/p.m., Amin 100/-.

Borden requested a total of Rs. 18,389 for the operation of the Library Department for the first year to be expended on books, staff, etc.

Library Philosophy of the Baroda Government

With Regard to Finance and Use

Borden had a firm belief that all libraries supported by public taxation directly or indirectly, partly or wholly, should be (1) absolutely free to every member of the community, should (2) have books of interest to every member of the community and should (3) neither favour nor disfavour any class, creed, or caste. The whole people pay the bills; the whole people should get goods.

Borden Came to Baroda, 1910

Writing in 1912 (August) Borden said:

"Two years ago, through the instrumentality of His Highness Gaekwad, the present writer was induced to give up his professional work in America and come to Baroda to do for India, so far he was able (or permitted) what had already been done for the people of his own country in the way of founding free libraries and putting good books into the hands of those most needing them--the common people."

ref. Lm. 1(August 1912):1-2

BORDEN'S SALARY

Baroda rupee had a lower value as compared to that of the British India.

At the time Borden left Baroda, he was drawing Rs. 1020 per month.

If he was given an increment of Rs. 250/- p.m. at the end of his first year, his original salary would have been $1020/- - 250/- = \text{Rs. } 770/-$. In terms of U.S. dollars, the salary was \$3000.00 per year, or \$250 per month.

He had spent a sum of \$ 489.40 in coming to Baroda, i.e. first class travel from New Haven all the way upto Baroda, including his stop-over in London.

Borden was appointed at \$3000 per annum. BSR Document No. 2, states that his monthly salary was Rs. 750/- . So the exchange rate at the time could have been $\$1 = \text{Rs. } 3/-$.

<Borden 1910>

The World (daily newspaper) of London on the appointment of Borden to Baroda.

"The Gaekwar of Baroda has appointed an American, Dr. William Borden, of Yale University, to take charge of the Chair of libraries which he intends to establish in his principality. The appointment not only testifies to the ability of Dr. Borden, but it is a distinct compliment to the library system which has been developed in the Universities of America; and, inversely, it implies that the university library system in this country is antiquated and unpractical. And this is not far from the fact. The Gaekwar, himself an Oxford man, has probably had experience of the miserable lack of method and obsolete index-system which prevents the Bodleian and other similar libraries from being in any sense useful, and converts them into mere chaotic book-repositories. If anyone connected with an Oxford University library had had a practical knowledge of indexing and cataloguing and the classification of books according to modern ideas, probably the appointment would have gone to him. But the Gaekwar has wisely decided to have none of the laborious manuscript catalogues, none of the useless and cumbersome indexes with which Young Oxford is provided, in the model libraries of Baroda. It seems incomprehensible that, with the lead which the British Museum and the London Library have given, the Universities, and particularly Oxford, should continue to muddle along with a system which was outgrown half a century ago, and has been discarded by every library worth its name the world over. If university reforms are in the air, here is one that is worth undertaking."

August 2, 1910

BORDEN'S WORK (Summary)

Borden's Accomplishments at Baroda (1910-1913):

State Library System - consisting of:

1 Central Library (200,000 volumes planned),

4 District or Divisional libraries, each containing 20,000 vols. (Only three established, Central Library of Baroda city serving also as the Prant Library for Baroda Prant),

45 Town libraries,

More than 1,000 Village libraries and Newspaper Reading Rooms.

Central Library housed
Children's Library
Ladies' Library

Travelling Library Service, constituting wooden boxes.
Visual Instruction Branch
Baroda School of Library Economy for "apprentices"
Baroda Library Club
Library Miscellany

Accomplishments in Design (in the U.S.A.) to 1910:

Book-end

Newspaper file (stick type)

Newspaper reading table

Removable-drawer catalog card cabinet

Library technical services - Prepublication

Cataloging and supply of printed catalog cards.

Professional Organization - Formation of the Connecticut Library Association.

Library Education - Lecturing at the School of Library Economy, Columbia College, New York, 1887.

Library Training at Young Men's Institute, New Haven.

Cantilever steel bookstack (1916)

In his honor--Borden Library Club established at New Haven, 1929.

Borden Memorial Trust Fund at Baroda.

His writings--Library classification scheme.

<Borden's Appointment to Baroda

Search for the Research Resources>

NOTES

My First Visit to Baroda in November 1972

Bumpus brings Borden to Baroda

I saw the file on Borden's appointment. He was recommended by Dr. H. C. Bumpus, Director of the American Museum of Natural History, New York. This is quite a useful file. Borden was not recommended by any great library personality such as Dewey or Cutter, but by a non-librarian, a natural scientist. Many of my guesses would prove true. For example, I thought that Borden would have met the Maharaja in London on his way to Baroda. Actually he did. His salary was \$3000 a year, or \$250 a month plus first class travel to and from Baroda.

Notes: In order to get access to the private correspondence of Sayajirao, I must get in touch with the present Maharaja Fatesinhrao, who is an MP and is in Delhi.

The records of the Education Department are transferred to a Training College in Baroda. We will have to get hold of this deposit. <I tried. It was just a mountain of dust!>

Indumati Mahal

Khangi Dept.--Rajmahel Road, 4665 (phone no. ?),

Gujarat State-Govt.

D.K. Gaekwar

Deputy Controller, Khangi Dept.

Borden--1910 (Dec. end)

Maharaja Sayajirao returned to Baroda on December 19, 1910. His ADC wrote to Dewan Saheb from Lakshmi Vilas Palace on December 28, 1912: "His Highness Maharaja Sayajirao wishes <you> to bring Mr. W. A. Borden with you to him one of these days to discuss his Library scheme in his Highness's presence.

Borden had submitted his proposals to the Maharaja on the very day the latter arrived in Baroda. His Highness expressed his desire to see Borden within ten days of his arrival in the capital.

Borden at Baroda--Why Borden ?

America Provides a Public Librarian to Establish
Public Libraries in Baroda

It is learnt from the printed catalog of the Laxmi Vilas Palace Library of Baroda, which subsequently became the nucleus of the State Central Library, that a "European Officer" had organized it. While the Maharaja invited and utilized the services of a European Officer from the Old World to organize this palace library, he had to visit the New World to imbibe the spirit and essence of the American public library service, and consequently to invite an American Librarian to initiate a free public library system in his State of Baroda.

Why was Borden invited to Baroda?

America's Contribution to the development of public library service in India.
The foundation.

Appointment of Borden to Baroda State

<Borden at Baroda>

Beginning

On 18 February 1973 I was able to see the "Old Baroda State Records" preserved in the Lakshmi Vilas Palace. The present condition of the palace reminds the viewer of the poet who sang:

Pura sarasi manase vikacapankajaliskhalat

paragasurabhikrte sapadi yena nitam vayah.

Sa palvalajaledhuna miladanekabhekakule

maralukulanayakah kathaya re katham vartatam.

These historic treasures had not seen any light during the last forty years or so. I was permitted to see them after great difficulties. The officers-in-charge discouraged me in every possible way, pleading all along that there was nothing of any value there. However, the very first file I chanced to open pertained to Borden. Strange are the ways of Ms. at Patan. I had to face a lot of difficulties in being admitted to that treasure house, the so called bhandar. Because of the invisible force of Muni Punyavijayaji Maharaja the "authority" could not flatly say "no," but he presented all kinds of evasive arguments. There were more than a dozen steel cabinets in the room. According to the man-in-charge, there was no catalogue. I said: "Let us go into it. I will find out." He opened one cupboard. I said: "Close it." Open that one." By God's Grace, that one truly contained what I was looking for! God Almighty!1

The file is marked no. 8 of the Huzur Kamdar's (Royal Secretary) Office, Ekikaran Branch, and covered the period March through December, 1910. It is well-indexed and is preceded with a well-prepared content analysis so that one can see the contents at a glance as if in a mirror. This shows the efficiency and efficacy of Baroda's administration that was perfected under the vigilant eye and fostering care of the Maharaja Sayajirao III, Gaekwar of Baroda, that prince-sage who transformed Baroda at every possible level.

Document No. 88 is a telegram (original) from Dr. Bumpus, which originated in Westport, Connecticut, and was sent through the Anglo-American Telegraph Company. It read as under: Gaekwar, Care Thos Cook, Ludgate Circus, London. Final authority from Baroda for librarian not received. Shall Borden sail without further delay? Bumpus.

1 This incident reminds me of my find of the Vikramankabhyudaya

BORDEN Reaches Baroda, 6 November 1910

The telegram indicates the natural anxiety of Borden to reach Baroda as early as possible. It was dispatched in the name of Bumpus, but it originated at Westport, Connecticut, where Borden lived at the time. It can be inferred that Borden got the approval of Bumpus and sent the telegram in the name of the latter. If Bumpus had sent the telegram himself, it would have originated in New York city, where his Museum was located, or New Rochelle, N.Y., wherefrom he had issued the letter of appointment to Borden on Sept. 16, 1910.

Maharaja's Private Secretary made the following note at the bottom of the telegram: "H. H. on the matter being mentioned to him ordered that Mr. Borden should sail immediately. Cable sent accordingly to Dr. Bumpus."

A telegram in reply was sent which read: "Let Borden sail immediately. Maharaja Gaekwar."

Sayajirao lived abroad for long periods and conducted his administration to a great extent by correspondence. He did not care if the formal sanction had not come from Baroda. Although he was all-powerful as far as his own kingdom was concerned, the sanction of the Government of India was presumably needed for every such appointment, especially of a foreigner.

The formal sanction of the Government of India had not come even until 7 November 1910, because on that day B. L. Gupta signing as Officiating Dewan wrote to Mr. H.V. Cobb, who was the British Resident at Baroda, for "expediting the consent of the Government of India so that he (Borden) may be enabled to enter upon his duties." In that very letter, Gupta had already said earlier that "I have the honour <!> to inform you that Mr. W. A. Borden

Borden arrived in Baroda on 6 November 1910. File #8 of the Huzur Kamdar Office (Royal Secretary) Ekikarana Branch. Somewhere, I have given the date as 6 September 1910 which is not correct. He was still in the USA on that date. In PLMB p. 51, I have given 15 September 1910 as the date! This was a guess. He left India (for home) in the middle of May. He was going on "furlough" for three months. This was stated somewhere else, probably in LM. Those were the days of British Bureaucracy. Englishmen used to bleed India blood-white. Indians too used to speak the same language. I believe similar language is used with regard to Velte also by the Modern Librarian. Sheet # 0408 contains matters connected with Borden's appointment and arrival in Baroda. Collected from "Old Baroda Records. arrived here on the 6th instant (i.e. 6 November 1910). So the Dewan of Baroda had no hesitation in informing the British Resident that Borden had already arrived in Baroda though the sanction of the Government of India had yet to come!

Finally the sanction was received on 6 December 1910. Although Borden was appointed earlier and had already arrived in Baroda, he could not be paid his salary in the absence of the sanction of the Government of India! On 30 November 1910, the Manager of the Huzur English Office wrote to Borden: "His Excellency regrets he cannot order your salary to be disbursed to you." Borden already had \$110 as the balance from the amount of \$600 he had received as advance from Bumpus before he left the U.S.A. The Manager offered him some additional amount as advance. Incidentally, Borden's total expenditure from his home to Baroda, including his stop-over in London, cost the State only \$489.40. He had travelled first class.

To continue the story of Borden's appointment and arrival in Baroda: The telegram quoted above resulted in the following letter, a copy of which in Borden's own handwriting is preserved in the Baroda Record Office. It is not in "library hand," but in normal cursive handwriting!

New Rochelle¹,
September 16, 1910

Mr. W. A. Borden,

Acting under instructions just received from His Highness the Maharaja Sayajirao and in accordance with a communication from the Honorable C. N. Seddon, acting Dewan, indexed no. 2481 and of <sic> dated Baroda 17 December 1909 <so this was as early as this date!> I have the honor to appoint you as Librarian and to instruct you to prepare yourself to report to His Highness the Maharaja, or to such officer in Baroda as may represent His Highness in communication with the Education Department in Baroda city.

It is the wish of His Highness that you inform yourself in regard to certain special questions connected with the library work in Baroda, and you are therefore authorized to visit certain libraries in their country and to visit certain libraries in Europe, en route, the better to serve His Highness, and to this end your salary of \$3000 per annum will date from Sept. 16, 1910, and I am giving you \$600 that you may use for travel, exclusive of salary, and <the> accounting for which you may make to the proper official in Baroda to whom you will turn over any <un-> expended <?> balance.

Wishing you every success in your undertaking,

I am very truly yours

(sd) H. C. Bumpus,
Agent 2

On 11 November 1910, C. N. Seddon, the Dewan of Baroda wrote to the Maharaja, who was still in England: "Mr. Borden (the American librarian) arrived on 6th," i.e. November 6, 1910. <Borden's appointment became effective 16 September 1910, when he was still in the U.S.A. Negotiations must have started long time ago. Bumpus while appointing Borden, refers to an earlier communication from Hon. C. N. Seddon, Acting Dewan, dated 17 December 1909!>

¹ New Rochelle is in Westchester County, New York, and forms part of the Greater Metropolitan New York. Probably this was Bumpus' home where he lived. It was not far away from his Museum.

2 This is a copy in Borden's own hand and seems to contain some errors. At least it raises some questions in terms of grammar and construction.

Search for the research resources

Introduction

While working in Baroda with the State records during February and March 1973, I realized that I should have made some special arrangement with the present Maharaja of Baroda, Shri Fatehsinhrao Gaekwar. He might have provided some special facilities. Strangely enough, I did meet him, but it was at the very end of my sojourn in Baroda, when I had accomplished all that I could do under those trying circumstances. I had already spent the major part of my sabbatical leave in Delhi and other places.

Of course, I had written to the Maharaja twice, but there was no response from him. The red-tape was still alive and active among the officers of whatever "kingdom" was left of the former glories of Baroda. I was allowed to explore the treasures, but I could not see the highest officer, who sanctioned my request. I had to remain satisfied with the intermediaries.

Borden's Appointment at Baroda

The file No. A7/99 of the Huzur English Office, still preserved at the Baroda State Central Archives in Kothi Building, contains some useful data on Borden's appointment to Baroda--as the "Librarian, Baroda State Libraries." He was never officially designated as the "Director of Libraries." This epithet was the creation of the librarians' own wishful thinking.

Dr. H.C. Bumpus, the Director of the American Museum of Natural History, located at 77th Street and 8th Avenue in New York, acted as the intermediary or go-in-between. Bumpus even appointed Borden to the post acting as "Agent" to Sayajirao. His Highness saw Borden in New York. <When?> Borden's appointment was considerably delayed.

Incidentally it may be remarked that Borden was appointed on an annual salary of \$3000 plus first class travel both ways. After he had reached Baroda and had worked there less than a year, there was a very heated and prolonged discussion about the

extension of his employment with the State. He demanded \$5000. His demand generated an unpleasant controversy. He did not get what he was demanding. The State finally gave him only Rs. 250/-per month as additional remuneration, with which he had to remain satisfied.

The letter from Bumpus, addressed to the Private Secretary to His Highness, dated 9 November 1909, contains as an enclosure the bio-data of Borden. It provides much useful information not found anywhere else.

<Borden's appointment, or at least an inquiry for a librarian originated from Baroda at least as early as 8 October 1909.>

The letter reads:

"In reply to your communication of I have not seen the communication from Personal Secretary to the His Highness, addressed to Bumpus, dated Oct. 8, 1909, but it becomes evident that the inquiry for a librarian came from Baroda. Incidentally, it might be added that I wrote to the Museum inquiring about the correspondence of Bumpus, but I was informed that they do not have any such correspondence. In view of the above facts, the story published by New Haven Register (dusky-skinned ... deploring...and suggested Borden's name, etc.)seems to be absurd, unless we assume that the Maharaja initiated the selection of a librarian during his first visit to the U.S.A., i.e. 1906.

But then how would you account--"not long after that..."¹ relative to a librarian <mark the indefinite article "a"> for Baroda, I beg to recommend Mr. William Alanson Borden, data concerning whom is attached herewith.

"I think that Mr. Borden would go to Baroda for a year for \$3000, and an allowance for first class travel going and coming.

"While Borden is a man of mature years, you will notice from the data enclosed that he has had a great deal of experience along lines cognate to those desired by His Highness <imp. to note>.

"If Mr. Borden's services are desired, it would probably take him about a month to adjust his personal affairs before leaving the country." <Very fast!>

1 PLMB, p. 50. Oct. 8, 1909;

Very truly yours

(Sd) H.C. Bumpus
Encl. Borden's Bio-data
Encl. to Dr. Bumpus' letter.

<I am copying because it gives the most authentic data, esp. his date of birth, etc.

Borden's bio-data

Name: William Alanson Borden. American

C. N. Seddon, Acting Dewan, wrote back to Dr. H. C. Bumpus, on Dec. 17, 1909 that "H. H. ... has decided to employ the gentleman in the capacity of (1) a librarian, or (2) as an Assistant Secretary to H. H. or (3) in any other capacity in connection with the work of the education Department in the Baroda City....H. H. however wishes that instead of one year the gentleman should stay here for two years... It should be noted that Borden was employed, or received the appointment, as early as 17 December 1909 and that the Maharaja wanted him initially to work in Baroda for two years and not one year only as Borden had argued subsequently. It might have been the understanding of Borden, but at least the Maharaja did not think in terms of only one year.

A copy of the telegram from Seddon, Dewan, dated 30 December 1909 to Dr. Bumpus, Natural History Museum, New York, reads: "Defer action on my letter seventeenth about Borden, pending further instructions."

Although the Dewan had authorized the appointment of Borden on 17 December 1909, yet some unforeseen circumstances seem to have made him delay the appointment. So he cabled to keep the matter pending and to defer the action on appointment.

Seemingly Borden's appointment to Baroda was kept in abeyance until the Maharaja visited the U.S.A. and met Borden in New York.

A telegram received in Baroda bearing the stamped date of 30 July 1910, and originated at New Rochelle, New York on 29th, reads: Seddon, Dewan, Baroda, India. Maharaja approves librarian Borden please cable consent government. Bumpus.

It is evident that by "government" here is meant the Government of India, because the Maharaja himself would not ask for the consent of his own government. The authorities in the Baroda Government did not know what salary Borden was drawing then at home.

The following extract from a letter dated London, 14 October 1910 from the Secretary to His Highness the Maharajah Saheb, addressed to His Excellency the Dewan Saheb, states:

"Mr. W. A. Borden, the new librarian, called on His Highness here <in London> on his way to India and was to sail from Marseilles today. He told me he might stay in Bombay for a day or two before proceeding to Baroda."

On 8 November 1910 Borden wrote from Baroda to the Dewan Saheb. He had arrived in Baroda two days earlier, i.e. 6 November 1910. Borden said:

Sir:

"I have the honor to report my arrival in Baroda, in pursuance of the instructions received in the letter from Dr. H. C. Bumpus of New York, a copy of which is enclosed.

"I reported my arrival in person on the morning of the 6th to the Acting Dewan, Mr. Gupta.

"According to the instructions of the letter above referred <!> to, I have the honor of forwarding to you an account of my expenses from New Haven to Baroda, which you will also find enclosed (over).

"I have an unexpended balance, in my possession, of one hundred and ten dollars and sixty cents (\$110.60) which I will either pay over to you upon demand, or which can be deducted from my salary, <why so?> as may best suit the convenience of yourself."

Yours Respectfully,

(Sd) William Alanson Borden

Enclosures.

America Contributes to Library Development in Baroda--July 1910

Summary

Circulating libraries failed. Maharaja goes to the United States to find the remedy for the malady and meets Borden in New York.

BORDEN MEETS THE MAHARAJA IN NEW YORK IN 1910

Where? In New York.

Sayajirao left Niagara Falls for New York City on July 9, and left New York for London July 19. If at all Borden and Sayajirao met in the U.S.A., it must have been between July 9 and 13. Sayajirao reached London on July 19, and spent a good deal of time in England and on the Continent. He left Marseille's for India December 2. He reached Bombay December 16, 1910 and Baroda on December 19. He was presented with a welcome address in his honor at Bombay. In reply he mentioned his having brought an American library expert for the development of libraries in Baroda.

Borden reached Baroda on or about November 6. So he must have left the U.S.A. before August 15. [No] His Highness was in England. Both might have discussed library planning. (Yes, they did.) His Highness had asked him to purchase audio-visual materials, which he did. Be that as it may, when Borden reached Baroda, the Maharaja was not there. Borden must have received enough instructions. The Maharaja carried his administration quite a good deal through correspondence. He lived abroad for long periods of time and had his ministers and officers govern the kingdom. He had perfected the machinery of his Government to such an extent that he could afford being away from Baroda for long periods of time.

On 2 August 1910 the London newspaper World carried a news story about Borden's appointment at Baroda.

The above views were recorded before I visited Baroda in February 1973 and saw the documents there. Borden had actually arrived in Baroda on 6 November 1910!

Summary

Borden and Maharaja might have met in New York (if at all they met in the

U.S.A.), between 9-29 July 1910. They definitely met in London a little later, because the Maharaja had asked Borden to purchase certain visual materials which he did before he reached Baroda.

Borden's appointment to Baroda, Stanley Rice on

Borden 1910

Comments of a British Newspaper
on Borden's Appointment to Baroda

Borden-- The newspaper World 2 August 1910.

The news of the appointment of Borden to the post of Director of Libraries of Baroda must have crossed the Atlantic immediately Sayajirao was there! As reported by Rice in his Biography of the Maharaja Sayajirao, a "contemporary newspaper" of England, the World carried the story. Rice comments*:

Stanley Rice in his 2nd vol., p. 73, comments on Borden's appointment and quotes "a contemporary newspaper World This is what Rice said:

The Gaekwar of Baroda,' wrote the World, (2nd Aug. 1910), has appointed an American, Dr. William Borden of Yale University, to take charge of the chain of libraries which he intends to establish in his principality. The appointment not only testifies to the ability of Dr. Borden, but it is a distinct compliment to the library system which has been developed in the Universities of America; and inversely it implies that the university system in this country is antiquated and unpractical. And this is not far from the fact. The Gaekwar, himself and Oxford man [which was of course a figment of the kindly imagination] has probably had experience of the miserable lack of method....' and so on, with a fairly comprehensive gibe at the methods of the Bodleian.

Note: Pages 70-76 of Rice deal with the Library Movement in Baroda.

Having reported the above "comments," and without completing them, Rice adds: "and so on, with a fairly comprehensive gibe at the methods of the Bodleian."

Here is the full text of the news note as published in the World on Borden's Appointment to Baroda.

The World (London), 2 August 1910 p. ? This is a direct quotation.

"The Gaekwar of Baroda has appointed an American, Dr. William Borden, of

Yale University, to take charge of the Chair of libraries which he intends to establish in his principality. The appointment not only testifies to the ability of Dr. Borden, but it is a distinct compliment to the library system which has been developed in the universities of America; and, inversely, it implies that the university library system in this country is antiquated and unpractical. And this is not far from the fact. The Gaekwar, himself an Oxford man, has probably had experience of the miserable lack of method and obsolete index-system which prevents the Bodleian and other similar libraries from being in any sense useful, and converts them into mere chaotic book-repositories. If anyone connected with an Oxford University library had had a practical knowledge of indexing and cataloguing and the classification of books according to modern ideas, probably the appointment would have gone to him. But the Gaekwar has wisely decided to have none of the laborious manuscript catalogues, none of the useless and cumbersome indexes with which Young Oxford is provided, in the model libraries of Baroda. It seems incomprehensible that, with the lead which the British Museum and the London Library have given, the Universities, and particularly Oxford, should continue to muddle along with a system which was outgrown half a century ago, and has been discarded by every library worth its name the world over. If university reforms are in the air, here is one that is worth undertaking."

It is noteworthy that the paper exploited the event to the best of its capacity through the art and craft of journalism. If the reference to the Gaekwar of Baroda as an "Oxford man" was "a figment of the kindly imagination," so were the references to Borden as "Dr." (unless it was to mean only the learned) and the "establishment" of a "chair of libraries" in Baroda. The Maharaja had invited Borden, a public librarian, not to adorn a chair at a university, but to plan and establish a public library system. Furthermore, the paper had used one more imagination when it stated that Borden was "of Yale University." Of course, he had worked at a Library forming part of Yale, but only for a very short period. Then he went back to the public library, which post he held until he left for Baroda. He was certainly not "of Yale University" at the time of his appointment.

BORDEN 1910 (Baroda)

Borden was appointed to the position of the Director of Libraries <actually he was designated only as the "Librarian"> of the State of Baroda prior to July 1910; The Library Journal of this month (V. 35, p.345) announces the appointment:

Borden, Williamson [!] Alanson, has been appointed by the Gaekwar of Baroda, the mighty potentate <emphasis added> of India, to take charge of the string of public libraries His Royal Highness proposes to establish in India. Mr. Borden was for 23 years librarian of the Youngmen's Institute of New Haven. The Gaekwar has been visiting this country on his way back from a tour around the world.

From the two addresses delivered by Sayajirao in Japan, as reproduced in the collection of his speeches and addresses, it is evident that he was in Japan in the month of May 1910. Probably the Maharaja visited Japan earlier and entered the U.S.A. on the West Coast. He crossed the country going eastward and concluded his American tour on the East Coast. He must have embarked on a ship at New York and crossed the Atlantic to reach London².

However, the World (newspaper) report is dated 2 August 1910! So the Maharaja would have allowed this matter (appointment) to be publicized³.

1 The announcement in LJ was premature. Borden did not receive the formal letter of appointment until 16 September 1910!

2 Note: My thinking was right. All this was written in 1977.

3 Not true. Letter of appointment was issued only on 16 September 1910.

SAYAJIRAO APPOINTS BORDEN 16 September 1910

File No. 17/35 --8th Trip

Letter dated Sept. 16, 1910, originating from Hyde Park Hotel,

Knightsbridge, London W. From G.B. Ambegaonkar to C.N. Seddon, Acting Dewan, reading as under:

My dear Sir: With reference to your last two letters H.H. the Maharaja

Sayajirao has already written to you separately.

His Highness has decided upon engaging the services of a Librarian

Would it be correct to assume that the Maharaja had been thinking for long but decided to engage the services of a librarian at this stage.

and in reply to the cablegram received from Dr. Bumpus 'Final authority from Baroda for Librarian not received. Shall Borden sail without further delay,' I have under direction sent him a message as under: 'Let Borden sail immediately,' and I am to request you to kindly do the needful in the matter.

Other matters of lunch, etc.

This letter is seen and initialled by so many!
Seddon, Gupta, SG (Sampartao Gaekwar) Two more not legible!

Another letter. Details of the addresses, etc. same:

Mr. W. A. Borden, the new Librarian called on His Highness here on his way to India & was to sail from Marseilles today. He told me he might stay in Bombay for a day or two before proceeding to Baroda.

[Date not recorded by me! Or did the original lack it ?]

Documents on Baroda at Laxmi Vilas Palace BDNBIN

Borden Arrives in Baroda, 6 November 1910

There is definitely some useful material among the "Old records" deposited in the Laxmi Vilas Palace. File : Huzur Kamdar's Office (8) Ekikaran Branch March 1910-Dec.1910

This is the first file I saw that contains material on Borden. The file is well indexed in the beginning. Contents analysis precedes! Very well kept. It is easy to ascertain the contents. Document No. 88 is a telegram (original) from Dr. Bumpus, originating in

Westport, Connecticut; given through the Anglo-American Telegraph Co., & reading as under:

"Gaekwar care Thos Cook Ludgate Circus, Lon.

"Final authority from Baroda for librarian not received.

Shall Borden sail without further delay Bumpus

Note in ink on the telegram bottom:

"H.H. on the matter being mentioned to him ordered that Mr. Borden should sail immediately. Cable sent accordingly to Dr. Bumpus. Sd. illegible 16/9 [1910]

"Let Borden sail immediately. Maharaja Gaekwar. Dewan Saheb informed of the same."

Letter to G.B. Ambegaonker, Sec. to H.H. from C.N. Seddon, Originating from Huzur Cutcherry, Baroda 5th Aug. 1910. This is a letter seen by me in Borden's file in the Baroda Records Office.

On the 30th of the last month [?]

New York

Maharajah...

Note by the Secretary says: "Cabled Borden asked sail immediately.

Duplicate////

The file is well indexed and the content analysis in the beginning gives enough information on what is contained in a specific document. Borden must have been an important personality because on 11th Nov. 1910, C.N. Seddon, the Dewan wrote to the Maharaja. In that letter (marked 192) Seddon says among other things (including weather - "we have had cloudy weather and it has been very warm...)" "Mr. Borden (the American Librarian) arrived on 6th." So Borden arrived in Baroda on Nov. 6, 1910.

Borden's length of service was determined from the day he left the USA, i.e. on or around Sept. 15, 1910. Could be a little later, because he received formal letter of appointment on 16 September 1910.

The following subject has been discussed also somewhere else.
17 December 1910. See pp.6-7 for Borden's influence on Motibhai Amin.

Borden At Baroda--19 December 1910;
BORDEN'S FIRST PROPOSALS TO THE MAHARAJA (1910)(Comments)

On 19 December 1910 Borden reported to the Maharaja: "I find the library situation in Baroda not only in advance of the rest of India, but much in advance of what I had been led to expect: and I had expected considerable."

According to Borden, there were several rather good libraries in Baroda city, the Palace library, the Shri Sayaji Library, the Baroda College Library, the State Library, and the one in the Office of the Minister of Education. All of these were roughly classified by subject, were catalogued in a certain extent, and housed a total of about forty thousand volumes.

There were also in Baroda City several other collections of books in the libraries of various State Departments: those in the Dewan's Office, the Museum, the Department of Agriculture, the Military Department, the Chief Engineer's Office, the Purdah Reading Room, and probably other places which Borden had not yet discovered.

Distributed through Baroda State were several other libraries, owned by the municipalities and not under State control, but which, "without a doubt, could be brought under the control of a central library system if proper inducements were offered." The following table presents the details:

Prant Libraries Volumes

Baroda 14 14,189
Kadi 11 6,770
Navsari 9 12,688
Amreli 6 6,018

Total

40 39,615

There were also 191 very small school libraries in various towns and villages of the State and under the control of the Department of Education.

These libraries, though individually small, held about 25,000 volumes, and being already organized, they offered the best kind of foundation on which one might build something better.

Borden continued:

Thus I find that there are in Baroda State something over 241 libraries holding a little over 100,000 volumes; some under municipal control, some under the control of the Department of Education, one under the control of Your Highness, and one under the control of Shrimant Sampatrao Saheb.

Borden did not find any of those libraries adequately housed, nor did he find them shelved in such a manner as to make them most attractive to readers or convenient to those in charge. At the same time, those he had examined contained books well-selected, were managed by intelligent and courteous

Selections from the Baroda Records (collected circa 1968). These are my comments.

librarians and assistants, and would have undoubtedly been much used were their contents made more attractive to the ordinary reading public.

Borden proposed:

Should Your Highness feel disposed to grant me the necessary authority, I propose to organize a Department of Public Libraries, to rank with the other Departments of Your State, with the necessary equipment of officers and clerks, etc. and to bring all the Libraries above mentioned under its control and management.

Borden's proposals further included:

- 1) To unify all the collections of books in Baroda City into one Central Library;
- 2) To add to this Central Library general and technical books;

3) To erect a suitable Library building of fire-proof construction, with Reading Rooms, Study Rooms, Women's Library, Children's Library, Lecture Hall, Library School, and Executive Offices;

4) To make that Library the Free Public Library of Baroda City, and also the main store-house for all the valuable historical documents and papers now in private hands in the State, but which the owners would probably be glad to have stored in a safe place;

5) To make it also the center from which Travelling Libraries should start and from which the books, new and old, could be distributed to the various branch libraries in the different towns, cities, and villages of the State.

Borden had prepared a ground plan of such a library building (in consultation with the State Engineer), adopted to a tropical climate, and suited to the different activities; and he had also prepared a properly graded system of classification, designed not only for the Central Library, but for all the branches of the Library whether large or small.

Borden further proposed to select a class from the "most intelligent of the present librarians," and to instruct that class in practical library work and in the theory of librarianship, so that they could assist him in the classification and cataloguing of the books then available in the various libraries or to be purchased for them with their assistance (after having thus done practical library work) to ultimately found a Library School that could graduate expert assistants for the main library and the different branch libraries of the State.

It was realized that such a plan as Borden had sketched would naturally take some years for its accomplishment, and although the expense of it in its entirety might be considerable, it would be distributed somewhat evenly over five years or more, and "would be considered, from the increase in the national intelligence it would foster, as good an investment of capital as one could make."

Borden concluded:

"Personally, I would gladly take charge of such a work, if arrangements can be made therefor that shall be mutually satisfactory; and should I do so I have no hesitation in making the assertion that I can give the State of Baroda the finest system of libraries and the finest library building in India, and a library that will take its place with other well-known libraries of other countries; and, what I conceive to be of still more importance, a library that will be much used by the people of Baroda State and be of much use to them; and a library of which Your Highness may well be proud.

The Maharaja invited the opinions of the Minister of Education, Mr. Masani and the Dewan, Mr. Seddon.

In general Mr. Masani's reaction was favorable. He agreed that Borden's suggestions were based on his varied practical experience of large public libraries in America and Europe¹. Masani made some interesting remarks regarding Dewey's system of classification and recommended that Borden's proposed scheme of classification be accepted as it was, without making any change therein, on the ground that it was "a practical wisdom not to interfere with the method of classification devised and elaborated (?)" by an expert. He was greatly satisfied that Borden found Baroda library situation so progressive.

On Borden's proposal to add a collection of 130,000 volumes to those already existing, Masani recommended an initial book grant of Rs. 25,000/- to be augmented when further amounts were needed. Masani approved the plan of building. The cost was about Rs. 4 lakhs. He commented: "Whether such an extraordinary expenditure can be borne without a financial strain is for the Government to judge. There is a pressing demand for good school houses from all quarters and it is scantily met at a very slow rate."

Masani believed that it would be some time before children's Libraries and Purdah Women's Libraries would be in real demand and use. There was already a women's library in the heart of the city, but it was not used much. Masani was afraid ladies might not come to the Central Public Library.

With regard to the Library School, Masani said: The proposal to form a Library class is commendable. He proposed starting the class in the Baroda College in the mornings so that the working people could derive the benefit. He also recommended a stipend of Rs. 50/- p.m. to the students.

Mr. Seddon, the officiating Dewan, seemingly agreed² with Masani and said

that the scheme could be implemented "provided we are ready to spend a good deal of money." He added, however³:

In my opinion, indeed, the building of a large central library, the stocking of it with a large number of additional books, and the training of a small body of librarians, are luxuries. It does not appear to me that the time has yet come when such a thing can be considered in any way necessary <underlining in original> to our

1 Similar sentiments were expressed also in the "Testimonial" presented to Borden when he left Baroda.

2 Seddon was extremely clever, cunning, and cruel. Was he not an imperialist British? He seemingly agreed, but in reality condemned the whole scheme. In one of his speeches, the Maharaja enunciated his library creed, wherein he argued that the libraries were not "luxuries." Probably, he was reacting to the adverse views expressed by the Dewan, a British civil servant! He was the only British ever to serve the Maharaja as a Dewan. The snake can only emit venom!

3 It is to be noted that Baroda was already reputed as holding progressive views. If there was any danger to the Great Britain's British Empire in India from any part of the vast sub-continent, it was from such a region as Baroda. Naturally, therefore, a pillar of the empire would not approve any enlightenment in Baroda.

continued development.

According to Seddon, the State was already spending a good deal on education Seddon forgot that the expenditure on libraries was merely the premium for insuring the safety and preservation of what was invested in education¹. Seddon did not stop there. He concluded: "If the money so badly wanted for these things is diverted into another course, I should be very sorry. I trust it will not be so."

Nevertheless, the Maharaja accepted Borden's proposals, at least in principle, and ordered that the whole scheme might be implemented in phases, stages, or installments. This view is further strengthened by the fact that Borden was given the necessary authority and was allowed to continue his work in Baroda for another three years. The Royal order, sanctioning Borden's proposal decreed:

1. The idea of the Central Library is approved.
2. Separate rooms for men, women, and children should be first provided.
3. Instruction in Library work be initiated.

4. Branch libraries in the State Department should not be abolished.

5. Rs. 10,000/- sanctioned for books².

1 education, and in the successful prosecution of their endeavors there were many urgent needs, and much money had to be spent upon them.

2 Royal Order No. H.K.K.E.D.H.O. No. A/6 Feb.1, 1911.

Borden 1911

BARODA LIBRARY SYSTEM, ESTABLISHED
Borden's Proposals, 1911 [PLMB pp. 59 ff.]

The basic request for the sanction of "The Rules for the Formation of Free Public Libraries" and of the expenditure of Rs. 24,996/- was submitted by Borden to the Council on 8 May 1911. The Rules had already been sanctioned by the Maharaja, yet the Naeb Dewan ordered that they be submitted to the Council for approval.

In the very beginning Borden gives a "Short History":

"Since the His Highness Government had introduced the system of free and compulsory education throughout the State, and thereby enabled every boy and every girl to learn to read and write, it has been its supreme duty as a natural consequence of the same system to provide for its people materials of healthy literature that may inform, inspire and build character. This can be done effectively and economically only through public libraries.

"Knowledge, to be accessible to all the classes of people, rich and poor alike, must be free as air or water1."

The proposal of Borden for creating the Central Library Department is not included in this collection of documents. That he had made such a proposal, before he submitted the Rules for sanction, is evidenced by the following statement:

In paragraph 1, sub-paragraph 4 of the Tippan regarding <the> creation of the Central Library Department submitted to and sanctioned by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, the fourth function of the Central Library Department was briefly mentioned as under:

- <1> Organizing libraries in various Talukas of Baroda State and
- <2> Especially creating a taste and a desire in the people for having libraries of their own in their own villages.
- <3> Putting the existing libraries on a better footing and
- <4> Opening new libraries whenever necessary.

Borden then elaborates how the above objectives are to be achieved.

He says: "In brief the Central Library will undertake to create a demand for good reading and to awaken a sense of obligation which rests on every citizen to make his neighbor, so far as possible, a reader of good books."

"Efforts of the people to organize libraries and to put them on sound basis have not met with complete success.

"To accomplish the ends mentioned above, it is necessary that the Government and the Panchayat should enter into complete cooperation with the people."

1 Very valuable thought.

Two Million Rupee Plan, Genesis of the

Borden had submitted "A Report on the Borden's Scheme for the Organization of Libraries in Baroda" for His Highness on 21 July 1911. His Highness ordered that it be re-submitted in the form of a proposal. So Borden submitted it again on 20 March 1912.

Borden first divides the towns and villages into several groups:

The Central Library was first. Then came the Prant towns--Baroda, Navasari, Mehsana and Amreli. Next in importance were the large Taluka towns--Patan, Visnagar, Petlad, Sidhpur, Dabhoi, Vadnagar, Kadi, Sojitra, Bhadran, Dwarka, Gandevi, and Vijapur. Then came the smaller towns with a population over 4,000. Fourthly came the villages with a population from 1,000 to 4,000. Lastly were the small villages with a population of less than 1,000.

"Their (of the towns and villages) coming forward with a part of the required outlay is a necessary prelude to the establishment of any library" (of any type) declared Borden.

Borden's conception of the Central Library is worth noting:

This is the one <organization> from which all the others are to be controlled; from which they are to receive travelling libraries and also the books not possessed by them individually; from which they are to look for expert help necessary to complete their organization; and to which they will all look for models in all forms of library activity.

The sanctioned book budget for 1911/12 was Rs. 13,000/- and Borden wanted to incorporate Sampatrao Library into the Central Library. He gave preference to large town libraries over Prant libraries because the Prant libraries were already good though not free. All large Taluka towns were ready to cooperate, smaller one needed persuasion--they were "in need of missionary work," as Borden put it. Out of 387 villages in Baroda with over 1,000 population, 172 had their "libraries already, some active, some painfully passive." Part of their passivity was due to the a general lack of interest, the other part was due to the fact that the libraries presented to them by the government upon payment of Rs. 25/- had become altogether too small to retain their interest for any length of time.

Borden summarized his demands as follows:

Head Whole Cost Government Share

Buildings 920,000 733,000

Books 326,000 306,000

Total 1,246,000 1,039,000

This amount excluded annual maintenance.

<A note for me: Borden's scheme may be further detailed here with the chart.>

The Commissioner for Education remarked: The scheme submitted by the Director of State Libraries¹ is a comprehensive and useful one and affords very instructive reading. It seems however too ambitious to be inaugurated now.

The N. Dewan commented:

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb attaches great importance to this subject of Library extension which is only a supplement to free compulsory education in towns and villages for the purpose of spreading knowledge. We shall therefore have to devise means whereby we can give effect to the proposed scheme when our finances are restored to their normal state.

The year was one of financial depression. The N. Dewan further believed that the taste for reading in the general public was too limited. A decade was too short a period to implement such an extensive scheme.

The Council noted the whole scheme, but decided that the sanction will be given on individual items, one at a time.

When subscription libraries were converted into free libraries the use of books increased on individual items, one at a time.

On 15 May 1913 Borden submitted a request for the amount required every year under the Town Library Scheme of Baroda and for Traveling Libraries Scheme of Baroda.

The request amounted to:

1. Rs. 8000/- a year for three years in addition to Rs. 12,000 already sanctioned.
2. Rs. 3000/- a year for traveling libraries.
3. Rs. 4000/- a year for grants to libraries to be started under Section 3 of the Rules.
4. Rs. 8000/- for maintenance charges for two years and Rs. 10,000/- for the same in the third year.

Vidyadhikari expressed his opinion on 26 May 1913 as follows:

His Highness has expressed a fear that if libraries are started in places where people take evanescent interest they stand the danger of dying out as fast as they are created, and a further warning note has been sounded that the growth should be slow but sure.

He recommended the sanction of Rs. 17,000/- , to be distributed as follows:

1. 5,000
2. 3,000
3. 3,000
4. 6,000

Rs. 17,000

/But the Dewan did not sanction any amount over the sanctioned amount of Rs. 24,000/-.

There are some comments and notes in pencil in the original, but they are not in the copy from which this is entered!

1 The title stated in the official document is worth noting.

Borden's tenure, controversy over (Continuation--salary--extension) Lot of correspondence letter1: [fn. to be fixed]

To H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda
London, England

Dear Sir:

"As your Highness suggested, I have given the subject of remaining in Baroda a good deal of careful thought since our last conversation.

I consider myself bound by a moral obligation to complete the library organization of your State now so happily begun and not to leave it in an unfinished state as I should be obliged to do were I to return to the States at the end of my original contract <emphasis added>. This obligation is strong enough to force me to risk some probably pecuniary loss, should your Highness be pleased to accept the offer I am about to make.

That there may be no misunderstanding, allow me to state that I am at present receiving \$3000 a year and my return fare on completing my tour by original agreement, and by your Highness' sanction in Bombay a furnished bungalow and a carriage. <This sanction must have been given through some other authority because Borden did not meet the Maharaja in Bombay. It was through Shri Sampatrao. See Borden's letter to Dewan, dated 8 April 1911.>

My experience during the past six months has demonstrated to me that this salary and allowances is not quite sufficient either to enable me to maintain two establishments, one here and other in New Haven, or to allow me to bring my wife to India and thus maintain only one. A short time ago Your Highness was pleased to offer me Rs. 100/- per in addition to my present salary and allowances, if I would stay longer.

That offer I was obliged to decline as it would oblige me to work at a decided pecuniary loss. If, however, your Highness would be pleased to increase that offer to Rs. 250/- rupees per month in addition to my present salary and allowances, I should feel under obligation to accept it in order to fully complete the work for which I came to India.

Knowing that your Highness will appreciate my position in this matter and that however strong the obligation to finish my work may be, it should not be powerful enough to warrant my encroaching any further upon my capital, I have

the honour to remain,

Your Highness'

Most Obedient Servant

(sd) William Alanson Borden

Director of State Libraries

And in this way from his original demand of \$5000 per year, i.e an addition of \$2000, Borden came down to Rs. 250/- per month as an increment (in addition to Rs. 100/- already granted?). It is just possible that his desire to remain in Baroda was so great that he did not insist on his own terms. As he says, he might have "encroached upon his own capital" to fulfill his desire to remain in Baroda and to get his family over there. He got Rs. 250/- more. His family did come, but they could not stay in Baroda long and had to return home on account of the climate and health.

BORDEN'S EXTENSION OF SERVICE IN BARODA

In a letter written in his own hand, dated 8 April 1911, addressed to H. E. The Dewan Saheb, Borden pleads as follows:

Sir: There seems to be considerable confusion in the minds of

1 Submitted after Borden had worked in Baroda for about six months, i.e. before the first year ended. This was a copy made by someone else.

various officials concerning the terms of my agreement with H. H. the Maharaja Saheb.

A year ago, or thereabout¹ I received an offer from H. H through Dr. Bumpus, and in answer thereto said I would come to Baroda for one year for \$3000 and my expenses both ways.

Some time in the winter, a letter was sent to Dr. Bumpus authorizing him to close with me on the terms, but before that letter reached Dr. Bumpus[,] he received a cable from H. H. telling him to hold matters up, pending further instructions. The letter thus sent and countermanded by cable contained the clause, so often quoted here, that the engagement was to be for two years and terminable on three months' notice.

About two weeks after the receipt of this letter, the "further instructions" referred to in the cable were received. They said that as H. H. was not keeping well he had decided to spend the hot weather in Europe, and as he could receive the most benefit from Mr. Borden's visit only when he was himself in Baroda, the whole arrangement had better be considered annulled. It could be opened again at some future time.

When H. H. reached Seattle, or Vancouver² he wrote another letter to Dr. Bumpus, saying that if Mr. Borden was still of a mind to come to Baroda, he would like to talk over matters with him in New York, early in July.

Up to this time you will please observe [that] all offers and acceptances had been definitely abrogated and a new arrangement was to be made.

I met H. H. in New York [quite important to note] and made a verbal agreement with him, in the presence of Dr. Bumpus, for one year only [mark the word "verbal"] and at a salary of \$3000 plus my expenses going and returning. It was expressly stipulated by H. H. that, although the work on hand [has "had"] laid out together [?] was going to occupy much more than one year, the engagement was to be for one year only and that I was to come to Baroda for that year without my family. At this time he authorized Dr. Bumpus to engage me and to arrange as to when I should begin my work for the Baroda Government.

In agreement with Dr. Bumpus, I, therefore, began work on the 16th of September, 1910 and he gave me a letter to that effect which I have given you,

in copy. By this agreement my contract terminates on the 16th of Sept. 1911, which is also inclusive of the usual leave of one month, making my working year terminate on the 16th of August.

In this agreement nothing was stipulated about a furnished bungalow or a State carriage. On my arrival in Baroda, however, I spoke to Shrimant Sampatrao about that matter and he furnished me the carriage and said he would arrange the matter with His Highness on his return from England. On the arrival of His Highness in Bombay, Sampatrao spoke to him about the bungalow and carriage and H. H. was pleased to say that I should have both.

This much as to the present agreement. If H. H. wishes me to stay longer than the first year, I am not only willing to do so but would like to do so.

1 I am not sure if Borden was able to keep proper chronology and remembered the time sequence correctly. He wrote the above letter on 8 April 1911. "A year ago" would mean April 1910. Borden's original appointment took place in 1909, and not 1910. The matter was postponed and then revived. This question needs further investigation.

Also it is worth reiterating that the letter is in Borden's own handwriting. It has some obscure passages. One is puzzled why this kind of writing? There are not only errors therein, but strange grammatical constructions. One who is familiar with his writings at New Haven cannot understand why he was not correct and clear in this correspondence.

2

This shows further how uncertain Borden was about the time and place!

But I should be unwilling to stay longer in Baroda without my family, and I cannot support my family here and bring them out for less than a salary of \$5000 a year, to be continued for at least two or three years, plus a furnished bungalow and a State carriage.

Should H.H. sanction these terms, I am ready to draw up and sign such an agreement at any time.

Yours very truly

Sd/ William Alanson Borden

This letter began a controversy which did not yield much benefit to Borden. It is evident that his original appointment was only for a year and that he did not bring his family to India along with him. But at the close of the year, it seems, he was asked to continue for a second year, as the State asked him to stay in Baroda for one more year. Borden did not agree to stay on the original salary of \$3000. He demanded \$5000. He advanced his own arguments justifying the amount.

A note in pencil at the bottom of the letter says: "Not more pay than at present. If he likes that, clear a year's extension [?] certain. 10/4 CNS [4 April 1911]. H. H. said Borden might have Rs. 100/- more. If he did not agree then he might finish up. CNS 11/4

Draft letter on the back of the above letter, which is folded, 3 pages written, 4th page blank.

H. O. 3711
Huzur Cutcherry
My dear Sir:

With reference to your letter dated 8th, I beg to inform you that H. H. is willing to pay you a salary of Rs. 100/- in excess of what you now draw and that if you accept this then your services will be retained for one year certain and perhaps for a third year.

Yours etc.

11.4.11

13

CNS

To
W. A. Borden, Esquire
Baroda

BORDEN AT BARODA--14 April 1911

A letter in Borden's own handwriting, dated Baroda 14 April 1911, addressed to H. E. The Dewan Saheb, sets forth the conditions under which he might stay in Baroda for another year or two. Incidentally it might be added that Borden was frugal; wrote letters on small pieces of paper, 6" x 4" folded double.

Borden said to the Dewan:

Dear Sir:

In [original has "I"] response to your note of yesterday, would say [! probably Borden wanted to say: I, in response...]

That I cannot afford to maintain my family in the States for another year at my present salary. I have been willing to do so this year, in order to achieve a certain definite result, which result will have been accomplished by the end of my present engagement.

I am willing to extend the term of my engagement for one or two years at the increased salary mentioned in my note to you (\$5000 & Bungalow & Carriage) as that increase was based on the probable expense of bringing my family out and sending them back again at the end of my engagement.

I am also willing to accept the terms offered by His Highness (Rs. 850/- per month & bungalow & carriage) for one additional year, provided the Government will defray the cost of a first class passage for my wife, my daughter of 15 and my son of 12 from New Haven to Baroda and return, it being understood, of course, that whatever extension or new engagement I may become a party to, does not release the Government from their obligation to provide a first class return passage for myself at the end of my renewed period.

If you will excuse the introduction of a personal note into this correspondence, I would like to call your attention to the fact that I am not a bluffer, neither am I a "Yankee on the make", but am perfectly willing to give the Government good expert work at a fair remuneration.

Yours very truly,

(Sd) W. A. Borden

The following note appears at the bottom of the above letter, on the 3rd page:

My dear Sir:

I beg to reply to your letter of 14th April which was submitted to H. H. by me.

H. H.'s Govt. regret that they cannot undertake to defray the cost of the passages mentioned by you.

Yours etc.

23rd April 1911 CNS

This was a draft only. I thought that it would have been fair-copied, and I found, yes, there is a typed copy next to this.

1 The letter could very well begin: I, in response to your note of yesterday, would say....

BORDEN'S TENURE AT BARODA--16 June 1911

Terms & conditions of appointment and its continuation

Correspondence Re. Borden's bungalow, Rent Rs. 121/10/6 per month.

Extract from a letter dated London 16 June 1911 from the Secretary to H. H. the Maharaja addressed to His Excellency the Dewan Saheb:

(5) Mr. Borden in his letter of May 4th has referred to the question of his extension. His Highness has no objection to give him an increment of Rs. 250/- per month inclusive of the Rs. 200/- offered to him some time back--provided he is willing to remain in Baroda for a period of two years more which may, if so required, be extended by a year or so. His salary & carriage have of course to be charged to the Education Department.

It is important to note that the Maharaja was thinking in terms of keeping Borden even beyond the period of two years for which the extension was negotiated before the first year ended.

BORDEN AT BARODA--1 July 1911

On 1 July 1911 the Dewan wrote to Borden from Huzur Cutcherry:

Dear Sir,

With reference to the letter addressed by you to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb under date the 4th May last, in connection with the extension of your services in the State, I have to inform you that His Highness has no objection to give you an increment of Rs. (250) two hundred and fifty per mensem inclusive of the RS. 100/- per mensem offered to you some time back--vide my letter dated the 11th April last, provided you are willing to remain in Baroda for a period of two years more. This period might, if so required, be extended by a year or so.

I shall thank you to let me know if you are willing to continue in service on these terms.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd) C. N. Seddon

The Maharaja had a second thought on the duration of Borden's stay in Baroda. He had already sanctioned Borden's extension for two years, but later on he changed his mind and wanted to extend the period of stay by only one year, because a telegram from London dated 3 July 1911 dispatched by the Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb said: "Borden's extension one year for present, if previous order not communicated."

A letter reading as under was prepared for the signature of Dewan:

Dear Sir,

In continuation of this office letter No. M-5178 of the 1st instant to your address, I hasten to inform you that the Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has this day cabled to me that the period of your service will be extended at present for one year only.

Yours

A note in ink at the bottom:

"H. E. The Dewan Saheb remarked that as the previous order was communicated to Mr. Borden it was not necessary to address this note to him."

5th July 1911 Sd/-G. Nimbarkar?

BORDEN AT BARODA--16 June 1911

15 Princes' Gate

London SW

16-6-11

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 4th ultimo regarding your personal matter, I am communicating today to H. E. the Dewan Saheb the order of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb that he is prepared to give you an increment of Rs. 250/- inclusive of 100 Rs. offered to you some time back, provided you agree to stay on in Baroda for a period of two years more which may be extended by one year or so if so required.

Yours truly

(Sd) Buldeoji L. Dhru1.

Secretary

To

W. A. Borden, Esq.

And this ended the controversy.

BORDEN'S TENURE AT BARODA--27 February 1912

On 27 February 1912, Borden wrote to Mr. Gupta:

Owing to my wife's health (she cannot stand the hot weather) I have temporarily moved to Bungalow No. 5 in the camp. I have not given Villa C, and shall probably move back there as soon as my family sail for England which will be early in May. The camp bungalow will be much cooler for my wife during March and April. Of course, it is needless to tell you that I am paying the rent of the camp bungalow out of my own pocket.

I figure that it will be much cheaper than sending them to the hills and fully as effective.

Yours

This was confirmed by Anne Brown, the adopted daughter of William Borden. The family joined him in Baroda subsequent to his arrival there, but they could not stand the heat and so his wife and children had to come back home.

BORDEN'S TENURE AT BARODA--12 March 1912

On 12 March 1912 Sampatrao Gaekwar, Khangi Karbhari (Private Secretary), wrote to the Manager, H. E. Office, Baroda:

1 Horrible British influence! How terribly the name is distorted!!

My dear Sir:

In reply to your letter No. M/3663 dated the 2nd instant I write to inform you that His Highness told me that Mr. Borden should be given a furnished house and a carriage.

The following note appears at the bottom of the above letter:

Submitted. It may be within your Excellency's recollection that His Highness the Maharaja Sayajirao was graciously pleased to tell us both orally[!] that unless the order given by him are [!] recorded then and there no action should be taken. No such order seems to have been recorded in the present case.

initials

SD

Further note:

Yes, but this order has been given effect to. BLG (not clear)

Borden's work in Baroda--December 1913

Appreciation Library Journal on Borden's Work in Baroda¹

While the modern library system is absolutely the product of democracy, it is interesting to note the exception that in an Indian native state, where absolutism reigns, <not true>², one of the most remarkable library developments in the world has been made, and that within four years past. Baroda has for many reasons been called the "Massachusetts of India," being the most progressive of Indian states, of about the same area as Massachusetts, though having but two-thirds its population. But while Massachusetts in the past sixty years has accomplished the triumph of developing in each of its 353 cities and townships save one a free public library (that one being Newbury, which uses the Newburyport Library), the Maharaja of Baroda has, through an American director, Mr. Borden, developed a state library system which includes 451 local libraries, most of them of course small but several of creditable size, with an aggregate of two million books for two million population, and an annual state appropriation approximating \$150,000. This combination of Asian control and American progress has indeed produced wonderful results. It is astonishing to think that in each of the two native languages used in that state there are approximately five thousand books printed, so that ten thousand printed books are at the service of the native population in the vernacular. Equal credit should be given to the Maharaja for the American progressiveness which he took back from his journeys to America, where he proved, as at the Library of Congress, one of the most intelligent and progressive of library inquirers, and to Mr. Borden for his Asian adaptation of American methods.

¹ Library Journal 38 (December 1913): 657.

² The writer is not acquainted with the progress already made by Baroda (even before 1908) in implementing the ideas and ideals of democracy!

WAKNIS ON BORDEN'S SCHEME

Borden's Scheme for the State

2. Mr. Borden framed a ten years' programme by which the whole State was to be covered with a network of village, taluka and district town libraries with the Central Library in Baroda serving as a state library. Mr. Borden retained the Carnegie principle of helping those who were prepared to help themselves. But he envisaged state aid as continuing from year to year and not limiting itself to the foundation year as the Carnegie endowment limited itself. Besides this, he did not entrust the management of libraries to civic authorities or statutory bodies like the Gram Panchayats, Vishihta Panchayats or Sudharais <municipalities>. He left the management to non-official nonstatutory local committees. This modification may have been forced upon Mr. Borden by his assistant Mr. Motibhai Amin, who knew that in India government or semi-government agencies or institutions were always suspect in the eyes of the public. With the view that the library idea may catch a firm hold of public imagination, the running of village and town libraries seems to have been deliberately left to unofficial agencies.

Borden's Scheme for the City

For Baroda city itself Mr. Borden conceived of a Central Library that was to be central in at least three senses. It was to be the peakpoint of library organization in Baroda State, it was to be located in the heart of Baroda city and thirdly, it was to centralize the library activities of the Palace, the Government of Baroda and the public of the city. With this end he thought of making the Central Library perform the functions of a national library like the British Museum, (London), a Government Library like the Library of Congress (Washington, U.S.A.) and an urban municipal library like the Pittsburgh or Philadelphia public library. The management of Central Library he left to the Director of Public Libraries who was to administer the Department of Libraries and who was to be a State Official. The financing of library was made the responsibility of only one agency, viz. the Government of Baroda. The library building was to cost six lacs of rupees and the annual recurring expenses were to be one lac of rupees¹.

¹ From source no. 54--Post-war Programme of the Baroda Libraries, by Waknis.

Borden's Scheme for library training

BORDEN'S SCHEME OF TRAINING UP LIBRARIANS

Short History

The Object of the scheme for the development of libraries

The general scheme for the development of the libraries of Baroda State includes the conversion of subscription libraries into free libraries, as well as the starting of free town and village libraries. Up to the present time the number of subscription libraries in the towns of the Raj that have been so converted is about thirty.

Necessity of trained librarians

Whenever a subscription library in a town is converted into a free library the number of people using it is greatly increased, sometimes even twenty fold. These new members are apt to know very little about the books that are in the library, how to get them, or how to use them to the best advantage to themselves. They need much instruction in such matters, and therefore the want of a corps of trained, or semi-trained librarians for these town libraries begins to be felt somewhat acutely.

Libraries not yet properly classified

Moreover, but few of the libraries of the State have yet been able to properly classify their books and consequently it is still very difficult for any patron to find out what books any library may have that bear upon any particular question about which he may want to inform himself.

No proper record as regard the number of books issued, etc.

Up to the present time, also no library has been able to keep more than a record of the total number of books issued. No records exist concerning the number of books issued in different subjects, and consequently the authorities of the libraries have no data from which they may determine the demand among their readers for books on the various subjects and thus arrange their purchase of new books so as to most fully meet this demand.

Desirabilities to train librarians

Under the circumstances, I consider it highly desirable to train the present librarians or to supply the institutions with fresh trained librarians.

Proposal to open a class for training librarians

I therefore submit the scheme of opening a class for training up town librarians, who shall work in the Central Library while they are being trained.

Sanction solicited for the scheme of training 20 librarians. An advantage derived by the Central Library by the opening of the class.

By this scheme, (1) the Central Library will get all its vernacular books thoroughly classified and their cards prepared, (2) a general list of books on different subjects and those for special classes can be prepared (3) an authentic catalogue of the Vernacular books in the Central Library can be published for the guidance of all the State libraries, (4) uniformity of classification <p. 440 ends> and arrangement of books will be introduced in all State libraries, and (5) the town libraires will be properly organized and thereby library grants of the Government and Panchayats will be best utilized with comparatively less expense to the Government. Considering the urgent need of supplying the libraries with trained librarians on whom much of the success of the whole library movement depends, and having in view the way great many advantages to be derived by the Central Library under the scheme, I propose that the scheme may be sanctioned and provision for scholarships of Rs. 12 p.m. be made for 20 pupils for five months from March 1st 1913 from the amount of scholarships sanction in this year's budget.

ISSUES

1. Is it necessary to sanction the scheme of opening a class for the training of librarians for or from the town Libraries?
2. Is it necessary to provide for the sum of Rs. 1200/- for scholarships for 20 librarians at Rs. 12 p.m. each for a period of five months from 13- 13 from the amount of scholarships sanctioned in this year's budget?

OPINION

Yes, for all the issues.

W. A. Borden (signed)
Director of State Libraries
Through Vidyadhikari

W. A. Borden (signed)
Director of State Libraries
<p. 441 ends>

OPINION OF THE VIDYADHIKARI

I agree.

Baroda A. M. Masani (signed)

20th Feb. 1913 Vidyadhikari

ORDER

The proposals of the Director of State Libraries are sanctioned. Rs. 1200/are sanctioned & should be reappropriated from the amount of scholarships sanctioned in the Budget.

This amount is not to be exceeded by the retention of more Scholar candidates.

Servants in existing Libraries should be given a preference for admission in the class if the respective Libraries are prepared to bear the Scholarship charges during the five months of their probation.

The amount of Rs. 12/- for each candidate per month should not be exceeded & commencement may be made with a minimum of five (5) candidates.

13th March 1913 (signed)

Manubhai

Naib Dewan

Vidyadhikari's Office

No. 756 of 1912-13 Baroda 19th March 1913

Forwarded to the Director of Libraries.

SCHEME

1. A training class for town librarians may be opened for five months in the Central Library.
2. The maximum number of candidates for the class should be fixed at 20.
3. The new candidates must have at least passed the 5th standard examination of A. V. School or 1st year in the training college. The librarians of the different town libraries would be given preference over new candidates.
4. Each candidate would be paid a scholarship of Rs. 12/-.

5. Candidates shall have to work in the Central Library during office hours for three months and in the last two months, they will have to work in any of the town libraries to which they may be sent by the Department.
6. The candidates will have to enter into an agreement with the Government to serve for three years in any of the town libraries on a monthly salary of Rs. 12 to Rs. 20/- with a yearly increment of Rs. 1/- or for one or two hours a day beyond their school time on a monthly allowance of Rs. 2 or Rs. 4 in case their services are not required by the local libraries for the whole day.
7. The Government will not bind itself to employ all or any of the candidates in the State Libraries.
8. The teachers will have their lien maintained in the Educational Department during the period of their candidateship in the Central Library or services in any of the State Libraries.
9. The class will be conducted by one or two librarians in the Central Library.

W. A. Borden (signed)
Director of Libraries
19.2.13 <p. 443 ends>
HUZUR CHUTCHERY
Baroda 2nd April 1913

My Dear Mr. Borden:

I have received your note asking for an elucidation of the orders passed on Tippan No. 22 of 19-2-1913 which accompanies.

What is meant is that Rs. 1200/- are sanctioned for the training of 20 Librarians for the Mofussil Libraries. I limit the Sanction to Rs. 1200/- which is not to be exceeded; but I do not limit the number of the Candidates to be trained up. If some of the Libraries send their existing Librarians on half pay or pay otherwise reduced, you need not pay the full amount of the Scholarship, viz. Rs. 12/- to such Candidates but only such amount as would bring up their total emoluments to Rs. 12/- p.m. If you get such men there will be some saving in the Sanction of Rs. 1200/- which would enable you to train up a couple of more men. In order that you may thus train up additional men (over & above 20) I have said that preference for admission should be given to such men not wholly dependent on the Central Library. I do not mean that such men are to be preferred only after you first admit 20 men entirely dependent on the Central Library. In that case the additional men you admit will have to be partially paid from your funds & the Sanction of Rs. 1200/- will be very likely be exceeded. That was not meant.

I trust the meaning is clear now.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) Manubhai

W. A. Borden, Director of State Libraries, Baroda

Baroda--Lib. education

Library Training Class

1. Origin

Many assistants trained in the latest methods of library management were needed to accomplish this task of reorganization and renovation of the libraries. In March 1911 Borden was permitted by the Maharaja to institute a library training class. Six graduates of Bombay University, or candidates with similar qualifications, and six undergraduates were to be selected and given Rs. 25/-p.m. as the scholarship for a year. It was also proposed to give these trained people jobs commensurate with their qualifications-- the graduates to receive the grade of Rs. 60/- to 100/-p.m. and the undergraduate Rs. 30/- to 50/-1.

Originally the training program was intended for the staff of the Central Library alone, but it was announced throughout India that persons residing anywhere in India could derive the benefit and get the training in modern library methods under an American library expert. But none paid any attention to this opportunity².

USA vs. U.K.

Library training began in the U.S.A. in 1887 and under the auspices of an institution of higher learning.

Ref. : Sarah K. Vann,
Training for Librarianship Before 1923,
Chicago, A.L.A., 1961, p. 31

In the United Kingdom the beginnings of library training can be traced to the year 1885, but it was imparted under the auspices of the [British] Library Association. Khurshid says:

The British Library Association had started holding qualifying examinations (emphasis added) at London and Nottingham for library assistants. The only instruction when started in 1893 took the form of a series of usually five-day summer schools. It was, however, in 1898 that the London Summer School was changed to offer regular courses following the syllabus prescribed by the Association. (p. 341.)

Library training in Baroda

1 Rs. 60/- was a good salary in 1911 in Baroda. However, it is to be noted that Baroda's rupee was lower in value in comparison with that of the British India. As late as 1947, M.A.'s with Dip. L. SC. were appointed at a meagre salary of Rs. 120/-p.m. in the grade of Rs. 100/200 in big universities of India.

2 Extracts in translation from : Pustakalaya Sahayaka Sahakari Mandala, Vadodara Rajyani Pustakalaya Pravritti

Borden at Baroda--Library Training--Origin of

Library Training by Borden at Baroda

It was Borden's intention to institute a library training class in Baroda even before he had left New Haven. His mission in India was only to initiate the library movement; the ultimate management was to be the responsibility of the Baroda librarians themselves. [Bring in here what the President of YMI had said.]

In Baroda, Borden selected a group of ten young men and ladies "of exceptional ability" and gave them extensive training in the "theory and practice of librarianship." After a year's theory and another year of practical training, these librarians were asked to instruct others. A "Summer School for Town Librarians" was organized by Borden just before he left India (May 1913). It lasted five months. There were twenty-five trainees, and all their expenses were paid by the State Government.

"The idea of a general library course for Indian students is not new. When Mr. Borden began his work in Baroda, information was sent to every corner of India that the State was willing, without charging any fees, to train people in library science. How that call was answered we all know. Few came forward to take advantage of what was offered. That was a great pity. Enough came forward for Baroda, but not enough for India. It shows that the persons who failed to respond to the call were not far-sighted and intelligent enough to realize the importance of library work. But now, happily, another era has begun. With Mr. Clark and Mr. Borden working in co-operation, great results can be attained and the illiteracy of the masses by much lessened.

"The work in libraries should be divided into two parts: English and Vernacular. The advantages of pushing both are evident. English is necessary for the higher levels of modern knowledge, but the people at large cannot take advantage of it. The library should not limit its benefits to the few English-knowing readers, but should see to it that its good work permeates through to the many. Vernacular libraries should be encouraged, and with this in mind I caused the establishment of small vernacular libraries throughout the villages of the State. The people themselves should also contribute their mite towards the cost of the scheme. Nothing can be got without trouble. Knowledge cannot be attained without self-sacrifice. India is poor and its wants are many; but this is a condition to be resolutely faced, as other nations have faced it in

the past and as many other must face it in the future. The people must rise superior to their circumstances and realize that more knowledge is their greatest need, their greatest want. They must be brought up to love books, not simply attractive bindings or pretty picture, but their contents. They must be taught to regard books as part of their lives. Libraries will not then appear a luxury, but a necessity of existence.

[Note: It is to be noted that the speech of the Maharaja, partially quoted above, was not prepared in advance--it was an impromptu speech, because he had opened his talk with the following remarks:

"Gentlemen-- When I came to this meeting I had no intention of being more than a passive listener. I would like, however, to say a few words in support of the lecturer's suggestion of forming a post-graduate course of Library Economy in the Baroda College" (p. xxxi).

If the Maharaja could deliver such a thought-provoking extemporaneous speech, even though short, he must have imbibed the "library spirit" quite a great deal, up to the very core of his heart.]

Borden's Work in Baroda
An Appreciation by Lm--May 1913

In the "Editorial" of its fourth issue of volume one (May 1913), the Library Miscellany offered its felicitations to Borden for his successful performance in Baroda and bade him farewell in the most endearing terms. Borden was invited to Baroda only for a year, but "he had acquitted himself so creditably that His Highness the Maharaja gave him extension of two years" (p. 217). He had come to Baroda on 6 September 1910 and left Bombay 25 June 1913.

According to the Library Miscellany, Borden had "put the system of organization <of libraries> on such a sound basis that hardly a month passed without new institutions being established." Borden had "the supreme satisfaction of looking upon his mission in India as accomplished" (p. 217).

Borden was liked both by the Ruler and the ruled (his subjects). To everyone who came into contact with him, Mr. Borden was "the very incarnation of kindness, courtesy, and consideration, and to the staff under him, he was the eternal fountain-source of inspiration, enthusiasm and activity" (p. 217).

Borden's work in Baroda
A criticism--May 1913

Borden's own times and climes were characterized by significant developments in the field of public library movement. Andrew Carnegie became a great promoter of libraries and his benevolent gifts induced the civic authorities to come forward in order to create and maintain public libraries not only in the United States but also in many other English-speaking countries. During his visits to U.K. and U.S.A., Maharaja Sayajirao could not but be influenced by this wave of popular enthusiasm and public support for the promotion of library service. In one of his significant speeches he referred to the phrase "people's university," obviously alluding to Andrew Carnegie's concept.

Following the Carnegie principle of helping those who would like to help themselves, Borden made the people's contribution a pre-requisite for State support. But unlike the Carnegie gifts, provision was also made for continuous state support on grant-in-aid basis¹.

However, the greatest difference between Baroda and other countries was that the authority of management of the libraries was not entrusted to self-governing, permanent, statutory, corporate civic bodies like the Panchayats, but to ad hoc non-statutory, non-official, un-incorporated committees made of the local people elected annually by the whole body of subscribers to the annual maintenance fund of the library. Waknis believes that "this modification may have been forced upon Mr. Borden by his assistant Mr. Motibhai Amin, who knew that in India the government or semi-government agencies or institutions were always suspect in the eyes of the public²." Waknis concludes: "With the view that the library idea may catch a firm hold of public imagination, the running of village and town libraries seems to have been deliberately left to unofficial agencies." The founders of the Baroda library system did not merely aim at the establishment of libraries, but at a general awakening of the masses. They wanted the people to learn the first lessons in Swaraj, the art of self-government.

It is to be noted that Baroda was completely independent as far as the internal administration was concerned. It was governed by a benevolent ruler, who had completely identified himself with his people. Under the circumstances, political conditions in Baroda--the relations between the rulers and the ruled--ought

to have been different from those prevailing in British territories. An authority (South Indian) mentions specifically the prevalence of cordiality of relations, the identity of purpose, between the ruler and the ruled in Baroda. Let it also be recalled that Maharaja Sayajirao was also the first ruler in India to grant local self-government to his people.

1 It is to be noted that the local self-governing institutions had already been supporting the libraries in the west, or they had assured continuous support on recurring basis. It was easier to find some money for the annual maintenance. The libraries had the books, but there were no buildings. These latter called for capital investment of large sums which was difficult to be made available. Hence Carnegie's grant in the western world enabled the libraries to have their own independent buildings. But in Baroda the local boards had no hand in the administration of libraries. Also the people had to contribute at least one-third of the needed funds before the Government could grant its own funds.

2 Post War Programme of Baroda Libraries see pp. 802-03.

It is surprising that Waknis supports the continuation of the management of Baroda libraries by the ad hoc, non-statutory, non-official, non-permanent, transitory local committees as late as when the whole of India had moved far ahead in the field of local self-government. The ultimate outcome of the Baroda library movement might have been entirely different if the local self-governing bodies had been designated as the creators, guardians, and caretakers of the libraries in Baroda <Yogaksemam vahamyaham>. The arguments advanced by Waknis for not granting...."platter" ...are not compatible with the age when India's emergence as a free nation was almost imminent, fairly assured--dawn before the sunrise. Borden, too, has a reference to probably "East waking up," as early as 1913!

Borden Hopes for Extension of Library Services, 1912

Concluding, Borden said: "The Free Library System, the People's College, will bring to every man's home the opportunity to acquire a practical education that shall make him a better son, a better father, a better citizen, a better man1."

///all Borden's writings to be placed in one collection.///

This is Borden's first article on Baroda (pp. 1-3). It is the first significant article <1912> I have read by Borden on Baroda. It lays down what the goal was, what policies were formulated, and what methods were followed to achieve the goal.

Borden says "permitted." It is just possible that all his proposals were not carried out. <I read this paper and commented thereon long before I saw the documents named collectively later as "Baroda State Records." These documents corroborated my conjecture.>

Subscription libraries forced to become free libraries. Otherwise they were barred from receiving the government aid. Surat offers similar instances. <Change in old rules.>

Yet we see that all the people of a town or village did not contribute to the Library Fund (the local contribution)! It was voluntary. The management was entrusted to a committee elected by those who paid toward the Library Fund! It must be admitted that both the reading and lending facilities were available to all, yet the people who subscribed to the Library Fund were allowed to borrow more books! They were also given certain additional privileges. This was certainly a kind of distinction--a discrimination. The basis of raising the initial funds was not all-pervasive. It was not comprehensive. The funds were collected through voluntary contributions of those who could afford or would care for. Was this a healthy policy? NO!

Borden's library (Young Men's Institute, New Haven) is still restricted to its members only. His original plan of circulating the books at New Haven, too, was confined to the subscribers--those chosen few who were willing to pay. Yet this is understandable because it was public institution supported by the tax paid by the people.

1 W. A. Borden, "Library Situation in Baroda,"
Library Miscellany 1 (August 1912): 3. 1913, Just Before Borden Left Baroda

The Pij Free Public Library¹

A speech delivered by Mr. W. A. Borden, Director of State Libraries Baroda, on the occasion of the opening of the Pij Free Public Library.

Borden's Work at Baroda

Borden's Speech at the Pij Free Public Library:

It is with a great deal of pleasure, and a vast deal of satisfaction, that I take part in these ceremonies here today. Pleasure in the welcome that has been extended to me, and satisfaction in the fact that the opening of your new library building at Pij, coming as it does at the end of my mission in India and presenting such a vivid contrast to what the Pij library was at the beginning of that missions, persuades me to believe that my mission here has been a "successful" one <emphasis added throughout>.

"A little more than two years ago I came here to examine your library, but I saw no library to examine. I was told that the owner of the building had used the library room for storing his corn and that the library, being thus buried, had not been accessible for some months.

"Pij was by no means the only instance of the low state of vitality among the libraries of the Raj. My whole trip had been rather depressing to an enthusiast in the library movement; but at Pij this absolute drowning of the intellectual in the material was too startling, and I probably said things about it.

"And so, in marked contrast to what I said then, I say now that it gives me a vast deal of satisfaction to devote one of my few last days in India to help you dedicate this substantial and beautiful library building, and to be among you on this bright morning when the Pij library vindicates itself; when it awakes from its long sleep and stretches out its arms to all who may come, that it may make them better children, better fathers, better mothers.

"At last you have the full educational complement: the school where you learn to read and the library where you may read. But, having achieved this, do not forget that education, like most other things in this world, has two halves. The first half is the

gaining of knowledge. The other half is learning to apply that knowledge to the practical affairs of life. Many forget the last half. Many even do not know that there is another half, and so unfit themselves for the things their fathers did without fitting themselves for anything else.

"Don't forget the other half, for upon that depends the future of the race. What makes a man is not the letters he can write after his name, but the deeds he has written into his life.

"With the completion of this building you start upon that long journey that ends only with the complete civilization of the human race.

"See to it that this building contains no books that may injure any man or child of you.

"See to it that it contains books that shall teach your carpenters to become better carpenters, your blacksmiths better blacksmiths, your potters better potters, your farmers better farmers. Aye! books that shall teach your sweepers to become something better than sweepers.

"Get books that will make Pij a still better town; more beautiful, more sanitary. Books that will make your citizens better able to do their part in the world's advance in civilization; to take their places in that slow, sure,

1 The Library Miscellany 2 (August 1913): pp. 1-3.

and grand march of the human race that has been going steadily onward for untold ages, and will still go on for countless ages yet to come, but which is ever approaching, confidently and joyfully, some glorious future bourne whereof man knoweth not but only God. <A picture of this library building, a group photo taken at the occasion and a story on it appears in New Haven Register 1928.>

Borden at Baroda--May 29, 1913
Borden Departs from Baroda

Testimonial to Director Borden at Baroda¹

The following characteristic testimonial was presented to Mr. W. A. Borden on his retirement from the post of director of the Baroda State Libraries, and tells its own story as to his relations there:

Having accomplished a great deal by way of planning and establishing a unique public library system, when Borden left Baroda in May 1913, his associates and admirers presented him with a Farewell Address which is memorable. Library Miscellany V.2, no. 1, August 1913.

The Library Journal reported the event and reproduced the address (text) in full.

W. A. Borden, Esq.,
Director of State Libraries, Baroda.

Dear Sir: We, the members of the Central Library Department of Baroda, beg permission to express our mingled sentiments of sorrow pleasure on the eve of your departure from among us--sentiments of sorrow because we shall be deprived of the company of one whose presence was an everliving source of inspiration and pleasure, but at the same time sentiments of pleasure at the thought that, after a three years' stay in the trying climate of India, you will be returning to your own country and to the fireside of your own home, to share the joys and pleasures of your family circle.

With your coming to Baroda, this Library Department came into existence, and owing to your untiring zeal and unceasing care, encouraged as you were all the time by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, it has continued to grow and develop and to extend its influence and the scope of its usefulness throughout the length and breadth of this model state.

The rapidity with which library institutions have risen and are rising everywhere in the state has not only exploded the superstition that the library movement at this stage of our development is a luxury, but has proved to the hilt that this movement is essentially necessary for the uplifting of the masses and the advancement of the nation.

The 450 library institutions that dot the state everywhere, and the more that will do so hereafter, will not only be the centers of light and learning, but will remain the standing monuments to the noble foresight of the ruler of Baroda, and to the creative genius of their first director. To you, sir, as the first director of the State Libraries of Baroda, rightly belongs all the credit of popularizing this movement, and the memory of this noble work will not only be an object of eternal pride to you wherever you are, but will be a constant source of inspiration to us, to whom you are entrusting this work now.

Your presence among us is an acknowledgment of the fact that the work of library administration is a regular science, requires a systematic training and is an honorable profession. <As far back as 1911!>

1 Library Journal 38 (November 1913): 626-27.

Just as your royal master is the pioneer of the modern public library movement in India, so you have the credit of being the first to introduce scientific library training in this land.

The creation of this department has not only brought credit and universal praise and admiration to you, but it has also added to the glory of this state. Your presence here has been instrumental in ushering into existence two such excellent activities as the Baroda Library Club and the Library Miscellany, which both have the common aim of furthering the cause of the public library movement in this country.

By your sweet, genial and imperturbable nature you have won the hearts of all that came into contact with you.

Anger never affected the serenity, nor did the sense of authority disturb the equanimity of your temper.

You treated all equally, irrespective of their rank or scholarship. You always encouraged the deserving and sympathized with the failings of the weak. It is this side of your nature that has appealed to us most and has evoked our utmost admiration.

In conclusion, we hope that though in body you will be across the seven seas, yet in spirit, in the communion of souls, you will be with us all the time, inspiring and encouraging us by the memory of your excellent work.

We wish you, and all the members of your family, peace, prosperity and long life. In the words of the immortal bard allow us to say,

"Fare thee well;

The elements be kind to thee and make

Thy spirits all of comfort!

We wish to remain, dear sir, your most humble servants,
Mrs. Lilly Lobo J. S. Kudalkar, M.A., LL. B.
Mrs. Anandibai Prabhudesai M.N. Amin, B.A.
Miss Lilavati Peters, C. D. Dalal, M.A.

N. C. Divanji B. M. Dadachanji, B.A.
N. K. Shah V. R. Thakar, B.A., LL.B.
H. V. Mahta V.N. Limaye, B.A.
K. M. Pagedar B. H. Mehta, and others
Central Library, Baroda, May 29, 1913.
1 Three lady librarians! Hail Baroda!!

BARODA--COMPULSORY EDUCATION

Unfavorable factors leading to the failure of compulsory education

What socio-economic factors proved as hindrances toward the success of compulsory free primary education? [1162.1]

The law prescribed penalties for non-attendance but exemptions were granted on reasonable grounds like advanced age or infirmity of the parents, or if the child had to earn the bread for the family. This sounds very strange, but it was a fact. The child did have to earn the livelihood for his family in many cases. There was no upper limit to the age up to which a man could marry. There was no lower limit to the age of the girl who could be married. In other words, the society had no restrictions on the marriageable ages of the husband or wife. There was neither minimum nor maximum.

Neither religion nor social custom put any restriction on the remarriage or polygamy of the man. A man could marry at any age and have as many wives as he could afford. It was the belief of an orthodox Hindu that there was no salvation beyond death if a man died without a male issue. Hence a man with no son was encouraged by the religion, custom, society, and even by the elders of the family to remarry or to take an additional wife if he had no male issue.

Aputrasya gatir nasti = there is no salvation for the son-less.

[Find the original source.]

If the father was too old to work and the mother too busy with her household duties there was no alternative but to put the child to work whatever may be his or her age.

Compulsion of any kind meets with resistance. There was severe opposition even to such a benevolent measure for which the State was spending all the money, and the people had only to derive the benefit.

Baroda's Organizations, Institutions

Associations

Baroda--Post-merger-Associations

Baroda library movement suffered many other losses due to the merger. For example, the Bombay Government compelled the Baroda State Library Association to dissolve itself since no organization owing exclusive allegiance to the "marged" Baroda State could be allowed to operate. There was no more Baroda State. Hence no such organization could exist. Consequently, the Baroda State Library Association ceased to function. That was the end of a great organization.

But the Government of Bombay could not compel the Libraries Cooperative Society to dissolve itself because it was a statutory corporate body, not intrinsically a part of the Baroda State but serving the greater Gujarat and even regions beyond it, nay, even beyond India. Also the Society did not expect any financial assistance from the Government of Baroda or Bombay. It was and still is a self-supporting organization, a living monument to the wisdom and foresight of its planners and founders, primarily Shri Motibhai Amin. It remains a unique organization in the whole of India. [Relates to Rural Baroda's statement on losses.]

Borden's influence over India, Khurshid on

Khurshid on Borden's direct influence:

The libraries, which had begun to provide 'public appeal,' during Borden's sojourn in India, had become forcefully pervasive, at <the> least in the Madras State, where the Madras University Library and the Madras Library Associations were engaged in excellent promotional work.

Borden worked in Baroda during the years 1910-13. Madras University Library and the Madras Library Associations did not become active until late twenties! Khurshid does not speak convincingly of the cause and effect relationship!

In fact, Borden, Baroda, and Sayajirao cannot be separated in determining the influence of Baroda over other parts of India. It was a collective effort wherein Motibhai Amin too played a very significant role, though his name does not get due place in the literature. He was a silent worker and functioned mostly incognito. Shah, his biographer, has brought out his noble personality very well.

Borden-Baroda--Library Miscellany--August 1919

Pustakalaya

Library Literature (Pustakalaya)

Borden's Accomplishments at Baroda

Whereas the Library Miscellany disappeared due to lack of support, the Gujarati monthly entitled Pustakalaya, which was started as a quarterly in 1925 and was converted into a monthly the following year, continued its uninterrupted life and is still being published though the Baroda Library System does not exist anymore. An explanation may lie in its being the organ of the Baroda State Libraries Co-operative Society, Ltd., a statutory body of permanent standing.

A further explanation may lie in the fact that the Library Miscellany was mainly in English while the Pustakalaya; has been wholly in Gujarati, the regional language of the majority of Baroda's population. It contained a good deal of material on literary and cultural aspects of Gujarat. The Pustakalaya was started when the library development at Baroda had already reached a mature state. There were more than a thousand village libraries alone, not to speak of town and district libraries. Libraries in Baroda were required to buy the Pustakalaya under an official directive from the Government of Baroda because it contained departmental circulars and also orders which were so vital to the administration of the libraries forming part of the Baroda Library System. The adjoining British territories of Gujarat too might have extended additional support to make the journal flourish.

Borden--Baroda Libraries

Organization, Library Legislation and Taxation

Borden lived at Westport, Connecticut in 1917. His paper entitled "Organization of Free Public Library Systems in the United States" was published in May 1917 (vol. 22, No. 5) issue of the Public Libraries <Partly incorporated already in Baroda study.>

Baroda was not ready for any taxation.> There is no documentary evidence to determine whether Borden proposed taxation or not. If the "Rules" reproduced by Dutt in his Baroda and its Libraries are original and authentic, if all of them were drafted and recommended by Borden to be adopted, the last Rule is significant, which clearly expresses the willingness of the State to consider any proposal for taxation if made by a local body. <This paper can be reproduced as Borden's writing in 1917. It contains my comments, too.>

Baroda inspires Bengal

The Legislative Council of Bengal had been considering a bill on library legislation when Dutt toured Bengal and did a good deal of publicity and promotional work for the Bengal Library Association. He delivered his Presidential Address to the Third All-Bengal Library Conference at Calcutta on 18 November 1931. He ought to have studied the pros and cons of a library law.

Dutt also reported that a Bill along those lines had already been introduced into the Bengal Legislature.

It seems the Baroda authorities did not feel the necessity of a library law¹. They believed all was going well and that the library system in Baroda had already been established on a firm foundation. <It was only the beginning. Their "Rules" were as legal as any other formal law. It was a monarchy, not full democracy to begin with.> <Remarks made later.>

One of the Reports of Library Department states that people are not ready for taxation. The same opinion was expressed by the Library Development Committee of Bombay in 1939/40.

Baroda was merged into Bombay only in May 1949, but the Madras Government had already enacted its Library Law in 1948. It is argued by some that the successor to Maharaja Sayajirao, i.e. Pratapsinhrao, was not as keen on libraries as his predecessor, but that is not true. Also there was no dynamic leadership after Dutt. There is a mention in Library Department Report that one Newham studied the system and made some recommendation. But his study was confined to the Central Library. It seems the administrators of libraries in Baroda, who followed great fire-brands like Motibhai, were of easy-going type. They just did what they were told to do. They had hardly any initiative, energy or drive that was displayed by their predecessors.

There was a proposal from the Library Department for a commission in postwar (post-Syajirao) years to inquire into library affairs, but none paid any attention to it. I have discussed this matter in my Baroda Study.

To come back to Borden and his ideas on library tax. IN his paper he says:
//dup.//

This need of extending library privileges into the farming country, although it has been much discussed in all meetings of city librarians these many years, is not a matter to be taken up by the cities, however able or willing they may be, but by the county or by the State, and they should be started and maintained by a county or state tax (emphasis added). Our farmers are not dependent upon the cities, but are fully able to pay their own way. (p. 177)

Finance for libraries in Baroda

A pertinent question arises: Were the farmers of Baroda "fully able to pay their own way?" The answer cannot be in the negative, because the local people had to come forward with the initial contribution as well as the annual

1 Attention should be paid to the controversy generated by the proposal to compel the prant panchayats (or municipalities?) pay for libraries on compulsory basis! Library Laws would not have worked!!

contributions to maintain the library! However, all did not pay. All were not required to pay. All were not able to pay either. The only difference was that in Baroda the contribution was voluntary and had to be begged every year! It was not compulsory, determined on the ability of the individual to pay, but was dependent on the sweet will of the donor. The extent of the total collection of the contribution, the success of the drive was dependent upon the ability of the local library organizer. If he had a "persuasive" tongue, as Borden claimed for himself, he might have achieved better results. On the other hand, if he did not like to go begging even for a benevolent cause, the library had to suffer from undernourishment, decay, and final death.

Many a time certain villages could not receive the government grant simply because they were unable to raise their own contributions. Therefore, the system of voluntary contribution was certainly not the most desirable method of providing permanent finance for continuous support of the library service. Borden Memorial Trust Fund tried to remedy this drawback. But it was only a pointer. It was quite limited indeed.

Not that the Baroda library administrators were oblivious of this shortcoming. The scheme of setting aside part of their annual contribution into a "Reserve Fund" was but a means to build up a reservoir which could be tapped in times of emergency such as flood or famine. But the amount thus raised and deposited was not large enough.

One may question the wisdom of forbidding libraries to remain "subscription" libraries without making adequate provision for their continuous support through adequate funds. The question is not of finance alone. The question is of adequate finance. A body has to get enough food to function properly. Undernourishment cannot give strong and permanent energy to function.

In one district library, student-volunteers take books from the libraries and deliver them to those that do not generally visit the library on account of age, want of time or mere idleness. The students devote only two hours on Sundays to this work but have been instrumental in distributing some 25 books per week. This is indeed a novel method of taking the library to the people at their very doors, when they may not or can not go to it. Again in small villages, there are very few people who can read or write but even these people are made to take interest in library matters when some teacher or student reads out to them a book or a newspaper.

Free Vs. Subscription Library

Young Men's Institute Library had to face some competition from the Free Public Library of the City of New Haven. It is significant to note that the Institute Library, although being a paid library, survived, notwithstanding the fact that the Public Library had been providing all along its services totally free to the people. Of course, it was tax-supported like any other public institution, yet it was free to all irrespective of wealth.

Library Circulation

Anand Bhuvan Club L. (free) 1200

Fatehsinghrao L. (subscription) 220

PETLAD

Gattulalji L. (free)

2632 in 1910-11

2783 in 1911-12

Sarvajanic (subscription)

330 in 1910-11

957 in 1911-12

In conclusion, I will now only mention a few activities taken up by individual libraries of the State. One is a system of house to house delivery of books to ladies. Some three or four libraries of Petlad Taluka have undertaken to deliver books to the females at their very houses through library peons. By this way the libraries have been successful in distributing some hundred books per month among the female readers of the town. The system is going to be introduced in other libraries of the State, and I feel sure it will be a complete success and thus advance the cause of female education which we all have so much at heart.

Borden stresses the need for providing travelling library service to rural people.

"They need the libraries and the county or state should to the reader...e country library should be small and to a large extent transportable <Borden has used here the correct term>.... These libraries should be fed through a central storehouse in each district....

"This combination of central store-houses <of ordinary popular books>

containing also special or little used books which would be available for all small libraries, with numerous small branches, delivery stations, and travelling collections supplying the small communities, is the most modern type of library organization."(p. 178)

From the correspondence deposited at the New York Public Library between Bowker and Borden, it is evident that the latter was trying to go to the West (Takoma, Washington). He points out that the vested interests in the East do not permit building of such central storehouses for little used books. <One reason why Borden was so successful in Baroda was that it was a virgin field. There were no vested interests.>

"There are other problems, financial and governmental that must be solved before many of the Eastern States can fully adopt this new cooperative idea of library organization; but there are many states in the West that are not so handicapped.

"A system of cooperating libraries can be founded in a comparatively new district with but a very small outlay compared with the cost of the old order of separate and independent city libraries <each one duplicating little used, expensive books>."

"The writer has just <!> organized such a system in one of the native states of India and knows whereof he speaks."

Borden states that the State <of Baroda> is as large as Massachusetts, but it was spread over a wide territory scattered over a wide area of land and interlaced with other regions governed directly by the British and other Indian native states. It was easy for a native state to deal directly with a territory administered by the Government of India, but it was quite a difficult task to have similar facilities or cooperation from another native state in India.

Again Borden says that "There were 150 libraries already there," but actually there were more than 200. Borden says:

..d the system now contains about 500 interdepending <?> libraries, large and small, but mostly small, for small working libraries filled with live books is the main idea of the organization.

Borden might have planned a cooperative organization of interdepending libraries, but it is doubtful if it was ever achieved. There was a central collection, no doubt, in Baroda city, the capital, which fed all the smaller libraries, but the line of communication was direct. The other district (planned as central) libraries hardly functioned as the true central storehouses for the whole district. Borden envisaged a collection of 20,000 volumes in each of the Prant (District) libraries, but we do not see any one of the Prant (District) libraries reached that stage even ultimately, or if there were any inter-library loan or other cooperative activities among the Prant libraries and small libraries located in the same region. <Yes, at a later date "Interlending unions" were established.>

..Here it is indented, but not always earlier.

The writer would also advise that the organization of such a system begin in the county rather than in the State, provided that the county government can be empowered to lay taxes for that purpose. <p.178>

Borden has laid down (on p. 179> in some details his plan of cooperating library service for a county.

There should be a central storehouse for little used books, shelved in compact storage in a building designed to be a storehouse rather than a place for reading or providing library service.

If this central storehouse is located in a city, a general circulating library for ordinary use may be instituted along with it.

The central storehouse will contain all the expensive, rare, special, technical and outclassed books of the whole county. They will be at the call of any reader in the county.

The building will be the administrative headquarters of the entire system. The acquisition and classification will be done there for all the books.

Here should be gathered all the trained classifiers and catalogers, and all the expert work on the books should be done here before they are sent out to the smaller libraries.

<p.179> <Centralized technical work>

Did Borden envisage centralized processing to such an extent that the other associated libraries would not be required to catalog their books?

We see that the Baroda libraries had partly succeeded in achieving centralized cataloging. The "Catalogues of 8000 Gujarati books" and "400 Gujarati books" were attempts in that direction. They had also planned and implemented a printed catalog card distribution service. It is not known how far it was successful.

Small libraries or distributing centers should be established in every town and village of the county... the smaller collections could be located in some general store, or in the school house, and the store clerks or the teachers would be entirely competent to issue them to the readers and see to their safe return. <p.179>

This was done in Baroda, too. But such an arrangement could hardly give the stability needed. Borden believed that all might work as selflessly as he did. He thought that "the social prominence <acquired by handling the book collection> might be considered a sufficient remuneration." Maharaja Sayajirao had said once: "Writing of books, cannot feed the belly." <verify ref.??> Amin thought so too!

Borden has given all the details of the plans he laid down at Baroda for the Travelling Library System, without mentioning the name of Baroda

Portable Libraries vs. Travelling Libraries

Borden believed that the travelling library boxes served the purpose to a large extent, yet the ultimate solution to the problem of rural library service" is the institution of a series of book-wagons, real <!> travelling libraries."

Therefore, the portable or transportable boxes were not the "real" travelling libraries.

In conclusion, Borden summarizes the advantages of his scheme in the following words:

It brings the books within the reach of the people who want to read them, it brings them only the books they want to read, the special reader has the entire resources of the country or the State at his command in obtaining for him the one book whose contents are important to him, it accomplishes all or any of these things at the least possible cost because the whole system is based on cooperation. <p.180>

The above article was written by Borden in May 1917. It seems to be his last mention of the Baroda Library System.

Borden's Achievement in Baroda as reported by Khurshid
Khurshid enumerates Borden's achievements in Baroda
in five major areas: p. 194

1. Baroda Library System¹
2. Library Training
3. Scheme of Library Classification
4. Librarian's Club
5. Library Miscellany

Khurshid comments about the last:

Although this publication was short-lived, Library Miscellany did spread the message of Baroda libraries far and wide <emphasis added>. Burma, Mysore, and many other states showed interest in the system and some even tried to develop travelling libraries on the Baroda pattern.

At another point Khurshid states:

"However, the development in Baroda had its far reaching impact on the library situation elsewhere in India. The Librarian's Club originally comprising librarians of Baroda libraries had its echo in the Punjab where Asa Don Dickinson in 1915 founded the Punjab Library Association. It was an American missionary², Dr. J. C. R Ewing, the then Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Punjab, who was responsible for inviting a fellow American, Dickinson, to organize the university library and to teach modern library methods to the librarians of the Punjab.

<Asa Don Dickinson, "Memoires," typewritten manuscript, 1949, p. 290>
<It is evident that the title of the work which was in essence a diary or autobiography was supplied by Khurshid.>

Khurshid assumes that Dickinson was uneasy over his appointment because he had remarked:

Would his majesty wish me to come and teach library science to his rebellious subjects <his friends had sent him newspaper accounts of reported

insurrections of the native Indians against the British <Raj?>> amid the blackened ruins of his empire."

<Dickinson's reference: "On His Majesty's Service Only," Public Libraries 21 (March 1916): 132. Khurshid's ref. p. 198>

1 If by "system" Khurshid means only the organization, it won't be adequate. There were many innovations, such as children's lib. Why scheme <3> only, total universe of library science and art.

2 The question was--How an American missionary became the Vice Chancellor of the Punjab University? In pre-independence days, around 1915?

Later on I found that Ewing was also a "sir." The answer he had completely identified himself with India. His body and soul both had been unified with India!

Borden's Influence as reported by Khurshid:

The libraries which had begun to provide "public appeal" during Borden's sojourn in India had become forcefully pervasive at least in the Madras State, where the Madras University Library and Madras Library Association were engaged in excellent promotional work <P206>.

Cf. What I have written on this matter--My Dissertation, pp. 329ff

Public Library Movement in Baroda, pp. 329-30

Borden established in Baroda not merely scattered libraries here and there but a whole library system. That is the greatest value, the greatest gain. Libraries had been in existence in India and Baroda even before the Baroda Library System was established, but there was no unified library organization anywhere in the country. Its first appearance in India outside Baroda could be traced to 1949, the year when Madras enacted its library law and put it into effect. Baroda exercised a tremendous influence on the minds of contemporary public leaders in India. Baroda lit the torch that was carried forward by many native states and British provinces in India. A seed sown into the earth disappears, but shoots forth a sapling which develops into a great tree, providing sweet fruits and cool shade to many. Something similar happened also in Baroda. Its library system disappeared in 1949, ironically enough, with the advent of independent India, but the inspiration it had already given to the Andhradesa (the country of the Andhras) which formerly formed an invigorating part of Madras,

enabled that State to have the first public library act in the same year. Thus Madras made history, but it owed much to Baroda. The emergence of a public library system in Madras in 1949 was almost like the transmigration of soul, a kind of resurrection, a lamp lighting another lamp. In this sense, the library movement in Baroda was a total success.

Public Library Movement in Baroda, pp. 218-21

BDN--BRD--LIBRARY EDUCATION

Borden's stay in Baroda was limited. He established the Baroda Library System and organized the Central Library Department. He trained his own staff and prepared them to shoulder the responsibility that lay ahead of them. The Central Library served as the laboratory and the staff received good practical experience. But Borden did not remain satisfied with these achievements. He worked out a scheme for training town librarians and submitted it to the Government for sanction on 19 February 1913. It was sanctioned¹.

¹ Ibid., p. 326.

BORDEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO BARODA: LIBRARY EDUCATION

Town Librarian's Class in Baroda

Borden's stay in Baroda was limited. He established the Baroda Library System and organized the Central Library Department. He trained his own staff and prepared them to shoulder the responsibility after he had left. The Central Library served as the laboratory and they received a good practical experience.

Borden did not remain satisfied with all the above achievements. He went further. He developed a progressive scheme for training town librarians. His medium of instruction was Gujarati. The content of the curriculum was geared to the needs of town libraries and was planned to be indigenous as far as practicable.

Borden submitted his proposal¹ to the Government on 19 February 1913. Rs. 1200/- were sanctioned to provide twenty scholarships of Rs. 12/- each for the prospective student-librarians.

The Report on Public Instruction for the year 1912-13 noted:

The library class opened in 1911 supplied the needs of the central institution. But for training up librarians for the moffussil libraries, proposals were submitted for sanctioning scholarships and they were accepted. (p. 71)

Though primarily intended for the town and village librarians of the State, the class was open to other persons in and out of the State. The following announcement, signed by Borden himself and dated 2 April 1913, appeared in the Baroda press including the Library Miscellany:

"A Library class of twenty students has been instituted in the Baroda Central Library beginning with April 1 to prepare librarians for village and town libraries of the State of Baroda. A practical training in the various branches of library science will be provided in this class. The selected candidates will receive a monthly scholarship of Rs. 12/-. Priority will be given in selection to the librarians of this State. Those not desirous of scholarships and the librarians from outside Baroda State also will be admitted into it 2."

The scope for admission to the course (i.e. entrance requirement) was wide.

There was hardly any prerequisite. Anyone who had passed the first year of the Male Teachers' Training or the fifth standard of High School was eligible for admission. The education was free. Seventy applications were received, but only twenty-one candidates were selected, sixteen of whom belonged to different town libraries³.

The course was inaugurated on 1 April 1913. Among the subjects taught may be mentioned book-selection, book ordering, checking, accessioning, classifying, lending, preparing quarterly and annual reports, billing, children's libraries, travelling libraries, and the knowledge about the new outlook of librarianship.

C. D. Dalal was in charge of the training program, which was completed in July.
1 The proposal appears separately.

2 Library Miscellany 1 (February 1913): p.? This announcement was signed by Borden as the Director of State Libraries, Baroda State.

3 Education Report, 1912-13: 71.

The candidates were examined and certificates given to those who were declared successful. Eighteen students passed, ten in second division, six in third, and two by grace. <p. 446 ends> The Library Miscellany of August 1913 (vol. 2, pp.22-23) noted this: "It was the first attempt to impart library education in a regional language." The note is preceded with a picture of the instructors and students. A copy of this picture is still preserved at the Young Men's Institute, New Haven, Connecticut. Borden and Kudalkar, both garlanded, are seated on the chairs. Motibhai and Dalal also appear.

With regard to his success in the field of library education in Baroda, Borden himself says¹:

I began by selecting a class of ten men and women of exceptional ability and I gave them a thorough training in the theory and practice of librarianship. After they had had one year of instruction and another year of practical work in the Central Library, I opened a summer school for town librarians in Baroda City, making the course last five months, and putting the members of the original class in as instructors.

1 "Borden, Baroda, India, and its Libraries," Library Journal 38 (December 1913):

662.

Baroda--Library Education

Library Training in Baroda

The Library Department soon came to realize that the kind of library training it was providing was quite superficial. It was "just stimulating and not satisfying¹." The Department was approached to institute a fuller training and the award of a certificate, at the end of the course, to those who completed it. In January 1934 such a course by correspondence was initiated. The first group of twenty-five students was trained in 1935. Books on library science and bibliography in Gujarati were prescribed.

Town Librarians' Training, Standards Set Order No. 26 (1)

Motibhai came into contact with town librarians at the seven-day library class held at Karnali. He realized that some librarians were qualified, while many more were not. He wanted that all the privileges be given to the librarians, but they should deserve it and be equally qualified to render good library service. This is what he thought.

A short course extending even to a month was not sufficient. The Department, therefore, arranged for an annual examination in cooperation with the State Library Association.

It was decided that only such librarians who had passed the examination would be allowed to take up the positions of librarians. Those who would not pass would be relieved of their duties from January 1938. (This was a drastic provision, but maybe justified.)

The Association was running a correspondence course at that time².

Source:Ekikarana

Library Education, 1933-34

All the Reports of the Baroda Library Department give details of the library training provided by the Central Library. Students from all over India used to visit the Library and undergo library training for various lengths of

1 Report of the Library Department of the Baroda State 1934-35 Baroda Central Library, Baroda State Press, 1935,

10.

2 Library Department Report, 1933-34, p. 4-5.

Persons desirous of library training, both from the Indian States as well as the British Provinces, came to Baroda. The library training was continued¹.

Baroda Library Department Report for 1934-35 expressed the need for a regular library training course with the award of a certificate, because it was considered to be of greater attraction and inducement to outsiders. The Report declared: "Time has come to revive Borden's class for librarians²."

By the year 1934-35 the course offered at least by Madras must have proved attractive, but the distance between the north and the south might have been a deterrent, especially for the poor.

Library Training in India

Baroda's Influence³

The Library Department of Baroda was ever prepared to give a free course of practical instruction to young men, desirous of taking up librarianship as their calling. Among those who had undergone such training were librarians deputed by the States of Mysore, Indore and Dewas, the Elphinstone College, J. N. Petit Library, Bombay, and other institutions⁴.

The development of libraries in Baroda promoted the library movement in other parts of India. Bombay University took the lead and deputed its librarian to England for professional training. The University of the Panjab proved more progressive. It invited to Lahore an American University Librarian, Asa Don Dickinson, to "organize the Panjab University Library, and teach modern library methods to as many of the librarians of the Panjab as could be gathered together." Dickinson not only reorganized the Library on modern scientific lines, but also established a library school for the training of the librarians of the affiliated colleges, who received certificates from the University. He wrote a textbook entitled Panjab Library Primer which was published in 1916 and is called the first book on Library Science published in India⁵.

Also a Panjab Library Association was formed through Dickinson's influence. Madras University followed the example and sent its librarian abroad for professional training. The Library Department had assisted in the project by supplying the needed information⁶.

Influence--BBB

1 Library Training BLD Report,1938-39 <Source not verified.>

2 BLD Report 1934-35, p. 7.

3 Dickinson had been in correspondence with Kudalkar before he reached India. One Ranchod, who had been Mr. Borden's second butler at Baroda, was among those who went to the pier of Bombay to receive Dickinson when he arrived in India.

4 Dutt, Baroda and its Libraries, p. 53.

5 But it is not true. Mehta, Bhanusukh Harisukhram, Hints on Library Administration in India, with an introduction by William Alanson Borden (Surat, V. H. Mehta, 1913) was an earlier publication!

6 Dutt, Baroda and Its Libraries, p.56; Dickinson, "On His Majesty's ... p.132.

Library Training¹

It has been already reported that Borden instituted the first library training class in Baroda in 1911 to prepare the staff for the newly created State Central Library at Baroda. The second class of town librarians was conducted in 1913. Twenty-one candidates were admitted, each being given a scholarship of Rs. 12/-p.m. They studied library economy for five months and returned to their respective libraries after the training was over. The study enabled them to administer their libraries on better and more systematic lines.

The native states of Mysore, Indore, and Dewas deputed their librarians to Baroda for training in library economy. Also the Elphinston College of Bombay derived the benefit offered by the Baroda Library Department and deputed its librarian to Baroda for library training.

The training of librarians was continued by the Central Library. Every year town librarians were invited to Baroda and were given the necessary guidance in library management. The Department was ever-willing to impart library training to anyone who sought it. Baroda was always ready to contribute its share to the advancement of all the activities undertaken to promote the library movement in India.

The Assistant Curator of Libraries visited district libraries periodically for inspection. Whenever and wherever he went, he gathered together the librarians from the neighboring towns and villages and conducted a short library training course, giving them a basic knowledge of library administration.

Bombay's new Government did not fully appreciate the value of Baroda's public library system and did not support it the same way Baroda did. However, its wholesome effects still remain deeply rooted in the soil of Baroda. Even after a lapse of fifteen years, the results of the splendid work of the pioneer state were still found living by a leader of the same Congress Party which came to power in Bombay after India achieved independence. In his "Message" to the Commemoration Volume (1964), Mehdi Nawaz Jung, the then Governor of Gujarat, said: "During my tour of Gujarat, whenever I have been to a village or a town far ahead of other villages and towns, I wondered if it had been a part of old Baroda State and invariably my guessing came true²."

1 VRPP, pp.72-73. <Original in Gujarati.>

2 Maharaja Sayajirao III Centenary Commemoration Volume, 17th March, 1964,

Baroda, (Baroda: J. M. Mehta, 1964), p. xiv.

BORDEN'S Philosophy of Library Service.

He expected everyone to be as generous and library-minded as he was. A Store-keeper to be a librarian. Well, in the Andhra, one employee (?) was willing to look after the circulation of books in Boat Library Service. When the books were so rare, it might be true. We cannot judge the past exclusively on the basis of the present-day conditions.

BORDEN to Baroda

Why invited?

America's contribution to the Development of Library service in India and beyond.

USA provides a Public Librarian for Baroda to develop the Public Library Service there. I have discussed somewhere, England could not provide a suitable public librarian. Sayajirao had to go to the New World. The newspaper World has provided a good commentary on this topic.

Borden's Achievements in Baroda. A very short note.

With regard to his accomplishments in Baroda, Borden himself says: "These are the things we have done. With these my work here comes to an end, etc." Not an exact quotation. His paper of 1913 gives a good summary of his work in Baroda.

BORDEN Writes "Baroda, India & its Libraries"

December 1913. [Already in the file on Borden's Writings, etc.]

Borden's writing
December 1913

Baroda, India, and Its Libraries¹ by William Alanson Borden, recently Director of Baroda State Libraries.

Outside of the native states of Baroda and Indore there are no free public libraries in India. There are libraries, of course, but no free libraries supported by public funds.

At Calcutta and Bombay there are a number of subscription libraries that have attained a respectable size, and the Asiatic Society has large collections in both capitals <Bombay and Calcutta>, that at Calcutta numbering over 100,000 volumes.

There are also libraries of fair size at Madras, Benares, Allahabad, and other large cities, but the whole library movement in India has as yet only reached the stage where it appeals to scholars.

In British India, which is that part under the direct rule of the British Government, as distinguished from the native states which are governed by the native princes and only indirectly controlled by England, in British India the library for the use and instruction of the common people is practically unknown. In the establishment of what we know as the free public library movement, as well as in the movement for the education of the common people, these native states are far in advance of the rest of India, and foremost among these is the state of Baroda.

What is known as the Baroda System, which I had the honor of originating and establishing, is now being also introduced into the state of Indore², and recent advices from India tell me that the state of Mysore is also preparing to adopt it, or something quite like it³.

Many other native states have shown much interest in the Baroda movement, and I am looking forward with a great deal of confidence to the time when all of

the more advanced of these states will have followed in Baroda's footsteps.

I have my doubts about the introduction of this system into any part of British India. British India is directly governed by English-men, and this is distinctly an American system, and--well, that is another story.

Shri Sayaji Rao Gaikwad, Maharaja of Baroda, Sena-Khas-Khel, Samsher Bahadur, Grand Commander of the Star of India, and the absolute ruler of 2,000,000 people, was born a poor shepherd boy.

1 Library journal 38 (December 1913): 659-63.

Amplified from the address delivered at the Lake George meeting of the New York Library Association, 24 September 1913. We learn from the Bowker-Borden correspondence that the paper was prepared for publication by Borden at the suggestion of Bowker. Quote. This issue contains a group photo of the "Baroda Library Staff." The frontispiece features "Central Library Building of Baroda--Formerly a Palace of the Maharaja."

2

Influence!

3 Probably Borden must have had some correspondence with Baroda, especially with his former staff, because the Maharaja did not care about him as is evidenced by Maharaja's sending library building plans to Bumpus.

Up to the time he was twelve years old he tended the village herds, with other children of his station, with no prospect of ever doing anything else than the ordinary work of an Indian farmer.

He was of royal descent, however, and one a party of white robed priests invaded the village and carried him and his brothers to the capital city, he to be the future ruler of the state.

He was put under the best of English and Indian tutors and carefully educated for the responsibilities of his position under the direct supervision of the British government; and the care spent upon his education has been abundantly justified. In intelligence, in public spirit, in all the essential qualities of a wise ruler he far outranks any other Indian Prince. His sole aim in life is to advance his people in civilization, in intelligence, and in the ordinary comforts of life. That is high praise for any ruler, either of the East or West, but I have known him intimately for three years, I have seen his mind work, and I say this advisedly and emphatically. And looking at the matter broadly, and from the standpoint of the people, I will further say, with equal emphasis, that never, in all her history, has India seen his peer.

His main effort has been to educate his people, and his success along this line alone entitles him to all honor and respect. He has established over 3000 schools in his state, and a few years ago he made education both free and compulsory. It is yet too soon to realize the results from this last decree, but when the children of today become the men of tomorrow Baroda will easily rank as the premier state of the Indian empire.

But the school only educates the boy. The man requires also the college and the library. His Highness established the College of Baroda with a faculty of English and native professors, and was then kind enough to ask me to come to Baroda and institute a system of free public libraries throughout the state that should supplement and carry on, and perhaps complete this work of education.

I accepted the mission with many misgivings. I did not then know, as I have learned since, how thoroughly my efforts would be backed up by the Government or welcomed by the common people. To live also in a country whose noons varied from 85 degrees in the winter to 118 degrees in the summer, was not without its risks. What with enteric, malaria, plague and cholera India is truly the land of sudden death, and I know that when we bade each other good-bye, three years ago, you thought there was much doubt as to whether or not we should ever meet again. Also I had read Kipling, and I was afraid that the East would not be hustled. How wrong I

was that opinion events have since proved. The East can be hustled. I think I may even say that one part of the East has been hustled, and that it enjoyed experience.

On reaching Baroda I made a tour of inspection over the state. I found a state as large as Massachusetts and with two-thirds of its population. Ninety per cent of its people are farmers. The land is naturally fertile, but lacks water. The principal products, outside of the grains and vegetables consumed at home, are cotton, tobacco and castor beans. Baroda, the capital city, has a population of 100,000, of whom 24,000 can read the vernacular, and a good many have the English as well. The larger towns hold about 15 per cent of literates, the villages somewhat less than 10 per cent, and the small hamlets a quantity almost negligible. The placing of the libraries was thus determined by circumstances beyond our immediate control and their comparative sizes also.

There were two fair sized libraries in the capital city and about 150 small subscription libraries scattered through the various towns and large villages of the state; the latter largely in a moribund condition, the remains of unsuccessful experiments instituted some years previous to 1910.

The field was practically untouched, and I determined to introduce into Baroda what we in the United States have recognized as a goal to be ultimately attained, but which we have not yet reached. I mean a system of centrally located book storehouses, each surrounded by a net-work of small, interdepending libraries. The small libraries to have the books commonly called for and the storehouses the books to supplement these small collections. This has been done and the result is now known in India as The Baroda System. I do not wish to claim any great amount of novelty for the idea. It is simply the system of the main library with its branches, such as we all know in New York, Brooklyn and Boston, applied to all the libraries of a state. If there is any value in this library co-operation throughout a large state let it be remembered that it was first introduced, not in the home of the modern library movement, our own country, but way down in India, 10,000 miles from here. Our first task was to get all of these independent subscription libraries to place themselves under government control and to open their doors freely to both high and low. This last required a prolonged missionary campaign on account of the intense caste feeling still existing in India. We accomplished it in most cases, however, though there are still 15 or 20 of these libraries that are holding back.

We next drew up a code of rules for the formation of free public libraries. These rules upon being signed by H. H. the Maharaja, became part of the laws of

the state without any of the usual bother with legislatures or that sort of thing. They prescribed, briefly, that whenever the citizens of any town or village should subscribe one-third of the necessary sum for establishing a library, the different departments of the general government would supply the remaining two-thirds. These rules applied also to the annual maintenance and to the ultimate erection of the library building. We were not anxious to give away things, but we were very³ anxious to help those who would first help themselves. It is for just this reason that the library movement in Baroda deserves so much credit. It was not an indiscriminate giving away of libraries by the government, influenced perhaps by my persuasive tongue, but a movement instituted by the people themselves and backed up by their hard earned rupees.

They wanted libraries and I devised a plan by which they could get them.

The plan of the Baroda System, determined upon at the beginning of the movement and now being carried out, is as follows²:

1. A Central Library of 200,000 vols. in Baroda City. This is to be, mainly, a reference library, but all of its books will be at the call of every public library in the state. It hopes to contain every one of the 5,000 Gujarati books and the 5,000 Marathi books already published.
2. Three smaller reference libraries of 20,000 volumes each, in the other three counties of the state. These books to be at the call of every public library in the respective counties.
3. Thirty-eight libraries of 5000 vols. each, in the other principal towns of the state. These books to be largely in the vernaculars, and to be at the call of every public library in the surrounding villages.

1 In contrast with Bombay.

2 On page 661 appears a "Map of the Baroda Division" with the following legend:

This map shows the position of the libraries in the Baroda County of the Baroda State at the end of the official year 1911-12. The black dots show the 120 village libraries; the ringed dots the 14 town libraries. The double-ringed dot indicates the central library at the capital. There are four counties in Baroda State. This map shows how the libraries are distributed over one of the four.

4. Libraries of 500 vols. each, mostly vernacular, in each of the 426 large villages of the state. Resume p125

5. Standard libraries of 200 vols. each, entirely in the vernacular, in each of the 2600 small villages, whenever each village reaches a standard of literacy entitling it to have a library.

6. A system of travelling libraries, of 40 or 50 vernacular books each, that shall go from one village to another, stopping about three months in each place. These are intended to supplement the reading rooms in the villages too poor to afford libraries, and to keep the libraries in touch with the newest, or the best books.

7. A system of control is to run from the Central Library at Baroda down village, though each unit is to be largely self governed.

8. Each library in the chain is to be absolutely free to every citizen, whatever his caste or want of caste.

By means of this system every citizen of the state will have quick access to the ordinary books he may want, and ultimate access, through his village, town and county, to every state-owned book.

By these means, also, each community will be saved the expense of buying many costly or little used books which all libraries have hitherto felt compelled to purchase for their individual readers. The central storehouses will now buy these books, and in sufficient quantities to meet the demands of the other libraries. The traveling libraries will supply the impetus that shall induce the different communities to establish, first, reading rooms, and then change them into libraries.

I suppose I might keep you here for an hour or two explaining the Baroda system of classification I introduced into India, or the peculiar form of catalog that was required by these mutually depending libraries. I went down to India, not to introduce American methods into Indian libraries, but to engraft the spirit of those methods onto Indian conditions. The resulting methods were in many cases new. We may go into them on some future occasion.

But before the plan just outlined could be put into good working order a trained staff was required, not only in the Central Library, but in the larger town libraries as well. For my mission in India was only to start things moving. The practical management of the system was to be ultimately, in native hands.

I began by selecting a class of 10 men and women of exceptional ability and I gave them a thorough training in the theory and practice of librarianship. After they had had one year of instruction and another year of practical work in the Central Library, I opened a summer school for town librarians in Baroda City, making the course five months, and putting the members of the original class in as instructors. This summer class, opened this year, consists of 25 men, whose expenses are paid by the government. In future years this number will probably be increased.

And now as to the practical carrying out of this plan for a system of interdependent libraries. A period of ten year was allowed for its full completion; the following shows the progress of the work for the first 2 1/2 years--one quarter of the time.

A reference and circulating library of 40,000 vols. has been established in Baroda City and 25,000 more books are waiting to be added to it as soon as shelf room can be made for them. This room has now been arranged for. Nearly two years ago I asked H. H. the Maharaja Saheb to give to the Library Department a beautiful white marble palace, situated in the exact center of the walled city and surrounded by five acres of artistic ground. Three hundred years ago such presumption would have cost me my head, and, as it was, it caused a gasping for breath among officials that undoubtedly influenced weather conditions, for we had a light monsoon that summer, followed by a famine in the winter.

I persisted in my demand, however, and I finally got the palace. It is now being changed over for our purposes and will be occupied as soon as possible. It is 190 ft. long and 110 ft. deep. It varies from two to four stories in height, and these stories are all 19 ft. between floors. The picture of it which is used as a frontispiece to this issue of the Library Journal will show something of what it is. I have never seen a more beautiful library building.

Thus the central storehouse, the key of the whole system, is provided for. The subsidiary storehouse in the counties are not yet necessary; they will be provided when the time comes.

Thirty-eight town libraries have been established. These are small, as yet, but they will grow. They vary in size from 4000 to 300 vols. They are as yet largely in the vernaculars, but will add English books as the demand for them develops. In one or two of them there was a circulation, for home use, of 7000 books last year.

There are 426 villages in the state having a population of over 1000. There is a smaller percentage of literates here than in the towns, and yet 216 of these villages have already established libraries of an average size of 200 vols. Still small, of course, but any size will do for a start; the growth comes later as the demands develop.

There are 2628 small villages in the state of less than 1000 souls, at least we will assume that their inhabitants have souls, though, being Hindus, their own opinions differ as to that. Some of these villages have but a handful of men who can read (and no women), others have even less, and yet 86 of them already have vernacular libraries and 110 others have reached the reading-room stage.

We have also established 140 small traveling libraries, which are now going to the various reading-rooms, small libraries, and communities throughout the state. There has grown up in Baroda a regular system for the establishment of these small libraries. First, we send a traveling library to a small village and put it under the charge of the village school-master. Then the village wants the newspapers and magazines and we help them start a reading-room, which also contains the traveling library. Then they want a small library of their own, and we help them start that. Then they want a building and again we help them, and they find themselves a library community.

When I left Baroda these libraries and reading-rooms were increasing at the average rate of five every month. At that time the sum total was 451 libraries and reading-rooms and 140 traveling libraries. Not a bad showing for a small state in a backward country.

These libraries showed a total circulation, for home use, of over 150,000 books during the year of 1911-12. Not bad either, when one considers that there are only 200,000 people in the whole state who can read.

In addition, I have induced the members of my staff to start the Baroda Library Club, which meets monthly and which already has a respectable membership.

They have also started a quarterly magazine, devoted to library matter, called the Library Miscellany

Furthermore, in the way of library extension, we have established a Visual Instruction Branch, for the benefit of the many who cannot read. This branch has four cinematographs and is showing educative films in the villages and towns of the state--free, of course.

I have been asked by many people how the library conditions in Baroda compare with those in the rest of India. This is not an easy question to answer, but I can give a general idea of the situation in the following way: In the larger towns of Baroda State, towns such as da, Pattan, Navsari, Sidhpur, Petlad and Mehsana, there are at present some fifteen or twenty privately owned subscription libraries over which the government has no control, and which are not included in the foregoing enumeration. Some of these libraries have three or four thousand books, others are much smaller. If there were no other libraries in the state but these, Baroda would still be on a par with the rest of India, population considered. These are the things we have done. With the doing of them and with the establishment of the plan for their future development, my personal work in Baroda comes to an end.

My lines have been cast in pleasant places. I have been royally treated and loyally supported, both by my staff and by the government, and these two are now abundantly able to carry on the work we have begun together. What they intend to do, as published in the above plan, is large. What they hope to do, not published, is larger still.

But the future yet lies upon the knees of the gods. It may be dreamed of, but until these dreams crystallize into deeds it were as well not to speak of them.

Library Journal (December 1913, 38: 659-663) contains Borden's speech on "Baroda, India, and Its Libraries." The footnote on page 659 reads as follows: Amplified from the address delivered at the Lake George meeting of the New York Library Association, Sept. 24, 1913. This very article, or a similar one, was also published in the Library Miscellany The footnote to the article in the Library Miscellany says: "A paper to be read before the annual conference of the American Library Association.

The conference was held at Catskills.

Bowker wrote to Borden asking him to send a copy of his talk 1 with certain additions and alterations to be published in the Library journal. We learn this from the "Bowker-Borden correspondence preserved in the Manuscript Collection of the New York Public Library.

1 This talk was given at the Lake George convention of the New York Library Association on 22 September (?)1913.

Borden's Influence as reported by Khurshid:

The libraries which had begun to provide "public appeal" during Borden's sojourn in India had become forcefully pervasive at least in the Madras State, where the Madras University Library and Madras Library Association were engaged in excellent promotional work <P206>.

Cf. What I have written on this matter--My Dissertation, pp. 329ff

Public Library Movement in Baroda, pp. 329-30

Borden established in Baroda not merely scattered libraries here and there but a whole library system. That is the greatest value, the greatest gain. Libraries had been in existence in India and Baroda even before the Baroda Library System was established, but there was no unified library organization anywhere in the country. Its first appearance in India outside Baroda could be traced to 1949, the year when Madras enacted its library law and put it into effect. Baroda exercised a tremendous influence on the minds of contemporary public leaders in India. Baroda lit the torch that was carried forward by many native states and British provinces in India. A seed sown into the earth disappears, but shoots forth a sapling which develops into a great tree, providing sweet fruits and cool shade to many. Something similar happened also in Baroda. Its library system disappeared in 1949, ironically enough, with the advent

of independent India, but the inspiration it had already given to the Andhradesa (the country of the Andhras) which formerly formed an invigorating part of Madras, enabled that State to have the first public library act in the same year. Thus Madras made history, but it owed much to Baroda. The emergence of a public library system in Madras in 1949 was almost like the transmigration of soul, a kind of resurrection, a lamp lighting another lamp. In this sense, the library movement in Baroda was a total success.

Public Library Movement in Baroda, pp. 218-21