

# THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

President: STEPHEN GASELEE, C.B.E., F.S.A.

Hon. Treasurer:  
R. FARQUHARSON SHARP,  
At the Rooms of the British Academy,  
Burlington Gardens, W. 1.

Hon. Secretaries:  
A. W. POLLARD, C.B., 40 Murray Road,  
Wimbledon, S.W. 19.  
R. B. MCKERROW, Picket Piece, Wendover, Bucks.

51 Feb. 1934.

My dear North,

It was pleasant to see your handwriting on an envelope, even though it only enclosed a circular as to a Bibliography of Spenser, a poet to whom I have never been greatly drawn. It sufficed anyhow to remind me of my duty, as we have worked together for the Bibliographical Society for so many years, to tell you over my own signature that I am resigning my share of the Honorary Secretaryship at the end of the present session, when I shall have held it just over forty years. I think 40 years is long enough to give to our job, & that the Society will thrive better under the single guidance of McKerrrow than if I continue to run in harness with him—



it entails such a lot of letter writing, ~~and~~ now  
that his Shakespeare work only lets him be in  
Town three days a week, & we don't always  
meet even on those. With the Secretaryship I am  
resigning the editorship of the Library, which I  
haven't held for 40 years, but for which I have  
written since 1887 (= 47) and subedited or edited  
since 1900 (= 33), so if you add the two together  
and divide by two, it comes out at my limit of 40.  
I don't know how much work may still be left  
in me, but I am sure I want a change, even if  
it only gives me more time for miscellaneous reading,  
of which I have done very little for many years  
past. I retired from the British Museum in 1924,  
and have been working at bibliography in the S.T.C.  
most of the last ten years, & the S.T.C. still takes  
up so much time in incorporating entries of additional  
copies &c. (I'm working now at the Folger ones) that  
I can't get on with the Annals of English Printing. I  
suppose that if I have brains enough for that  
it will cut down my miscellaneous reading,  
but we shall see. Anyhow I am going to try



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(2)

a change. I hope all goes well with you and Mrs. North, & that Mr. Roosevelt is beginning to bring back prosperity to the book-trade as well as to other branches of business. I think the Bibliographical Society has come through the storm very well - much better in the United States than I expected, thanks to you & Mr. Wroth.

Here all ~~my~~ the Societies to which I belong are considering their duty in regard to the Codex Sinaiticus. The Neo-Palaeographical Society wound itself up this afternoon & of its balance of £320 voted a contribution of £300 to the Codex; the Bibliographical Society voted £25 at its last Council Meeting; the



Anglican Fellowship is considering a grant of £10;  
and the London Society for the Study of Religion is wondering  
if it can afford £5. If <sup>the Codex</sup> ~~it~~ had been on the  
market five years ago I am sure it would  
now be in the University of Michigan or some-  
where else in the States, & I think it  
could be quite as useful there as in London.  
However the British Museum has pledged  
itself to find half the money, & the Government  
the other half (if need be), so whenever I go  
the Codex becomes a topic of conversation.

All good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

A. W. Pollard

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