

committees, but would not have the right to vote. This would ensure that the Board would have the counsel and judgement of those members with years of experience, and yet free the older members of the moral responsibility to attend all meetings.

I would hope that an expanded role could be found for members of the Corporation. Having but one stated meeting a year, does not allow for much other than a reporting of the year's activities and a fulfillment of the duties as called for in the By-laws. Most active libraries have a "Friends of the Library" group which serves as a body to aid in the further development of the objectives of a library. This assistance may take the form of purchasing books which the library book budget can't afford, running a lecture series, holding "authors' teas" or book-author luncheons, or giving general support to specific library projects or programs. The Corporation could have associate members who would pay an annual fee, but not have the right to vote. This would be a good training ground for future trustees.

#### The Town Library

This library, established primarily to serve the needs of the Etna community, was established when travel and roads made it difficult to get to Hanover easily. In its present form, it has served its purpose. I would recommend that conversations be started with those concerned, their Trustees and the Town Officers, to see if this Library can be merged with the Howe Library. Library services could still be maintained in Etna, either by contracting with the store to conduct a deposit collection service of books loaned from the Howe Library, or by making arrangements to have the deposit collection housed in Trumbull Hall where more people are in attendance. Parking is almost impossible and at best dangerous in front of the Town Library at present. The annual circulation of approxi-

mately 1500 volumes can be increased with a smaller collection if either of the two above suggestions are adopted.

#### CONCLUSION

Better years lie ahead for those who use the Howe Library, for the Trustees who set policy and for the Staff who operate the Library in accordance with established policy. The Town Officers can be proud and relieved that the Library is in such good hands.

Two things should be noted: 1) there is a heavy adult use of the Library, better than 70% of the circulation is adult, whereas in many libraries, even where there are also school libraries, the ratio is 60% children's circulation and 40% adult; and 2) in spite of the fact there is an excellent grade school library and high school library as well, there has been a steady increase in the circulation of children's books over the years. I believe that it is a good investment, especially regarding children, in providing library service to them.

I am indebted to many people who have been most generous in giving facts and opinions in reply to questions raised. It has been a real indication of a genuine interest in the Howe Library and with this kind of support I know you will solve your problems and thereby provide a library service to the residents of Hanover and Norwich, such as they will want and use.

Emerson Greenaway, Consultant  
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