

March, 1918, the Corporation had in mind to set up a study of the schools for the training of librarians.

At the suggestion of the then Secretary of the Corporation, Dr. C. C. Williamson prepared a statement on library training facilities; this he read at a meeting of the American Library Association in July 1918; it was printed in the September 1918 issue of the *Library Journal* under the title, *The need of a plan for library development*. Two months later, the Secretary submitted to the Trustees a memorandum on Dr. Williamson's statement. Subsequently, an advisory group, consisting of Dr. Herbert Putnam, of the Library of Congress, Chancellor James H. Kirkland, of Vanderbilt University, and Dr. Wilson Farrand, of Newark Academy, was appointed; and Dr. Williamson, on March 28, 1919, then of the New York Public Library, was engaged to make the study. His report, *Training for library service*, completed late in 1921 and published in 1923, presented existing conditions in such a way that the educator and the layman interested in educational problems were able to form a more accurate conception of the steps that should be taken to improve this phase of the library situation. This report, together with the work of the Association's Temporary Library Training Board, served to forecast a larger interest in a field to which Carnegie trustees had previously given little attention except in early grants to library schools at Atlanta, New York City, and at Western Reserve in Cleveland. Then, too, as a sequel to the successful handling of war-time library problems and to a general awakening, by 1914 the Association found itself in a position to accept new responsibilities and challenges. Mr. William S. Learned's office memorandum, prepared while he was Assistant to the Acting President of the Corporation and published later (in 1924) under the title of *The American public library and the diffusion of knowledge*, was another valuable and provocative addition to the meager list of library studies. These influences gradually led to a series of