

Reports by the President, Daniel Berkeley Updike,  
and Treasurer, Robert Seaver, with the  
Constitution and List of Members of the  
**The Society of Printers**  
Boston, Massachusetts,  
1912–1913





After Orcutt's inaugural address, the next surviving statement on the purpose of the Society of Printers was made by Daniel Berkeley Updike in November, 1913. This report, made at the end of his two-year term as president, contained the first proposal of a publishing program. The council suggested that the best talk of each year be printed for the members, with a few extra copies made available for sale to the public. Indeed, T. M. Cleland's talk on Bodoni was published in 1916, but the goal of a book a year proved too ambitious.

Updike also noted the Society's sponsorship of a course in printing techniques at Harvard's Graduate School of Business Administration. Some of Updike's research for this course was published nine years later by Harvard University Press in the two-volume *Printing Types: Their History, Forms, and Use* (1922).

The final two paragraphs of the President's Report were Updike's own views about the mission of the Society. There were only 71 living members of the Society in 1913, and since this report was not printed for sale to the public, but only for the members, we can safely presume that fewer than 100 copies were issued. These scans were made from one of the few surviving copies now in the collection of Charles A. Rheault.

One member who likely was present that evening in 1913 when Updike delivered his report was the printer Thomas Todd, Jr.. His grandson, Duncan Todd, reprinted Updike's final two paragraphs in a pamphlet for distribution to members in 1983, at the end of *his* term as president. Even though twice-printed, Updike's words are so scarce that they escaped the notice of William S. Peterson when he was compiling *The Well-Made Book* (2002), in which he tried to include "all of Updike's writings on the arts of the book." — *Lance Hidy, August 2010*

THE SOCIETY OF PRINTERS  
FOR THE STUDY AND ADVANCEMENT OF  
THE ART OF PRINTING



REPORTS OF PRESIDENT AND TREASURER  
WITH CONSTITUTION BY-LAWS  
AND LIST OF MEMBERS

BOSTON MASSACHUSETTS  
MDCCCCXIV

THE SOCIETY OF PRINTERS  
BOSTON

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
1912-1913

GENTLEMEN: I have the honour to submit herewith my annual report as President of the Society of Printers.

Since last year some changes have been made in the Constitution of the Society. These aim to form a government more representative of our membership: and accordingly the nomination of officers is no longer confined to members of the council. It has also been provided that the annual reports of the president and treasurer shall be printed and sent to all members. In the discretion of the council, that paper which is voted by our membership to be the most interesting or valuable of those delivered during the twelve months previous to the annual meeting may be printed and similarly distributed. A few copies will be for sale.

The By-Laws of the Society have also been amended so that the duties of the treasurer are more clearly defined. Non-resident members have been placed in a class by themselves, their fee being reduced to half that of resident members, thus giving an opportunity for a larger active resident membership. The eleven vacancies caused by this arrangement have all been filled. The resident membership of the Society now numbers forty-seven and the non-resident, eleven; leaving but three vacancies in the resident membership list, which by the Constitution is limited to fifty.

During the past year, by vote of the council, a grant amounting to \$262.53 was made toward the support of the course on the Technique of Printing in the Graduate School of Business Administration at Harvard University, for which acknowledgement was received from the Treasurer, and a vote of thanks from the President and Fellows of the University. It has given us much pleasure to welcome to the Society the members of the class who are taking this

course, who are at liberty to attend the meetings during their academic year.

During the season the following meetings were held:

1912

*November*: Pilgrimage to Salem: including visits to Essex Institute and Peabody Museum, and a Dinner at the Salem Club; with an Address by Mr. ROSS TURNER on "Illumination."

*December*: Visit to Exhibition of Prints at Museum of Fine Arts; with an informal Talk on "Japanese Prints" by the late Mr. OKAKURA.

1913

*January*: Dr. CHARLES L. NICHOLS, Worcester: "Isaiah Thomas, Printer, Author, and Publisher."

*February*: Mr. WALTER GILLISS, New York: "William Caslon and the Caslon Types."

*March*: Mr. HENRY L. BULLEN, Librarian of the American Type Founders' Company, Jersey City: "Old Specimen Books."

*April*: Mr. THOMAS MAITLAND CLELAND, New York: "Bodoni of Parma; His Books and His Types."

*May*: Mr. JOHN COTTON DANA, Newark Public Library, Newark, New Jersey: "The Modern Revival of Printing in Germany."

*October*: Mr. ROBERT SEAVER of Seaver-Howland Press, Boston: "Chap-Books."

In connection with each paper an informal exhibition of books, printing, etc., germane to the subject under consideration has been held. Dr. Nichols showed a very remarkable collection of Isaiah Thomas's publications. In connection with Mr. Gilliss's talk, specimen-books of the Caslon foundry, portraits of the Caslons, and other like matter were exhibited. Mr. Bullen brought some rare specimen-books and broadsides, and members of the Society also contributed to the exhibition. A collection of Bodoni's books, with portraits and autographs of Bodoni, was on view at the time of Mr. Cleland's talk; and a very fine selection of German posters was displayed through the kindness of Mr. Dana. Mr. Seaver's store of Chap-Books was placed at the disposal of the Society on the evening of his address, together with valuable examples from the Harvard College

Library. These exhibitions have been a distinctly helpful part of the Society's work, and their informality has rendered them all the more effective.

Such books as have come under my notice which would seem useful to members, in their various departments of work, have been briefly mentioned at each meeting, and a wide range of subjects has thus been brought to the attention of the Society. Usually copies of the books themselves are on view. Suggestions as to works which should be mentioned in this brief monthly *résumé* are welcome.

Beginning with the February meeting, one of our members has printed a Keep-sake, which is given as a souvenir to those who are present at our monthly dinners, and sent to absent members, resident and non-resident—the council having made a grant towards its expense on each occasion on which the Keep-sake is supplied. These have been furnished by Mr. H. L. Johnson, Mr. W. A. Dwiggin, Mr. C. F. Whitmarsh, Mr. Robert Seaver, and myself.

The aims of the Society of Printers may be diversely interpreted, and the carrying out of these aims arrived at by various methods; but my own feeling is, that the Society does not exist so much for the enlightenment of those outside it, as for our own illumination. The best work that we can do for the public, in our various forms of endeavour, is to know as much about our work as we can, and in the light of that knowledge to do it as well as we can. Results will take care of themselves. There has been sometimes a tendency to consider this Society a lighthouse for the aid of inartistic mariners shipwrecked among contending type-forms! I have no such idea. I should rather think of it as a fire-lit hearth, around which its members gather for study and encouragement, no matter how wild a typographic storm rages outside!

We live to-day in an atmosphere in which speed, quantity, and immediate returns are made the criterion by which success in work is judged. If the speed is great enough, the quantity large enough, and the results colossal enough, we are apt to call it "progress." There is another point of

view which defines progress in quite another way. It is not how fast, how large, or how successful is mere production, but how thoughtful, how careful, how excellent, indeed, how exquisite, that production may be. This result is arrived at by work and study, and by nothing else. I believe that this Society should stand, not for the first ideal, but for the second. We should be intensive gardeners, whose work is measured, not by acreage, but by fruits!

Respectfully submitted,

D. B. UPDIKE

November, 1913

NOTE. *The vote on the paper to be printed for 1912-1913 has resulted in the choice of Mr. T. M. Cleland's address on Bodoni, which will, it is expected, be issued during the year. All members will receive a copy, and have the right to subscribe for extra copies before the limited number which will be for sale is offered to the public.*

*At the moment of printing this Report the resident membership of the Society is full, and there is also a waiting list.*

March, 1914

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### RECEIPTS

Balance on hand December 5, 1912	\$402.76
Special Subscription toward Harvard Printing Course	100.00
Dues	262.50
Salem Trip	18.50
January Meeting	24.00
February Meeting	21.00
March Meeting	25.00
April Meeting	30.00
May Meeting	23.00
October Meeting	32.00
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	\$938.76

### EXPENDITURES

Salem Trip	\$21.00
D. B. Updike: Printing Appeal for Harvard Printing Course, Order Blanks, etc.	137.56
Harvard University: Contribution to Harvard Printing Course, including special subscription of \$100	212.44
C. C. Lane: Postage and notices of meetings	17.08
C. S. Brigham: Fares	2.00
Dinner: January 29	26.00
Oliver Ditson Co.: Music Rack	2.25
Robert Seaver: Printing Letter Heads and Envelopes	20.40
C. C. Lane: Expense of Mr. Gilliss's lecture, postage, and notices of meetings	40.50
D. B. Updike: Souvenir	10.00
Dinner: February 11	22.00
Robert Seaver: Printing Blanks	15.25
Dinner: March 4	26.00
C. C. Lane: Postage and notices of meetings	24.79
The University Press: Souvenir	10.00
Dinner: April 22	31.00
Blanks and Postage	4.50
T. M. Cleland, expense of lecture	14.00
W. A. Dwiggin: Souvenir	10.00
Dinner: May 20	24.00
J. C. Dana: Lecture	15.00
D. B. Updike, disbursements for J. C. Dana lecture	5.18
Dinner: October	32.00
Seaver-Howland Press: Souvenir	10.00
Stamps and Clerical Work	3.00
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Balance on hand	\$735.95
	\$202.81

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT SEAVER, *Treas.*

Approved: J. ALBERT BRIGGS, *Auditor*

OFFICERS, COUNCIL, AND COMMITTEES

1914

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OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

DANIEL BERKELEY UPDIKE

VICE-PRESIDENT

HENRY L. JOHNSON

SECRETARY

C. CHESTER LANE

TREASURER

ROBERT SEAVER

AUDITOR

W. F. LAMONT

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

JOHN BIANCHI, L. P. CUDWORTH, H. L. KOOPMAN

JOHN ALDEN LEE

COMMITTEES

PRINTING

C. CHESTER LANE, D. G. FIELD, D. B. UPDIKE, J. BIANCHI

The duties of this committee shall include the supervision of the printing of stationery, by-laws, and such other printing as may be needed from time to time.

LECTURES AND MEETINGS

H. L. JOHNSON, D. B. UPDIKE, G. P. TILTON, J. BIANCHI

The duties of this committee shall be to arrange for such

lectures as may seem expedient in furthering the interests of this Society, and to make all arrangements regarding the regular and special meetings of the Society.

PUBLICITY

L. P. CUDWORTH, D. R. DE LORIEA, A. J. PHILPOTT

The duties of this committee shall be to assume responsibility for all information given to the public about the Society, etc.

# THE SOCIETY OF PRINTERS

BOSTON

[ ORGANIZED: 1905 ]

## CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I

#### NAME

THE name of this organization shall be THE SOCIETY OF PRINTERS.

### ARTICLE II

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this Society shall be the determination and advancement of ideals and standards of printing.

### ARTICLE III

#### GOVERNMENT

§ 1. The government of this Society shall consist of a council of nine members, which shall include the president, the vice-president, the secretary, and the treasurer of the Society. Nominations for these offices and for membership on the council shall be made by a nominating committee of three appointed by the president at the meeting preceding the annual meeting, and made up of members who are not members of the existing council. This committee shall submit its report in writing before the annual meeting, when all the officers for the year shall be elected by ballot. At the annual meeting nominations may also be made from the floor.

§ 2. Membership of the Society shall be classed as resident, non-resident, and honorary. Resident membership shall be limited to fifty residents of Massachusetts who are sufficiently interested in the Art of Printing to be of value in advancing the purposes of the Society. Non-resident membership is open to those living outside the state

of Massachusetts who are in sympathy with the aims of the Society. Election to resident and non-resident membership shall be by the council. A vote by ballot of three-fourths of the council shall be necessary to election. If a candidate fails of an election, he may be proposed again after a lapse of one year. Only resident members are eligible to the council.

§ 3. Persons in sympathy with the aims of the Society may be elected to honorary membership by unanimous vote of the council.

§ 4. The name of a candidate for resident or non-resident membership shall be voted upon by the council only after a nomination in writing, proposed and seconded by two members of the Society. The annual fee for resident membership is five dollars (\$5.00); for non-resident membership, two dollars and a half (\$2.50). A member whose dues remain unpaid for more than twelve months shall forfeit his membership. Such persons may be reinstated by the unanimous vote of the council.

### ARTICLE IV

#### DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL AND OFFICERS

§ 1. The Council shall have the power of directors and the immediate government and direction of the affairs of the Society; shall designate all committees unless the Society in special cases otherwise determines, and make all needful rules and regulations for the government of the Society. It shall have charge of all meetings, lectures, exhibitions, and publications, and shall make appropriations for the expenditure of funds of the Society. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

§ 2. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Society, and shall nominate members of the committees appointed by the council; the Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the president; the Secretary shall notify members of the meetings of the Society, and shall keep a record of the business transacted by the Society and by the coun-

cil; the Treasurer shall keep the funds of the Society, pay all bills, and collect the dues; the Auditor shall make an annual examination and audit of the books of the treasurer.

ARTICLE V  
MEETINGS

§ 1. The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held on the second Tuesday in November. The council may call, or provide for calling, a special meeting of the Society at any time, and shall determine the time and place of all meetings.

§ 2. The Secretary shall send to each member notice by mail of the time and place of each regular meeting seven days before the same, if possible.

ARTICLE VI

§ 1. By-Laws consistent with the constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of active members present at any regular meeting.

§ 2. The Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active members present, provided that printed or written notice of the proposed change has been mailed to each member of the Society at least five days before the meeting at which it is to be acted upon.

BY-LAWS

§ 1. An annual report by the president and treasurer shall be printed each year and sent to all members of the Society. In the discretion of the council one or more of the papers delivered before the Society during the year may be printed with this report.

§ 2. The treasurer shall collect all money due the Society. He shall pay all bills for which satisfactory vouchers are furnished, or upon the written authorization of the council. The treasurer shall be *ex officio* a member of the council. He shall make an annual report (after his accounts have

been audited by the auditor elected for that purpose), which shall be submitted to the Society at its annual meeting. Upon the admission of a new member to the Society the treasurer shall mail the following form to him:

At the last meeting of the Society of Printers you were elected a resident [*or non-resident*] member. Enclosed please find a bill for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for annual dues. In order to make your election valid, payment must be made within fourteen days.

*For the Society of Printers*

\_\_\_\_\_Treasurer.

At the first of each year the treasurer shall render a bill on the following printed form to each member:

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. to The Society of Printers, Boston,  
To dues for one year \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_

At the end of three months the treasurer shall mail Form A to all who have not paid their dues.

[FORM A]

DEAR SIR: In accordance with the By-Laws of the Society of Printers, I beg to call your attention to the fact that the bill for dues for the year 19\_\_\_\_ sent you three months ago remains unpaid. A remittance for it would be greatly appreciated.

*For the Society of Printers*

\_\_\_\_\_Treasurer.

At the end of six months Form B shall be sent.

[FORM B]

DEAR SIR: In accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Society I send you a second reminder that your dues assessed for 19\_\_\_\_ have remained unpaid for a period of six months. In accordance with the same Constitution and By-Laws I beg to call your attention to the fact that members whose dues are not paid within twelve months of the date on which the bill for dues was first rendered, cease to be members of the Society; their names having been posted for non-payment of dues at the last meeting before their names are dropped.

*For the Society of Printers*

\_\_\_\_\_Treasurer.

## LIST OF MEMBERS

[MARCH, 1914]

### RESIDENT MEMBERS [50]

Abbott, M. A., Groton  
 Annable, I. K., 127 Federal St., Boston  
 Bartlett, Alfred, 69 Cornhill, Boston  
 Bates, B. L., in care of Smith & Porter Press, Boston  
 Bianchi, Anselmo, 232 Summer St., Boston  
 Bianchi, John, 232 Summer St., Boston  
 Briggs, J. Albert, Springfield  
 Colby, W. J., 83 Broad St., Boston  
 Crockett, Harry R., University Press, Cambridge  
 Cudworth, L. P., Strathmore Road, Brookline  
 De Loria, Donald R., 371 Harvard St., Cambridge  
 Dwiggin, William A., Hingham Centre  
 Elson, A. W., Belmont  
 Field, Douglas G., Riverside Press, Cambridge  
 Fleischner, Otto, Public Library, Boston  
 Gandy, Lewis G., University Press, Cambridge  
 Getchell, A. R., 185 Franklin St., Boston  
 Goodspeed, Charles E., 5a Park Street, Boston  
 Greeley, W. H., 29 Beacon St., Boston  
 Hapgood, T. B., 69 Cornhill, Boston  
 Harris, Walter, 14 Walnut Road, Winter Hill  
 Heintzemann, George, 185 Franklin St., Boston  
 Hollingsworth, Amor, 35 Federal St., Boston  
 Howland, Gerald S., 93 Broad St., Boston  
 Johnson, Henry L., Smith & Porter Press, Boston  
 Kimber, Sidney A., University Press, Cambridge  
 Lamont, W. F., Sparrell Print, Boston  
 Lane, C. C., 81 Brattle St., Cambridge  
 Lee, J. A., Cohasset  
 Lewis, B. J., 195 Fort Hill Square, Boston  
 Morss, R. B., 29 Beacon St., Boston  
 Ogden, D. B., 1869 Beacon St., Brookline  
 Philpott, A. J., Boston Globe, Boston  
 Rankin, L. A., 41 Pearl St., Boston  
 Roberts, C. H., Riverside Press, Cambridge  
 Robinson, E. K., 29 Beacon St., Boston  
 Seaver, Robert, 154 Mill St., Waverley  
 Sherrill, Edgar B., 270 Congress St., Boston  
 Smith, Roger, John Hancock Building, Boston  
 Stewart, A. A., 20 Parmenter St., Boston  
 Stiger, E. T., University Press, Cambridge  
 Taylor, J. G., Holyoke

Thompson, C. B., 157 Newbury St., Boston  
 Tilton, George P., Newburyport  
 Todd, Thomas, Jr., 14 Beacon St., Boston  
 Updike, D. B., 232 Summer St., Boston  
 Walton, Perry, 15 Exchange St., Boston  
 Wells, Charles G., 29 Beacon St., Boston  
 Wheelwright, W. B., 95 Milk St., Boston  
 Whitmarsh, C. F., University Press, Cambridge

### NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS [13]

Anderson, James A., 425 West 114th St., New York City  
 Dana, John Cotton, Newark Free Public Library, Newark, New Jersey  
 Goodhue, Bertram Grosvenor, 2 West 47th St., New York City  
 Hackett, E. Byrne, Yale University Press, New Haven, Connecticut  
 Kent, H. W., 80 Washington St., New York City  
 Kingman, R. B., 11 East 23d St., New York City  
 Koopman, H. L., Brown University Library, Providence, Rhode Island  
 McFarland, J. Horace, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
 Mackay, A. F., Lanston Monotype Co., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
 Munder, Norman T. A., 210 Guilford Ave., Baltimore, Maryland  
 Scott, Donald, 9 East 9th St., New York City  
 Sherbow, Benjamin, 50 Union Sq., New York City  
 Winship, G. P., John Carter Brown Library, Providence, Rhode Island

### STUDENT MEMBERS [8]

Bowser, R., 52 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge  
 Howe, F. S., 7 Exeter Park, Cambridge  
 Lundquist, W. E., Conant 28, Cambridge  
 Macdonough, J. G., 10 Hilliard St., Cambridge  
 Rowland, E. L., Box 141, Norwood  
 Stone, W. M., 152 Central St., Winter Hill  
 Taylor, H. H., Winthrop 22, Cambridge  
 Vroom, F. K., 118 Oxford St., Cambridge

### HONORARY MEMBERS

\*De Vinne, Theodore L.  
 Gay, Edwin F., Dean of Graduate School of Business Administration, Harvard University, Cambridge  
 Gilliss, Walter, New York City  
 \*Norton, Charles Eliot

\*Deceased.

THE MERRYMOUNT PRESS  
BOSTON

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for Oak Knoll  
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