

Photo by Sam Boone

CHARLES E. RUSH Director of Libraries

CHARLES EVERETT RUSH

After a career of more than fifty years of academy, college, public and university librarianship, Charles Everett Rush, Director of Libraries at the University of North Carolina, has announced his retirement effective June 30, 1954.

Mr. Rush was born at "Rush Hill" in Fairmount, Indiana, on March 23, 1885. Although a "Hoosier" by birth, Mr. Rush is fond of stating that he may be a North Carolinian, since all four of his grandparents were Tar Heel born. He received his early education at Fairmount Academy and the A.B. degree from Earlham College. Influenced by several library leaders, he chose librarianship as a profession and was trained at the New York State Library School, together with a friend who later became Mrs. Rush.

After early work in the Fairmount Academy and Earlham College libraries, he held assistant posts in the University of Wisconsin Library, the Newark Public Library and the Pruyn Private Library. From 1908 to 1928 he was successively librarian of the public libraries of Jackson (Mich.), St. Joseph (Mo.), Des Moines and Indianapolis. From 1928 to 1931 he was librarian of Teachers College Library at Columbia University. For seven years, 1931-1938, he was Associate Librarian at Yale University. He served as Librarian at the Cleveland Public Library, 1938-1941, and has been Director of the University of North Carolina Library from 1941 to date.

In addition to professional activities, Mr. Rush was a pioneer in the field of photographic reproduction of library materials, a leader in the work for adult education, the adviser on reading to the National Council of Boy Scouts, the adviser for several years on library services for the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and has been affiliated with scores of civic, educational and literary organizations throughout the United

States.

During his administration at Chapel Hill, the Library of the University of North Carolina has moved forward consistently. In some areas the progress has been extraordinary. The Building: Doubly increased in size and now has the distinction of being the first building for which the State of North Carolina appropriated more than one million dollars. Books: Increased from 403,000 in 1941 to more than 650,000 in 1954. Book Appropriations: Climbed from \$25,500 in 1941 to \$150,500 in 1954. Staff: Numbered 45 in 1951, now numbers 75. Staff Salaries: Amounted to \$73,000 in 1941; today the figure is \$293,000. Friends of Library: Association reorganized and membership increased to 355. Gifts: The flow of gifts has grown steadily in quantity and quality. Witness the fact that, at the dedication of the enlarged building in 1952, the value of the gifts of materials and endowments made possible by the addition was announced at more than a million dollars.

The membership of the North Carolina Library Association joins the staff of the University of North Carolina Library in wishing for Mr. Rush many more happy years of activity closely allied with educational services.