

SOUTHEASTERN HONORS DR. WILSON

The Southeastern Library Association unanimously elected Dr. Louis R. Wilson to honorary membership at the Sixteenth Biennial Conference in Atlanta, September 29 to October 2, 1954. We are proud to print the citation of Dr. Wilson in this special Anniversary issue.

Louis Round Wilson, distinguished librarian, writer and teacher. President of the American Library Association (1935-36); a founder of the Southeastern Library Association and its president from 1924-26; a founder and three times president of the North Carolina Library Association; long-time Librarian of the University of North Carolina; founder and first director of the University's Library School, and Dean of the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago. In these and other capacities he has for more than fifty years contributed to the progress of librarianship at the local, regional, national and international levels.

NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

As Librarian of the University of North Carolina from 1901 to 1932, Dr. Wilson laid in Chapel Hill the foundation of a great research collection, and planned the physical plant necessary to its successful use. But his contribution to his university has extended far beyond the library. He served on the President's Advisory Committee, Board of Governors of the Institute of Research and Social Science, Board of Governors of the University Press, member of the Committee on Consolidation of the University, on the administrative boards of the various schools, and in a variety of other important advisory positions. He organized the Extension Division and became the first director of this agency whose influence reaches the far corners of the state.

Dr. Wilson promoted the establishment of the North Carolina Library Commission and became the first chairman of that organization which has placed books within the reach of almost every North Carolinian.

As member of important divisions of the Southern Educational Association and the National Education Association, he was influential in securing the adoption of higher standards for school libraries. As Dean of the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago he made the school a place of influence and a center of research in all areas of librarianship.

His sound judgment, far reaching outlook and his devotion to education and librarianship have contributed heavily to improved professional status for librarians in the South and throughout the nation, and the profession of the librarian enjoys wider respect and greater prestige, and exerts more influence upon contemporary society in part because of Dr. Wilson's dedication to his chosen work.

Last week the Chapel Hill *Weekly* described him as the University of North Carolina's elder statesman. He has long been an elder statesman of the Southeastern Library Association, and he honors this Association by accepting the special membership which has just been conferred upon him.