

PACIFIC COLONY
SPADRA, CALIFORNIA

February 14, 1929.

Miss Grace E. Barneberg,
State Chairman Institutional Relations,
California Federation of Women's Clubs,
550 Dana St.,
San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Dear Madam:

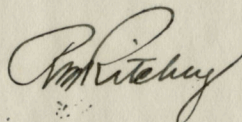
We have your favor of February 9th relative to the
installation of a branch library at this institution.

I am returning herewith the enclosed blank, properly
filled in.

I regret to say that we have no organized library service
here as yet. You are doubtless aware that this institu-
tion is practically an infant. We have at present only
about 200 inmates, although we are contemplating an early
increase in number.

The character of the inmates, being feeble-minded, would
make it necessary to have a special selection of books,
adapted to their capabilities. I would, however, greatly
appreciate any effort that you may put forth in behalf
of these wards of the State to see that they might receive
some sort of library service. I will be glad to cooperate
with you in any way that I can to accomplish this end.

Very truly yours,



R. M. Ritchey, M. D.,
Medical Superintendent.

RMR:RM
enc.

200

1. Have those under your care a library? No
2. How many books? --
3. How Supplied? --
4. In charge of a trained librarian? No.
5. If no library, what reading is supplied and from what source?

Our schoolroom bookshelves contain a few children's story books of elementary character, belonging to present or former inmates; also a few donated volumes upon subjects beyond the mental capabilities of these children.

6. What is the character of the books:

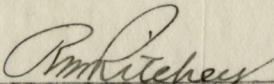
Haphazard? Yes, haphazard.

Well selected with a view to the needs of the users? No.

7. Would you favor a branch library of the State Library cared for by a trained librarian who could properly guide the readers?
No.

8. Remarks:

It is suggested by our school teacher that 25 primers would be a useful and helpful acquisition, as the few copies on hand are enjoyed as story-books by many of the children. More advanced, yet simple literature, well selected, could be profitably used by some of the older inmates of very fair mentality.



Medical Superintendent,
Pacific Colony.