

P. O. Box 874  
Bartlesville, Okla.  
July 31, 1951

Mrs. Mary Hayes Marable  
School of Library Science  
University of Oklahoma  
Norman, Oklahoma

Dear Mrs. Marable:

I received the OKLAHOMA LIBRARIAN a few days ago and it reminded me that I have never written to say "Thank you" as I was moved to do on reading the report made by the Oklahoma Library Association Committee on Intellectual Freedom concerning the Bartlesville Public Library.

The report was splendid, both in content and in style; it gave me new pride in an old choice of profession. Of course, it had added meaning for all of us on the immediate scene who value freedom of speech and freedom of the press, as well as freedom of opportunity to every member of the human family.

The affair has had its happier aspects, even though we seem to have lost the battle for popular support. This town, as you probably know, is rather similar to university towns where the division between "town and gown" is so marked. It was good to learn how many were ready to take up the cudgels for their ethical standards in the face of that strong weapon, public opinion.

It is to be hoped that the current wave of "vigilantism" will wear itself out with no lasting harm to our tradition of inalienable liberties. In the meantime, thanks and congratulations for your part in meeting it here and now.

Sincerely,

Vern Hutchison