

Report from the President

The years 1975-1977 have passed quickly and it has been a very rewarding experience to observe the Association's activities from the vantage point of the presidency. It has been fascinating to discover how independent, resourceful, and creative North Carolina librarians are. There have been accomplishments within NCLA and outside of it which have influenced librarianship significantly.

To put the biennium in its historical perspective, one would have to begin with the celebration of Dr. Louis Round Wilson's one hundredth birthday. I was pleased to send a letter for NCLA, because Dr. Wilson was one of the Association's founders, its first Secretary-Treasurer, and later its President. I told Dr. Wilson that we are still trying to implement the marvelous plans that he envisioned for us.

I am also happy that the Executive Board voted recently to invite all past presidents of NCLA who have retired to attend our conferences without paying the registration fee. We have a heritage from North Carolina Library Association and from the North Carolina Negro Library Association that we can be proud of and

I am glad that some of the persons who made these contributions have been recognized.

The death of Philip Ogilvie was a great



Annette L. Phinazee

loss to our profession and state. Phil cared for all of us as people in a manner which was rare. At this conference we initiated a lecture in his honor which we hope that you will consider a worthy memorial.

David McKay became our State Librarian in 1976 and we immediately invited him to attend our Executive Board meetings. At this point I am impressed by his efforts to provide an objective basis for unifying library services within our state. We are especially pleased to have the newsletter the *Tar Heel Libraries* complement our quarterly journal *North Carolina Libraries*.

We are very proud of our newest sections — Reference and Adult Services, Documents, and Children's Services. They have already demonstrated their ability to organize themselves and to present excellent programs. The Documents Section even gained experience with trying to pass a law in the General Assembly. Their achievements fulfilled my goal of "an increase in the quantity, variety, and level of participation of the membership."

The other sections have continued to be a significant force in librarianship in the state. The NCASL officially became a chapter of AASL and had another successful conference in 1976. The Public Libraries Section sponsored another series of in-service training sessions and completed its standards.

The Archives Committee has completed the Herculean task of organizing the NCLA records which are being preserved by the State Library. They also prepared "An Archives History of NCLA" which was published in *North Carolina Libraries*. We sincerely thank the committee for the years of tedious work that they put into this project.

Other significant publications by committees are the "AV News Exchange," the bibliography prepared by the Bicentennial Committee; and the "North Carolina Direc-

tory of Library Education," by the Education for Librarianship Committee.

The Membership Committee is to be commended for its new brochure and its concerted drive to enroll institutional members. This is a source of support which had not been taken advantage of to the fullest extent.

Eunice Drum accepted the Chairmanship of the Honorary and Life Memberships Committee late in the biennium when Jocelyn Stevens resigned because of illness. We are grateful to her and to her other Committee members for smoothly initiating our new policy of awarding Life Memberships.

I believe that we did improve legislative relations on the state and federal levels although there were some disappointments. A platform on behalf of all libraries in North Carolina was prepared by the Governmental Relations Committee, approved by the Executive Board, then presented to political candidates, legislators, and governmental officials. We participated in Legislative Day in Washington in 1976 and in 1977. Bill O'Shea, Jean Johnson, and members of the Legislative network represented us exceptionally well and we are grateful to them. Very special thanks go to Judie Austin and the Intellectual Freedom Committee for their hard fight to try to keep the pornography laws from being enacted and for their development of a policy statement and an attractive brochure. We are also very proud of the fine contributions that the Junior Members Round Table has made toward improving legislative relations. Their workshop and program were excellent.

As an Association we have not become actively involved in the development of institutional libraries, but on your behalf I did commend Mr. Amos Reed, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Corrections, for his expressed interest in libraries and I offered our support.

Pace setting involvement in implementing the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey and in sponsoring the White House Conference on Libraries and Information Science did not materialize, but we did all that we could do. Our Development Committee studied the Survey report carefully, some progress was made toward analyzing our situation, and some recommendations were made. NCLA was represented at two meetings of state associations sponsored by SELA.

Marian Leith became a member of NCLIS during this biennium and she has kept us informed of White House Conference activities. Governor Hunt has endorsed our state conference and preliminary plans are being made by the State Library Staff.

Undergirding all of our activities, while maintaining an "avant garde" position

among state association journals, is our *North Carolina Libraries*. Our latest edition is an example of how Herbert Poole and his very loyal and hardworking staff have not only provided intellectual stimulation and a communication vehicle for us, but have cooperated with other units. What a beautiful job they did of including our educational directory! We salute you, NCL staff.

All goals were not reached and there is much that remains to be done, but the Executive Board and Committees were most cooperative and I sincerely appreciate the many ways that you supported me. I thoroughly enjoyed getting acquainted and working with all of you.

Our President-Elect has pointed us toward the future and we must now leave the past without regrets and with optimism. Thank you for a wonderful two years.

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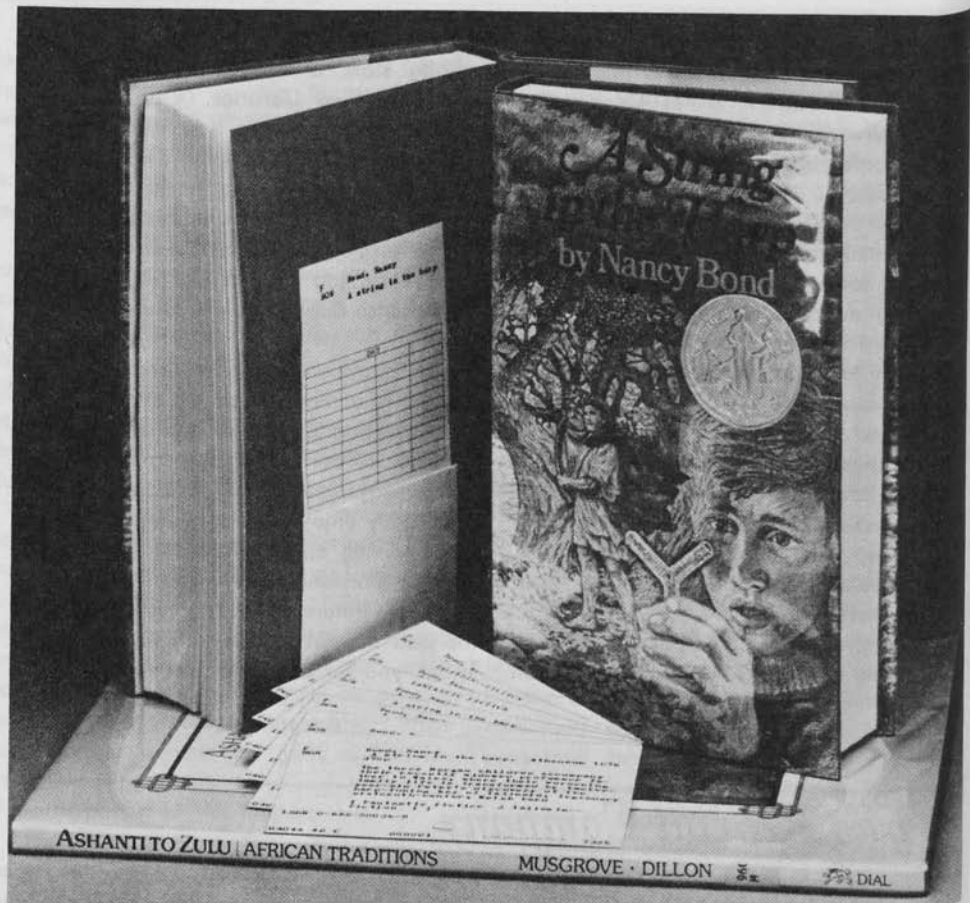
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