

Report from the President

Probably the most significant action to come out of our recent NCLA biennial conference was the adoption of a Resolution on Intellectual Freedom. It was the culmination of a day long pre-conference workshop sponsored by the Committee of that name. More than 200 librarians and several board of education members participated in discussions which were key-noted by excellent speakers.

Recent Supreme Court decisions have made us all aware that we must be prepared for would-be censors. The workshop gave us some direction for establishing a course of action to meet outside threats. It was a stimulating and exciting day. We are grateful for Ray Moore and her committee who worked long and hard to make it the success that it was.

The fall conference in Winston-Salem marked the conclusion of the 1971-1973 biennium — two years filled with much work on the part of many people. As a result we are able to show progress in many areas.

In the fall of 1971 *NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES* lost its editor, its staff and its financial support. Because the Executive Board had faith in it and because we were able to find an editor and staff who shared our optimism, we have today a prestige journal with depth and quality — one that is highly selective about its contents and even pays for manuscripts published. We congratulate and applaud Herbert Poole and his editorial board for this tremendous achievement in a short eighteen months.

Another important accomplishment during these two years was the writing of guidelines for establishing a committee on mediation, arbitration and injury. Ours is patterned after the American Library Association program. It outlines steps to be taken in requesting and giving help and when necessary referring to ALA without

loss of time for anyone concerned. This is a safeguard for staff members, librarians and even trustees in a day when sudden dismissals occur sometimes without notice.

On a regional level our association has participated in and helped to support the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey. This is organized to collect, analyze and interpret data which will describe and provide measures of library resources and services in our region. The results of the survey will be based on questionnaires sent to libraries and library personnel in the region. If you have not done so already, please complete and return yours as soon as possible. A good study is dependent on the cooperation of all.

Because of the generosity of an anonymous donor, our association now has two scholarships. The regular NCLA one was increased from \$300 to \$1000 and we added the Query-Long Scholarship for \$500. Annually these help two worthy students attend library school. We were



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pleased to have the Query-Long recipient, Sharlene Galloway, present at our banquet. We added also the Joyce C. McLendon Student Loan Fund which is available to students who wish to borrow a small amount of money.

During the biennium section activities involved many people with varied offerings. These take place between conferences when our members meet in work sessions.

College and University librarians were unusually energetic and innovative. They initiated a new type of mini-conference called a tutorial. So far as we know these were only the second ones to take place in this country. Three series were held in Greensboro, Greenville and Boone — where they concentrated attention on matters of intense interest under the guidance of masters in the field.

Several hundred school librarians were in Durham in the fall of 1972 for their biennial School Media Work Conference sponsored by the North Carolina Association of School Librarians.

Public librarians held four fall workshops on communications in four sections of the state. These were attended by large numbers of staff members who do public service work. In addition each spring saw the Public Library Section joining the Trustee Section for special seminars at the Institute of Government in Chapel Hill.

The Junior Members Round Table has been one of our most active groups. They have made themselves felt in many ways. And we have already seen some of the results of their work. The slide kit which Theresa Coletta showed us in Winston-Salem is a product of their good hard labors. I am proud of the enthusiasm exhibited by JMRT. It makes me feel good about the future of our organization.

A new interest group is shown in the organization of a Junior College Section. I attended their first meeting presided over by Phoebe Oplinger. I am grateful to Phoebe for the work she did in getting this group started. David Hunsucker is the new chairman and I am sure we shall be hearing more from these librarians, representing private schools, technical

schools and community colleges.

Most of the NCLA committees functioned well during the biennium. They will be completing their work during the next few months. We look forward to hearing their reports.

A number of people have spoken well of our 1973 Conference. It seemed very alive and generally people appeared satisfied. Certainly there were enough things going on to keep us very busy. We thank Gene Lanier for arranging an excellent program. As usual, Lucy Bradshaw and her committees did a masterful job of arranging all activities.

We are indebted to the exhibitors who continue to give us strong support. I spoke to as many as I could and was pleased when they expressed satisfaction with the response they had from our members. Several of them said to me, "we go to many, but we think North Carolina's is the best."

I believe that the North Carolina Library Association is alive and growing and in some areas, kicking. It has something to offer everyone. However, one former member wrote me that he was not renewing his membership because he did not get anything out of it. I hope he is in the minority. If you are disappointed in your membership, let me suggest that you give something of yourself to the organization. It is a well established fact that when you give you receive.

From my point of view it has been a good two years. It has been stimulating to be involved with librarians from all types of libraries. It has been rewarding to observe keen interest and serious study on the part of many members. It has been pleasant to receive VIP treatment wherever I have been.

In other words, it has been a pleasure to serve as President of the North Carolina Library Association. I recommend it to all of you. And I thank you for the courtesies you have shown me and the support you have given.

I ask you to join with me in offering cooperation and strength to the new executive board as we move forward into another biennium.