

Automation Committee report, a technical proposal for a North Carolina book catalog program was presented.

The slate of officers for 1965-67, elected as presented by Hoyt Galvin, Chairman of the Nominating Committee: Chairman: Elizabeth Copeland; Secretary-Treasurer: Allegra Westbrook; Directors: Hollis Haney, William O'Shea.

Dorothy Thomas presented the gavel to the new Section Chairman, Evelyn Parks, who challenged members to make productive the ideas that are already here.

The Section reconvened at the Forsyth County Public Library November 5 at 11:30 a.m. to consider committee recommendations needing action by the Section. The following recommendations of the Audio-Visual Committee were adopted unanimously:

1. The membership of the Audio-Visual Committee of the Public Libraries Section of the North Carolina Library Association shall consist of all librarians, professional or non-professional, who request such membership from the chairman of the Public Libraries Section. The basic requirement for appointment is an interest in the selection, development and utilization of films by public libraries in North Carolina. This requirement shall be met by a request for membership. Committee members must be members of NCLA.
2. The selection of films for the North Carolina Adult Film Project shall be made only by members of the Audio-Visual Committee.
3. There shall be only one vote per library in instances where a library has more than one member on the committee.

A continuing study of the book catalog by the Automation Committee was approved by the group.

A resolution endorsing the policy of no discrimination in employment practices in North Carolina public libraries because of race, religion, or sex, was adopted by the group before adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gilleland,
Secretary

IMPRESSIONS AND REFLECTIONS

By

PHILIP S. OGILVIE¹

Too often exceptionally favorable first impressions set the stage for proportionate disappointment, but not in this instance. The glow of fresh acquaintance experienced nearly twelve years ago has grown brighter over the years. Instead of fading into a cold, impersonal working relationship, it has continued to illuminate a friendly and productive cooperation.

It was in May, 1954, that I had occasion to visit for the first time what is now the North Carolina State Library. The impressions gathered then persist to the present. Changes, major and vital, have occurred, but there was in the old North Carolina Library Com-

mission and there is now in the new North Carolina State Library an unmistakable spirit of giving and air of progress that teaches and challenges at the same time.

My personal relationship to the State Library is currently quite different from anything I ever anticipated it might be, and yet paradoxically, it is not. Time was a decade and more ago when I was at the receiving end of good service and friendly concern from the North Carolina Library Commission. In June, 1954, I undertook to reorganize the Albemarle Regional Library serving Bertie, Gates, and Hertford Counties from Winton. I needed all kinds of assistance, including wise counsel and steady encouragement. Such help was forthcoming in full measure from the Library Commission.

Today, as the State Librarian of North Carolina, I am again in need of all kinds of assistance, and I am again at the receiving end of a friendly concern and good service from the staff of the new North Carolina State Library which was formed July 1, 1956, by a union of the old North Carolina Library Commission and the old State Library. What could have been a somewhat difficult transition from public to state library administration is being made easy for me by competent, dedicated State Library personnel. They are bringing to my new relationship with them ready expressions of their wisdom of experience in state library work as well as kindly patience and warm friendship when I flounder where they swim with confidence.

This proves to me that my earliest impressions of this staff were valid, and there are still other first impressions gained almost a dozen years ago that are valid today. The locations of space and crowded conditions with which the State Library staff have had to cope with have been detrimental to efficient operations and provocative of complaints. It has been the case, however, that even the complaints of the staff have had little to do with personal inconvenience and much to do with limitations imposed by quarters upon efforts to render superior service. It is fortunate, then, that there is a promise of some relief in the months ahead. Construction of the new Archives-Library Building is scheduled to begin later this year, and it will permit space arrangements that will contribute to greater efficiency of operation.

A final observation on my first impressions of the North Carolina State Library is that the thinking and planning going on is typically farsighted. The growing role of automation in the library has been acknowledged and figured prominently in all projections for future developments. The time to think about and actually seek funding for the development of statewide book catalogs is already here. The time for computerized information retrieval is here, too. The time for electronic information transmission from one library to another follows close behind. All of these factors in providing broader, better library services throughout North Carolina are now and have been very much in the planning of the State Library's program. One cannot study the program projections of this library without gaining a clear impression that the future holds promise aplenty and fulfillment to match it.

It is good to be here.

1. Mr. Ogilvie assumed the duties of state librarian Dec. 1, 1965; he came to Raleigh from the Tulsa, Oklahoma Public Library.

He reads much; he is a great observer and he looks Quite through the deeds of men.
—Shakespeare, *Julius Caesar*.