

THE PRESIDENT REPORTS

Dear N. C. L. A. Member:

This membership issue of NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES gives the names of the association officers, Section officers and the personnel of association committees. Your special attention is called to the Honorary Membership Committee. The members of this committee will be happy to have the names of persons who may be considered for honorary membership in N.C.L.A. You will be assisting the association if you have someone in mind whom you believe worthy of this honor, if you will communicate with the chairman or any member of this committee.

Your association has shown considerable growth since the publication of the last membership directory in 1964. The Membership Committee reported to the Executive Board on May 7, 1966 that it plans a "wholesale" membership campaign sometime this year. It is hoped that all of those eligible for membership and who are interested in the objectives of the association may be contacted. If you as a member know of persons who may be interested in becoming members, please send their names to the treasurer or to the chairman of the Membership Committee. We urge all head librarians to see that their libraries become institutional members.

In my last letter I mentioned the fact that two committees have made recommendations to increase membership dues. The special committee from the Executive Board which was asked to study this matter thoroughly has not made its report. I feel that you should be given some of the reasons why many of the members believe that the dues structure of the association should be revised and what may be accomplished with increased funds. However, I want to remind you that, as a member, you are as much a part of the association as anyone else. The officers of the association do not have the power to change the dues. The dues are covered in the By-laws, and these cannot be changed except by a vote of the membership.

The association's current budget for 1966 shows that the proposed expenditures will exceed the anticipated income by almost \$900. This is an off-conference year when our primary source of income is from membership dues. However, our membership has grown to the point that we require so much space for our biennial meetings and exhibits that the hotels and convention centers now levy a charge, which means that our conference year income will be reduced. We have a potential membership of more than 4,000, if everyone who works in a library or is in any way connected with a library would join our ranks.

Those of you in libraries who have anything to do with record keeping can appreciate the amount of work involved in keeping the membership records for a possible 2,000 or more people and coordinating the work of perhaps 30-40 groups (committees, sections, etc.) with a total membership of nearly 300. This is a mammoth task, and it cannot be accomplished satisfactorily on a part-time basis. Please remember that every officer of the association has a full-time position like yourself.

The annual dues of the association were last increased in 1954 from \$1.50 to \$2.00 for individual members. In 1954, when the dues were increased, the total membership was less than 500. It is easy to see how the actual record keeping and other activities performed by the officers have grown over the past twelve years with more than a 300% increase in membership.

It is expected that a portion of the increased revenue would be used for maintaining an office for the association, with a secretary who could handle much of the clerical and technical detail now placed upon the elected officers. Many of the state library associations have reorganized, with a secretary in charge of a central office. The reorganized associations have varying types of secretaries—some are professional librarians; others are only clerical secretaries. Your association has not determined at what level a secretary will be

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employed, but a full-time clerical person would relieve the officers of much work and could follow through with some coordination committee and section work. Some of the duties of an office secretary would be: (1) To serve as secretary to the governing board (Executive Board), (2) maintain and supervise the headquarters office, (3) handle the business affairs of the association in accordance with the policies set by the Executive Board, (4) represent the association in its relations with other organizations as authorized by the governing board, (5) assist in preparation and planning of section workshops, biennial conference, etc. (6) handle funds and pay bills, (7) prepare and keep membership lists, (8) handle contracts with exhibitors and others contracting with the association, (9) prepare and mail ballots for elections, and (10) handle general correspondence for the association. Other duties might be assigned the secretary by the governing body.

For your information I am showing the NCLA budget for 1966.

EXPENDITURES

President's expenses (attend meetings, telephone, postage and incidentals, but no clerical help included)	\$ 500.00
Treasurer's expenses (clerical help supplied, postage & bond)	1,200.00
Corresponding and Recording Secretaries expenses	30.00
S.E.L.A. Representative (travel, convention expense)	150.00
A.L.A. Council member (travel and convention expense)	400.00
Dues (State Legislative Council, S.E.L.A., A.L.A., etc.)	58.00
A.L.A. Washington Office	500.00
Committee allocations	400.00
National Library Week	500.00
Printing	500.00
N. C. Libraries and miscellaneous expenses	225.00
Ruzicka Scholarship	500.00
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	\$4,963.00

Note—Funds have not been budgeted to sections, but they have more than \$3,000 allocated to them on the basis of 50c per member.

ANTICIPATED INCOME

Membership dues (\$2.00)	\$3,200.00
N. C. Libraries subscriptions	150.00
Ruzicka Scholarship	500.00
Interest on savings	250.00
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	\$4,100.00

You will be notified by letter of the final action of the Executive Board, giving the proposed change in dues. You will be supplied with other pertinent information, such as estimated income of the association under a revised dues schedule. A proposed budget to support a plan of operation will be supplied to each member. The By-laws relating to membership may be changed with approval of the membership by a mail vote. A majority of the vote cast shall be required to make any such change.

I would like to remind you again that the N.C.L.A. biennial conference will be held at the Queen Charlotte Hotel in Charlotte October 26-28, 1967. It is not too early to make your plans for the conference.

Sincerely yours,
PAUL S. BALLANCE
President