the supervision of one trained librarian. A bookmobile, shared by the counties, serves each community in turn. Even though books are purchased in accordance with the local county appropriation and thus marked, there is a free exchange. Borrowers have access to any book in the region. A system for filling requests makes it possible for a patron to get the desired book long before it might normally come his way. This service has also meant that books, once only deadwood on the small library shelves, are now in use again. New titles from the bookmobile are substituted in their places. When the demand is great enough duplicate copies of titles are purchased for the counties.

The governing board consists of three representatives from each county, selected by the commissioners to serve terms of two, four, and six years. This board meets once a month to review the work of the preceding period and to discuss matters relative to further development of the regional service.

Another advantage of the regional library plan is found in the maintenance of headquarters. Only one office is necessary. In this case the Washington Public Library serves as headquarters. All equipment is owned by the Region. Books are ordered and processed in this office and distributed to the counties as needed.

Since the B H M Regional Library began to function, 3,800 new books have been accessioned. This figure includes those purchased with the bonus from State Aid. The bonus was a total of $1,298.35 per county rather than the promised $900.

The present bookmobile schedule calls for ninety-six public stops, four deposit stations, six branches, and thirty-two schools. In the beginning the Library Commission and WPA made large book loans. The WPA collection has been withdrawn, but most of the books from the Library Commission are still being used.

Since September 1941, the date on which active service began, 2,443 new borrowers have been registered and the circulation per month has trebled.

With the exception of the regional librarian, all personnel has been paid by WPA. Nine people from that payroll have filled jobs as clerks, drivers, and office helpers. Minor mending has been done by the clerks, but all regular mending and repairing has been done by the WPA mending projects.

WPA cooperation, for which we are grateful, has meant much to the development of this regional system. When this Federal program is discontinued many adjustments will be required in budgets and in appropriations in order that rural library service may continue.

Advantages of a regional plan were also recognized in Western Carolina where Cherokee, Clay, and Graham Counties came together to form the Nantahala Region. This Region operated along lines similar to those of the B H M Region. It cannot, however, be considered a typical region because of its TVA relationship.

Regardless of location, it is gratifying to know that people will walk through ice and snow to meet the bookmobile. In one county borrowers from one section of the route walked to the next corner beyond the canal bridge in order that they might not have to go a whole month without something to read.

The invalid in his chair, the clubwoman, the school teacher, the man interested in world affairs, the boy who wants to know how to do simple machine work, the girl who wants advice on a vocation, the children and the casual readers meet the bookmobile enthusiastically. In face of the present world situation, more and more people are turning to books for inspiration, information, and recreation.

WAR RECORDS
Elmer D. Johnson

The North Carolina Historical Commission, in cooperation with the State Office of Civilian Defense, is making a collection of records in North Carolina on the current war. The Collector of Records for the Historical Commission is acting as State Coordinator of War Records for the Office of Civilian Defense, and County Collectors of War Records are being appointed throughout the State.

In many cases, local librarians are being asked to act as collectors in their towns or counties. Other librarians are invited to cooperate in the collecting program to any extent they wish. Where local libraries are interested in making collections of their own concerning the war, advice and cooperation will be given by the State Coordinator and the local collectors.
At present, the Historical Commission is encouraging the preservation in the State Library in Raleigh of county newspapers published in the State. Librarians throughout the State are asked to cooperate in seeing that this plan is carried out.

A “War Records Manual” has been prepared for the use of county collectors, and copies of it are available to any librarians interested. The manual, and any other information concerning the war records collection program can be obtained from Elmer D. Johnson, Coordinator of War Records, Box 1881, Raleigh, N. C.

VICTORY BOOK CAMPAIGN

The 1943 Victory Book Campaign opened January 5 and will continue until March 5. Miss Marjorie Beal, North Carolina Library Commission, will act as State Director of the campaign.

Books, good books, are greatly needed for the men in the service. USO centers need new readable books on their shelves.

Quality is more important than quantity. Remember any book you really want to keep is a good one to give. Miss Beal asks that librarians be ruthless in sorting the gift books and send only the books the men will read.

Book clubs and local organizations of every type will cooperate with the sponsoring organizations which are American Library Association, American Red Cross, and United Service Organizations. Address books to the North Carolina Library Commission, Raleigh, and mark them Victory Book Campaign.

FEATURING DAVIDSON COLLEGE LIBRARY

Davidson College’s 40,000-volume library, now housed in a beautiful $150,000 building, compares favorably with any other college library in the country, says Dr. George A. Works, retired Dean of the Library School of the University of Chicago, who has completed a survey of the 24 colleges and junior colleges and the four seminaries of the Southern Presbyterian Church.

Quality and not quantity has decided the selection of books for the Davidson College Library, Chalmers G. Davidson, Director of the Library said, and students have access to a selection especially designed for a liberal arts college. All Davidson students are allowed to use the book stacks, a privilege many large schools are unable to grant. Individual desks in carrels are provided for students doing reference work, and several consultation or seminar rooms have been set aside for professors who wish to lecture informally to classes.

Three collections of which the library is especially proud are its Woodrow Wilson material, a collection relating to the mysterious Peter Stuart Ney who designed the college seal, and a group of books written by and about alumni of the college. These special collections are kept in the “Davidsoniana” Room on the second floor where students and visitors often browse through them.

In addition to its 40,000 volumes, the library receives over 200 magazines and periodicals and gets newspapers from eight states. The building is the gift of the late James Grey of Bristol, Tennessee, in honor of his father and mother, the former a member of the class of 1856.

The library is manned by a capable staff, which is augmented by student workers. Professor Chalmers G. Davidson, Director, has a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Harvard, and was at the University of Chicago Graduate Library School before coming to Davidson. Miss Julia Pasmoo is circulation librarian and Mrs. E. J. Erwin is cataloger.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS

N. C. State College—Harlan Brown, Librarian, and Mitchell Lightfoot, Jr., Head of Circulation Department, have both entered Officers’ training. Mrs. C. B. Cleveger is now Acting Librarian, Miss Christine Coffey, Head of Circulation, Mrs. Mary Fawcett Poole, Reference Librarian, and Miss Foy Lineberry, Cataloger.

Camp Davis—Miss Helen Rosser of Sanford, a graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Library Science, has been appointed librarian of Service Club Number 2 at Camp Davis.

Goldsboro—Mr. Lionel Weil has given $1,000 to the Goldsboro Public Library for the purchase of reference books in memory of his wife, Mrs. Ruth Weil, who was a member of the Goldsboro Library Board.

Mebane—Mr. Sam J. White recently gave $1,000 to the Mebane Public Library as a memorial to his father, Stephen A. White, for the purchase of reference books.