sponsored for many years by women’s clubs who have furnished a great impetus to adult education.

The librarian’s part in adult education is compulsory at this time, having been pushed on us by the national and international crisis. There will be a greater number of men and women returning from the armed services to civilian life than at any other time, from ten to eleven million from military service along with the reshuffling of some twenty-one million who will be going from war essential work into peace-time living. Every person will have his own problem of adjustment. Some of these problems are not solved by learning to do but by learning to think.

Mr. Ulveling in his “Large Public Library” in the A. L. A. Bulletin of December 1, 1944, suggests three things which are basic in adult education: First, we “must build activities entirely around the idea of serving human needs.” Second, we “must forsake our time-honored neutrality on every subject and take a positive position on those issues that threaten our society.” Third, we “must find the resources for this program within our present organization.” We can’t wait to rebuild our staffs and we can’t wait to increase our book funds. The job is now and it must be done even though the essentials of books and staff must be built along with our services. We must take advantage of all the aids for which services may be geared. Long years of providing materials for club programs now provide experience for greater usefulness of service to all economic, social, and political groups of the community. Any limited survey of the number and types of agencies within a community is enough to show the public library its opportunity to reach many groups. It has been a heartening example of cooperation to have these community groups come into being in defense against the threat to security during the war. They should stick together for continued cooperation in reconstruction years. To what extent are we using community cooperative groups already? Here we have a nucleus for our forums.

Service to the returning veteran is perhaps the most urgent and practical need. The library should be ready for him: to assist one to return to his former position; to adjust one to the change he wishes to make; to help one train himself who has never been employed; to aid one who is physically handicapped; to direct one to recreational reading. We must not only have the books and other materials ready for the user, but, much more important, we must have someone who can help bring the man and the book together. This service does not stop with the person who chances to come into a library building.

THE ROWAN PUBLIC LIBRARY*

By Mrs. Claude S. Morris, Trustee

Salisbury, an old cultural town in the Piedmont section, had no public library until 1910 when a study club, “The Travelers,” decided there must be free books for all. The idea grew; an enthusiastic campaign for books and funds resulted in the opening of a long-desired public library in the little house on the corner of the Boyden lot—often mistaken for Andrew Jackson’s law office which formerly stood nearby.

A volunteer librarian and library committee kept all going so well that the county and city included the library in their 1921 budgets and the county provided rooms in the Community Building. The library committee became the Board of Trustees of the Salisbury Public Library!

Soon there were a few borrowers from the county and some took books
on consignment for others in their neighborhood. The Home Demonstration Clubs played an important role in establishing book stations in the county and in building up county service throughout the years.

Since its organization in 1923, the Salisbury Woman's Club has made an annual contribution and has also supervised book festivals, story hours, library teas and art exhibits to create more interest in the library. The Junior Woman's Club has given tables, chairs and books for the children's room and now operates the hospital branch. Other civic and patriotic organizations, the city recreation program, the local paper and radio station have all been most co-operative in publicizing and promoting the library.

More and more it has become a community interest.

In 1935 new members were added to the Board of Trustees. A trained librarian was employed early in 1936 and re-organization effected according to the standards of the American Library Association and North Carolina Library Commission. The name was changed to the Rowan Public Library.

The personal guidance received from the Commission has been most helpful in formulating policies. The interpretation of objectives is constantly expanding to meet the special need of the hour. At present books helpful to a better understanding of nations and to post-war planning are being featured—ever weaving the best of the old and the best of the new into a fresh library pattern.

The W.P.A. library project with its book-mending, its bookmobile and additional staff personnel was a vital factor at that period of development.

Too much cannot be said in appre-

*This is the first of a proposed series of articles on libraries in the state.
TAR HEEL LIBRARY NOTES

Mrs. Muriel S. Jordan, outstanding among children's librarians of the state, recently resigned after fifteen years with the Durham Public Library. Before coming to North Carolina she served as children's librarian in the New York Public Library, the Carnegie Library of Pittsburg, the Madison, Wis., Free Library, and the Lawson McGhee Library in Knoxville. Following a year as cataloger of both adult and juvenile books for the Durham library, she became children's librarian in September, 1931. Her work since then has included organizing public library work with schools in Durham, assisting both city and county schools in reorganizing their own libraries, and organizing in 1943 the Y. E. Smith Branch of the Durham Public Library. In addition, she has taught since 1933 in the summer sessions of the Library School in Chapel Hill. Her successor, Merna J. Cox, formerly children's li-

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT FUND

promoted by

THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND?

To maintain a library representative in Washington and to carry on a national public relations program supporting the development of good library service for all citizens.

WHY DO LIBRARIES NEED REPRESENTATION?

Because every library and librarian is affected by federal laws and regulations of increasing number and importance.
Because many of the thirty-five million Americans without public library service will continue without it for a long time unless there is federal aid.
Because good libraries for all citizens are a basic necessity in a thriving democracy.

WHAT IS THE GOAL?

$105,000 for four years of activity. Total contributions received by Treasurer through June 7th, $940.42.
North Carolina's goal—$2,200.
It is not too late. Send your contribution to the Treasurer of the Association.