

chases are made at the rate of 1/5 volume per capita. North Carolina public and county libraries purchased books at the rate of 1/20 volume per capita.

173,710 volumes were purchased by public and county libraries at an expenditure of \$267,406 in 1946-47. While the majority of State Aid to Public Libraries annually has been expended for books, the original book stock is too limited and books have worn out rapidly with constant use.

Reading is on an upward turn, as evidenced by not only the number of books borrowed but far more important than numbers is the quality of books being read.

Larger book collections which would reach more people would provide a greater choice of books and bring circulation figures to nearer normal.

Less than 1/2 the Negro population have access to public libraries. Separate service of books, librarians, budget, housing and public relations with bookmobile to cover the rural sections should be part of the county library system. 37 of the 100 counties have Negro public libraries. 40 other counties which are more than 10% Negro have no public libraries. 12 bookmobiles serve the Negroes.

COUNTY AND REGIONAL AND MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES

by Marjorie Beal

The survey in North Carolina has brought out many facts which can all be summed up in the sentence—North Carolina has a good spread of county and public library service, now is needed an enrichment of that service. Enrichment includes more qualified librarians, additional trained librarians in the regional and county libraries, improved book collections, more adequate buildings, newly inspired public relations programs, book discussion groups and bookmobile service for every county.

North Carolina libraries are attempting to accomplish much on small budgets. 30 cents per capita is three times more than the 10 cents of 1941 when State Aid to Public Libraries was voted. It has proved to be a stimulating and equalizing fund as its sponsors believed it should be.

Good library service requires that the people shall have access to whatever books they will use. 7,000 new titles are published annually, about 1/2 are suitable for public library use. Experience has shown that an ample book stock can be maintained if pur-