

## LIBRARY SCIENCE DEPARTMENT—APPALACHIAN STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

The Department of Library Science at Appalachian has trained more *school* librarians during the past ten years than any other institution in the state. The Department was set up in 1938 by Mrs. Louise Moore Plybon; Miss Helena Clardy later joined her as a member of the regular faculty. They have been succeeded by Miss Margaret McIntyre, Miss Eunice Query, Miss Ila Taylor, Miss Mabel Brister, and Mrs. Eloise Camp Melton. Nationally famous people in the field of school library service have served on the summer school faculty when the enrollment increases threefold: Mrs. Mary Peacock Douglas, author of *Teacher-Librarian's Handbook* and former North Carolina School Library Advisor; Mrs. Margaret K. Walraven, author of the books, *Teaching Through the Elementary School Library* and *Library Guidance for Teachers*, and Miss Frieda Heller, librarian of the Laboratory Schools at Ohio State University and author of numerous articles.

A student may elect to take a single major in library science or he may qualify as a librarian in North Carolina by taking twenty-seven quarter hours in library science in addition to his other major. Beginning in the summer of 1948 graduate work in library science was offered. At the present time one may earn a Master's degree at Appalachian with a major or a minor in library science, with education as the other field.

Library Science majors begin their training in the sophomore year with field work or exploratory practice two hours a week in one of the demonstration school libraries on the campus. In the junior year they take the courses Function and Use of the School Library, General Book Selection, Reference, and Books and Materials for School Libraries. In the senior year students continue Reference, and add Literature for Children and Young People, Cataloging and Classification and Materials and Equipment.

Opportunities are given the students to work with pupils and teachers in the campus laboratory schools and to review books for adults and campus groups. In this way they are better prepared to begin student teaching which is scheduled for the senior year. During the practice months at the demonstration schools or in different schools off-campus, the senior assumes full responsibility for library activities for several periods of the school day and follows the routine procedures of a full-time librarian.

Approximately 150 students have received the Bachelor's degree with a major in library science. In addition there are countless teacher-librarians who have taken work during the summer to qualify for state requirements. The first M.A. degrees with a major in library science were conferred in the summer of 1951. Three students received this degree, while four other students did their minor work in library science for the M.A. in education.

The department is approved by the Southern Association and the instructors are on call to help with the evaluation of schools that have applied for admission to the association.

(Adapted from an article by Madeline Jenkins in *The Appalachian*, April 27, 1951.)

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