PUBLIC LIBRARIES LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

The Development Committee of the Public Library Section of NCLA, has been working for two years on policies and plans for improved library service in North Carolina public libraries. The Committee has summarized the report of its work and has scheduled meetings with Boards of Trustees of libraries throughout the state to discuss the report with them. After these discussions the Committee will revise its report to incorporate suggestions from the Boards.

One of the paragraphs from the report reads as follows: “Improvement of library service is dependent on several factors. Neither books, library buildings, nor bookmobiles alone provide library service. The most important factor of all is personnel.”

The Brief presented to the Advisory Budget Commission in August by the Library Commission stressed the fact that professional librarians are needed in this state to supply the minimum of two librarians for each 45,000 population area. The additional State Aid funds requested for the next biennium will be used to help libraries meet their critical need for professional librarians.

The request to the 1953 Legislature is based on the work of the Development Committee which has studied carefully and thoroughly the needs of public libraries. It has found that the coverage achieved through State Aid supplements since 1941 now needs to acquire depth through improved quality of service. It recommends the continuance of State Aid appropriations until libraries are well on the way to achieving this strengthened service and local units are able to support libraries through their own resources. The Committee’s study also revealed that cooperation between library systems offers great possibilities in providing better library service to the people of this state.

—CHARLESANNA FOX, Chairman
Public Library Section,
Randolph County Public Library, Asheboro.

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SALUTE TO PUBLIC LIBRARY SECTION LEADERS

Charlesanana Fox, Chairman of the Public Library Division of the North Carolina Library Association, and the several Committee Chairmen of the Public Library Division have been working unceasingly and most successfully during the current biennium to improve and promote public library development in North Carolina.

Working hand in hand with Charlesanana Fox has been Elizabeth House and the grand group of Associates which Miss House has at the Library Commission. It is difficult to divide the credit for all the accomplishments between the Commission Staff and the Public Library Division, but the results of the work bids fair to become historic accomplishments for public libraries in North Carolina.

Charlesanana Fox gracefully passes the credit to the Committee Chairmen, but Charlesanana has been giving the leadership which is so necessary for real accomplishment. Elizabeth House likewise passes the credit to the wonderful Staff she has assembled as her Associates in Raleigh.

To list all the accomplishments of the two groups working together is beyond the purposes of this note, but public librarians will be proud when all this work is detailed at the next North Carolina Library Association meeting.

The purpose of this note is to salute Charlesanana Fox and her co-workers, and Elizabeth House and her Staff.

—HOYT R. GALVIN,
Director of Public Library
Charlotte & Mecklenburg County