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LIBRARY BUILDING PROGRAMS IN NORTH CAROLINA, 1951-1952

PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDINGS

Blueprints and ambitions which had been thwarted by lack of materials during the 1940's were revived with the result of many new public library buildings, additions, and renovations during the 1950-52 biennium.

New Buildings

The Rowan County Public Library, Salisbury, was completed in the fall of 1951. The new two-story Georgian structure with a book capacity of 80,000, along with the site of the old Boyden home in Salisbury, was a gift from the family of the late Burton Craig of Winston-Salem. The total cost, including furniture and equipment, amounted to $109,475.71. (Featured in NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES, Vol. 10, No. 1, October 1951).

On July 5, 1951, the new public library of Faith was dedicated. The building drive originally sponsored by the local Civitan Club, had the cooperation of civic and church groups as well as of private citizens and newspapers in the area. Granite to face the building was donated by the local Rogers Brothers Quarry.

The Randolph Negro Branch, Asheboro, was built in 1951 and represents the realization of efforts on the part of the Negroes for adequate library quarters. It is located in a new cement block building on the grounds of the Randolph County Training School.
In October 1949 the estate of Emma Hollingsworth made $45,000 available to the city of Fayetteville for the erection of a new library building. The City Council allocated an additional $75,000 for this purpose. Construction of the building of contemporary design was completed January 31, 1952; thus the new Cumberland County Library, formerly housed in the Market House, was opened for service March 1, 1952. The total cost of the project was $124,316.62. The building as now constructed has capacity for 40,000 volumes with structural strength to accommodate a second level over the stack room making a total capacity of 75,000 volumes. (Featured and pictured in NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES, Vol. 11, No. 1, October 1952).

The new Elbert Ivey Memorial Library, Hickory, was opened March 31, 1952. This building was erected at a total cost of $131,000 and contributed to the city of Hickory by George F. Ivey and family. The present book capacity is 37,000 with space designed for doubling this amount.

Part of the recently completed county building in Jacksonville was designed to house the Onslow County Library. In June 1952 the library was moved from the cramped quarters in the courthouse into the new modern air-conditioned structure where there is room for several years' growth.

A new library building has been constructed in Robbinsville on the site of the former library. This building, a frame structure with an approximate book capacity of 5,000, is a gift of the Bemis Lumber Company through Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Veach in memory of Mrs. Veach's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Bemis.

The Orange County Negro Public Library, Hillsboro, was open to the public in May 1951. The Negro people secured the money for the building in different drives and from private donations.

The Belhaven Public Library in Beaufort County has been moved into its new building, a one-story brick structure located in the center of town. It has been renamed the Fannie Mebane Ralph Memorial Library in honor of a former trustee, the wife of Dr. W. T. Ralph. Funds for the building were contributed by the citizens of Belhaven with Dr. Ralph as the principal donor.

**Additions and Renovations**

Rockingham County Library, Leaksville, has had a two-room wing added; one room of which has been furnished as a browsing room by the friends of the late E. D. Pitcher, library trustee for many years.

The Pack Memorial Public Library, Asheville, has been expanded to include the building adjacent to it on the east side. This new rented space has been remodeled to provide a reading room, periodical room, bookmobile department, offices for librarian and business manager, and twenty per cent more stack room. A vault and storage room are included in the basement layout. The remodeling and decorations for this addition were planned by Anthony Lord, architect and member of the Library Board. The color scheme is gray and Venetian red, and the furniture is a combination of Eames chairs and birch tables with Remington Rand stacks.

Warren County, Warrenton, expanded its building by the addition of a room for the children's library, a stack room, reference room, and a work room.

Since a new building could not be constructed for the Anson County Public Library, Wadesboro, and since cramped space in the courthouse made a change imperative, a former residence was purchased and renovated for the central library headquarters. The large colonial hallway, parlor and drawing rooms were converted with minor remodeling into the library reception lobby and separate reading rooms for adults, youths, and children. The library was moved into this new location in the second block of East Morgan Street in September 1952.
Under Construction

In December 1952 work was begun on the new building for the George H. and Laura E. Brown Library, Washington. Plans call for a book capacity of approximately 40,000 volumes in a modified Georgian style with a multi-purpose room on the second floor. This library was made possible by the will of Mrs. Laura E. Brown who designated $100,000 for the construction and equipment of a city library to be built on Van Norden Street. Provision was made also for a trust fund for the maintenance of the library.

A centrally located lot valued at $100,000 was presented to the Winston-Salem Library Commission by Richard J. Reynolds in December 1948. Approximately $800,000 was contributed for the building by the people of the city and county and construction was begun in 1952. At the present time the new building of the Public Library of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County is nearing completion. The building is to be inspected and given to the city sometime around February 15, after which equipment, stacks, and furniture will be installed. It is anticipated that everything will be in readiness for the formal opening and dedication by April 1 of this year. (Featured in NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES, vol. 10, No. 3, April 1952).

The new fire station and public library branch for West Asheville will be completed and ready for use by April 1, according to a report from the architect. The amount of book space in the new branch will be approximately 1,000 square feet. This municipal building, including fire station and library, is of modern, simple design with emphasis on its functional qualities.

Proposed Buildings

There are a number of proposed buildings in the immediate and near future. Plans are underway for a new library building in Valdese. A conveniently located lot has been given by John Pons, a former resident of Valdese, and a sum of $16,000 is available for the construction of the building.

In March 1951 the City Council of Fayetteville earmarked the sum of $65,000 for the construction of a new library building for Negroes. At the present time efforts are being made to obtain a clear title to a lot which had been left in trust for the educational use of the Negro youth of the city.

Rowan County placed $60,000 in its 1951-52 budget for construction of a new building to be used by the Negro Home and Farm Agents and the Negro Library.

On May 23, 1952, the Board of Trustees of the Charlotte and Mecklenburg County Library completed property transactions upon which they had worked for several years. They purchased three buildings on property which adjoins the main library building property in Charlotte. The additional property increases the usable square footage of the site for a proposed new library building from 19,126 square feet to 30,711 square feet. This is an increase of 60% in site space. Charlotte-Mecklenburg voters gave approval to eight separate county and city bond issues on December 13, 1952. As a result the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County was given the go-ahead to spend $1,600,000 for a new main library building, three branch libraries in the city, and branches in the five other incorporated towns in the county. The library board has already drafted preliminary plans for a new and modern public library on the present site fronting on North Tryon and East Sixth Streets.

Many public libraries in North Carolina are still inadequately housed and there is a dire need for more new buildings, renovation of old buildings, and expansion of cramped quarters. It is encouraging, however, that a backward glance over the past two years, a look at the present, and a glimpse into what the future promises, show considerable accomplishment toward a goal of adequate housing facilities for every public library in North Carolina.

—MADGE BLALOCK, Librarian
North Carolina Library Commission
MODEL OF HIGH POINT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Rear entrance on Wrenn Street, entering the Children's Department.

HIGH POINT PUBLIC LIBRARY IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Contracts were signed on February 11th for the construction of the new High Point Public Library Building. The construction contract states that the building should be completed within 280 days. Excavation began the week of February 16, 1953, with the building to be completed shortly after the first of the year.

Features of The Building

Reading room, 50 x 50 feet is separated from stacks by columns. Both have high ceilings, the reading room for aesthetic reasons, and the stack room to provide space for the addition of a second tier of stacks. The north wall of the reading room is glass. There is also a long expanse of glass in the reading alcove (10 x 38) looking onto Main Street to the West. The ceiling of the reading room is “luminous”, consisting of sheets of corrugated milk white plexiglass suspended below fluorescent fixtures. Fitchburg Youth Library has such a ceiling.

Audio-Visual Room is equipped with a projection booth, and chair storage, and a strip of peg board all around the room to provide for exhibits of paintings, prints, etc. Business and Industry collection is to be housed on the front mezzanine.

The rear or Wrenn Street entrance consists of offices, work room, bookmobile garage, staff room and janitor's storage. Directly above these rooms and on the street level of Wrenn Street is the Children's department. Children may enter from Main Street to their department on the second floor. On Wrenn Street, the library has parking space for about 50 cars.

Total square footage of the library is: 14,651. Total cost, including land and architects' fee, heating, etc., but not equipment is $234,488.00. Architects are Voorhees and Everhart of High Point; Contractor: P. S. West Construction Company, Statesville.

—Neal Austin, Librarian
High Point Public Library
High Point
SUMMARY OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY BUILDING

During 1952 there has been much activity in library building programs among colleges and universities in North Carolina. The need for library buildings in institutions for higher education had been felt for some time, and a program was under way late in the 1930’s, and up to the war period when all building programs were necessarily halted.²

During the past couple of years just preceding 1952, there were over a half-dozen major library building projects completed.²**

The Library, Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

The following summary covers library building activities in the college and university field in North Carolina during 1952, and a projected estimate of programs begun, but to be completed during the next year or two:

Completed in 1952

University of North Carolina: A new addition and renovation, dedicated April, 1952. Former seating doubled to a total of 2,255; capacity increased by 122% to a total of 1,130,000 volumes. Cost $1,615,000.00. Raymond Weeks, architect; Arthur C. Nash, Consultant; Alfred M. Githens, Library Consultant; J. Russell Bailey, Library Consultant. (Featured and pictured in NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES, Vol. 10, No. 3, April, 1952.)

Atlantic Christian College: C. L. Hardy Library completed in January, 1952. Cost $200,000.00. (No report on other aspects of building.)


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²Salem College (1937), Bennett College (1939), Winston-Salem Teachers College (1939), Davidson (1941), Lenoir Rhyne College (1942).

²**Duke University (1949), Guilford College (1950), Woman’s College, University of North Carolina (1950), Greensboro College (1950), Pembroke College (1951), Law School, University of North Carolina (1951), North Carolina College at Durham (1951).


**Under Construction in 1952**

Western Carolina Teachers College: New building to be completed in March, 1953, at estimated cost of $800,000.00. Seating 1000; book capacity 100,000 volumes. Six Associates, Inc., Architects.

East Carolina College: New building to be completed in fall, 1953, at estimated cost of $1,089,000.00. Seating 450; stack capacity of 125,000 volumes. Eric G. Flannagan, Architect.


Catawba College: New building to be completed, September, 1953, at estimated cost of $350,000.00. Seating 185; stack capacity 120,000 volumes. John Hartledge & Associates, Architects.
Wake Forest College: New building to be completed in 1954, at estimated cost of $1,930,000.00. Seating approximately 1350; book capacity approximately 900,000 volumes. Jens F. Larson, Architect.

Presbyterian Junior College: Old government building renovated at an estimated cost of $10,000. Seating 100; book capacity 20,000 volumes. Renovation to be completed in 1953 or 1954.

Agricultural and Technical College: New building with contract let at estimated cost of $1,180,000.00. Seating 832; book capacity 275,000 volumes. Architects, McMinn & Norfleet and Albert C. Woodroof, Associated Architects; Eggers & Higgins, Consulting Architects.

Elizabeth City State Teachers College has plans completed for an $85,000.00 addition to their building which will give them a seating capacity of 450, and a book capacity of 125,000. Other colleges that have a real need for a new library but have not as yet made definite plans are: Queens College, Meredith College, St. Marys, and Mars Hill.

*Individual study carrels, Library, W.C.T.C., Cullowhee.*
*(Stacks and furniture have not been received.)*

It is evident that most of the building programs have been among the four-year colleges and universities. Almost all of the state-supported institutions have either completed or made definite plans for new buildings and over half of the private four-year colleges have provided modern buildings or substantial additions to their library facilities.
Circulation desk, Library, W.C.T.C., Cullowhee. Sliding-door partition hides stack-room; door to left opens into cataloging department, can be closed with sliding-door partitions.

As so many of these new buildings are just being completed or will not be finished until 1953 and early 1954, the total significance of the recent building programs cannot as yet be assessed. Colleges and universities in North Carolina, however, are laying the foundations for strong library programs. The announcement of dedicatory gifts of over a million dollars in books and other materials by the University of North Carolina is an indication of the enrichments of library resources which follows in the wake of providing facilities for housing. Programs which included not only facilities for the college and campus clientele, as at Western Carolina Teachers College, but also a cultural center for people of the county and the region, are indicative of the concept of added services which these new library buildings are going to give students and scholars of the state.

Audio-visual rooms, a micro-film vault, a dark room, graduate study rooms, a faculty reading room, carrels, and special faculty studies are some of the many features of the plan at the Agricultural and Technical College which are characteristic of the new concept of the place of library service in the college community.

During 1952 the State of North Carolina had spent or contracted for over five million dollars in new library buildings for its institutions of higher education and private institutions over half that amount.

It would be difficult to give in current dollar value the total amount spent in colleges and universities of North Carolina for new library buildings and permanent equipment during the past fifteen years, but it would be an impressive figure. These new investments should pay good dividends to the people of North Carolina.

—Charles M. Adams, Librarian
Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro
NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY SALARIES

No librarian in North Carolina needs to be told that library salaries are too low. Any library which has had a vacancy in recent times has been faced with that reality. Here are some known facts about library salaries in the state.

The average salary paid to the 1952 graduates of the University of North Carolina School of Library Science was $3,440.76. These people were mostly without previous library experience. There are experienced professional librarians in at least eleven college libraries who are paid less than that amount.

Many of the graduates of our own University accept work outside of the state because of larger salaries. Those who remained are divided between the group who preferred a particular location regardless of salary and those who accepted the few positions which offered beginning salaries over $3,000 per year. In some cases the librarian of a public library with more than ten years experience has found it necessary to offer an assistant a salary only a few hundred dollars less than her own to obtain some professional help.

Except in a few metropolitan areas of the state public library directors with years of valuable experience receive less than $4,000 per year. The current budgets of public libraries show salaries for professional top positions as low as $2,400, the majority are between $3,000 and $4,000. Some of those nearer the top of this scale have replaced librarians at lower salaries who resigned. Many public library boards have discovered too late the value of their former librarian's service.

College and university library salaries are no better. Generally where the librarian, and in the larger university libraries heads of departments, have faculty status the top salaries are adequate. But staff positions pay between $2,600 and $4,000 with most positions in the lower part of that scale. In a recent survey of library salaries in institutions of higher learning the replies emphasized that if the incumbents of present positions resigned the vacancies could not be filled at the present salary. They also stated that it was easier to get a larger salary for a new person than to raise the salary of a staff member.

Each college and university library is dependent on the administrative officers of the institution for salaries. Some have definite schedules, must pay what is necessary to fill the vacancies.

School librarians are paid on the same salary scale as teachers and the range is from $245 a month for nine months (2,205 annually) to $384 for the ten months (3,840 annually) plus various supplements by cities and counties. We hope the General Assembly will help boost their salary scale upwards and recognize the fifth year of library science in a financial way. At least they have a state guaranteed minimum.

The public librarians have published a Personnel Manual which classifies positions and gives salary schedules in line with salaries paid for other services in the State. It is hoped that Trustees will use the schedules in revising budgets.

—Elaine von Oesen,
Field Librarian
North Carolina Library Commission

The Annual Convention of the North Carolina High School Library Association will be held in Chapel Hill on March 27-28. At present there are 1121 high school members of this Association, representing 58 school clubs. As near as can be estimated more than thirty former members of this Association are now Librarians. The Association is six years old, and since it takes four years from active membership to librarianship, a sister organization among college students, and a similar club among elementary pupils might help with the recruitment of Librarians for N. C.
"RECRUITING BEGINS WITH YOU"

The above title is a steal from an A.L.A. brochure concerning library recruiting but it was on the lips of the Recruiting Committee members so often on November 15, 1952 when assembled in Greensboro to formulate some plans for action, that you might say it became the theme song. The Committee is investigating the possibilities of:

1. printing and distributing a leaflet on Librarianship as a Career
2. organizing a Speakers Bureau to provide speakers for schools, colleges, and organizations throughout the state for "Careers Day" programs, assemblies, guidance counselors meetings, etc.
3. asking some one in each of the six districts to serve as Co-Ordinato to bring the program closer home
4. having a College Library Assistants Association to function in the same manner as the North Carolina High School Library Assistants organization. (We feel that this is one of our best methods of recruiting.)
5. distributing a striking Announcement of the Scholarship Loan Fund to be pasted on college bulletin boards

When it comes right down to it, young people are influenced, either consciously or unconsciously, to choose, or not choose, librarianship as their career by their personal contacts with librarians. A vibrant, enthusiastic, happy librarian is the best advertisement our profession can have. Avail yourself of the opportunity to speak to promising young persons, letting them know of the joys of librarianship. Our ranks need bolstering! Perhaps you have felt that it was not necessary for you to be concerned with the problem of recruiting, but the A. L. A. Joint Committee on Library Work as a Career has said that it should be the responsibility of each librarian to get at least one person to go into library work each year. I have secured mine for this year—have you?

—MARY D. GRANT, Chairman
Recruiting Committee, N.C.L.A.
Greensboro City Schools

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES TO PREPARE FOR AN UNCROWDED FIELD

Today there are many more openings than there are qualified librarians. Librarians' salaries have come a long way since 1933, the average salary for graduates from North Carolina in June, 1952, was $3,440.76.

The University of North Carolina's School of Library Science will, as usual, offer courses in library science in its 1953 Summer Session. The first term will be from June 11 through July 17 and the second term from July 20 through August 22. Visiting instructors will include Miss Azile Wofford and Mr. J. N. Whitten of the University of Kentucky's Department of Library Science and Mrs. Louise Moore Plybon, Elementary School Librarian, Charlotte, N. C., formerly Head of the Department of Library Science, Appalachian State Teachers' College, Boone, N. C. Miss Lucile Kelling will serve as Acting-Dean and will teach the courses in reference and book selection, the first term; Miss Susan Grey Akers, Dean, will administer the School the second term.

The chief requirement for admission to work towards a degree in Library science is a bachelor's degree based on a good general education in an approved college or university. Persons with majors in fields as different as chemistry and English history are needed to prepare for work in different types of libraries. A reading knowledge of at least one modern foreign language is an asset, when not a requirement.

Courses will be offered for the one year B.S. in Library Science program; the M.S. in Library Science program; the Master of School Librarianship program; and for teachers or others interested in taking courses in library science that they may qualify for certification as librarians in the smaller elementary or secondary schools.

University of N. C.
Chapel Hill

—SUSAN G. AKERS, Dean
School of Library Science
SCHOOL LIBRARY STUDENT ASSISTANTS IN NORTH CAROLINA
RESULTS OF SURVEY OF A SUBCOMMITTEE OF SELA

Returns from Questionnaires on School Library Student Assistants

Note: These statistics were obtained through a questionnaire sent to schools in the nine southern states.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>No. Sent</th>
<th>No. Returned</th>
<th>Total Enrollment</th>
<th>Total Student Assistants</th>
<th>Average No. Per School</th>
<th>Average Time In Hrs. Per Week</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>32,308</td>
<td>1188</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>89,484</td>
<td>2922</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>49,735</td>
<td>2313</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>55,005</td>
<td>2789</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>12,667</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>87,719</td>
<td>5338</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>17,230</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>79,039</td>
<td>1675</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>584</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>147,652</td>
<td>6420</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The subtractions were made when whole school attendance was given as being student assistants.

Number of Questionnaires Returned

In order of quantity:

- Virginia: 234
- North Carolina: 151
- Tennessee: 134
- Kentucky: 127
- Florida: 117
- Georgia: 77
- Alabama: 61
- Mississippi: 35
- South Carolina: 34

In percentage of questionnaires:

- North Carolina: 56%
- Virginia: 40%
- Florida: 29%
- Kentucky: 20%
- Tennessee: 19%
- Alabama: 16%
- Georgia: 12.6%
- South Carolina: 11%
- Mississippi: 7%

Figures for N. C. Singled Out and Then Compared with Whole Group

In North Carolina 57 schools require that student assistants in the library must belong to a special grade and 90 do not. In the nine Southern States 248 require this and 664 do not. North Carolina is therefore higher in this requirement than the group as a whole.

Ninety-one report that students must apply for work and 46 do not; 89 require students to have and to maintain certain academic standards while 50 do not. The group requirement was that 510 maintain academic standards and 355 do not.

The average number of student assistants in North Carolina is 16. The range in the other states is from 12 to 18.

The average amount of time in hours per week that each student assistant spent working in the library was 2.9 hours in North Carolina. The range was from 2.2 to 4 hours in the other states.

The social activities in order of frequency in North Carolina were: 46 parties and socials; 19 teas; 7 picnics and wiener roasts; 5 dances; 4 library trips and 3 refreshments. On the group-list picnics and wiener roasts were second and teas, fourth; library trips were third and dances seventh while refreshments were fifth.
Rewards in North Carolina were in order of frequency: 40 academic credit; 26 social; 22 extra curricular points; 8 letters; 5 tied for money and pins; 3 gifts; 2 certificates and 1 lunch. On the group-list social was 1st, academic credit 2nd; pins were 4th; letters 5th; pay was 7th; certificates 6th; gifts were 8th while lunch was at the bottom of the list.

How the students assist with the work of the library was indicated by North Carolina in order of frequency: 140 charge books; 130 keep library in order; 127 discharge books; 126 check in magazines; 118 paste pockets; 115 check overdue; 113 read shelves; 107 arrange displays; 105 file book cards; 88 mend; 75 do general typing; 71 type book cards; 63 mount pictures; 62 prepare material for the verticle file; 60 letter books; 43 type headings on Wilson cards.

In the group-list the first three were in the same order as were mending and filing in the card catalog and typing headings on Wilson cards was the last one in each group. Reading shelves was fourth and checking overdue was fifth on the group-list. Pasting pockets was eighth on the group-list and fifth on the North Carolina list.

In the matter of the state-wide student assistant organization North Carolina found in order of frequency: 43 thought it a recruit instrument for library work as a career, two thought not; 32 thought it helped recruit for the individual library; eight thought not; 30 thought it provided opportunity for the development of leadership; and 27 thought it would raise the prestige of the school library.

In the whole-group second place was given to providing for the development of leadership.

Values to the student resulting from work in the library in order of frequency reported by North Carolina were: 145 personal development; 141 familiar with the library; 140 cooperation between the pupil and the librarian; 138 help in choice of career and 125 aids in interest in study. In the whole-group first place went to being familiar with the library and second to personal development—the rest were in the same order in both.

These facts may not be too important but they seem to indicate that librarians might let the student assistants do more things than they now do, for example 140 schools have students charge books but only 127 discharge books. Only 88 mend. Seventy-five schools let students do general typing but only 43 type headings on Wilson cards. Students can discharge books with very little training; if mending is to be done, students can learn to do it; librarians would have more time to work with students and teachers if they used Wilson cards instead of typing cards in full. Students who can type can do the typing on the Wilson card and this will give the librarian more time for real library work which is getting the child and the book together.

Some schools find that it is difficult to get student assistants to read shelves as that is considered too monotonous.

An enthusiastic school librarian usually has enthusiastic student assistants. If she likes library work they usually do, too.

——RUBY ETHEL CUNDIFF, Chairman SELA Subcommittee,
Department of Library Science,
Madison College,
Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Miss Ida Goshkin, director of training for the American Heritage Project, spent three weeks, from January 4-24, in North Carolina. While here she attended meetings of American Heritage discussion groups throughout the State.
THE WILMER COLLECTION OF CIVIL WAR NOVELS

There is at the Library of the University of North Carolina an unusually interesting, if not unique, collection of books known as the Wilmer Collection of Civil War Novels. It was presented to the Library in 1946 by the Rev. Richard H. Wilmer, Jr., Ph.D., Chaplain of the University of the South, Sewanee.

Dr. Wilmer began collecting Civil War novels in 1936 while a student at Yale University. His interest in this field stemmed from a discussion with a classmate concerning the large number of novels dealing with the Civil War published in the 1930's. After a brief survey of the Library of Congress' catalogue, he found to his surprise that a great many novels had been written on this theme beginning as early as the second year of the War. The investigation whetted his interest to the extent that he rapidly became a confirmed collector of Civil War novels.

At the outset Dr. Wilmer adopted for his guide to collecting in this field the rule that he would define as a Civil War novel any novel which used the war as its subject or motivating influence. He persevered consistently in his collecting until he joined the United States Navy as a Chaplain in 1942. When he gave his collection to the University of North Carolina Library it numbered 496 titles. Every title in it was a first edition. Many of them, however, never went beyond one edition.

Describing how he felt about his collection, Dr. Wilmer wrote in the Colophon, Autumn, 1938: "I love them all, impossible juveniles, sentimental outburst of the E. P. Roe period, far Southern issuances from still embattled, deeply ingrained hearts; literature great and small, good and bad, I love it all. My collection will never be complete. Compared with fine collections, it is but a poor relative seated at the great banquet of books; and yet for all the filthy grubbing, the disappointment of finding wretched reprints, the expense, which, while not great for some, has hampered me adequately—for all this, I have no regret."

When donating his collection to the University Library Dr. Wilmer specified that it should be kept as a unit; that it should be made available to students; that new titles should be added as they were published; and that out-of-print titles which he had not been able to obtain should be searched for and secured when available. The Library accepted the gift on these terms and has faithfully adhered to them. Since receiving the collection in 1946, 124 titles of current and out-of-print Civil War novels have been added. The collection is housed as a unit in a special section of the Library's air-conditioned stacks. It has been used by students in the fields of American literature and American history. A graduate student, who won his Ph.D. in History in 1950, used the collection as the principal source for his dissertation.

The quality of the books in the collection run the literary gamut from dime novels to the classic of Stephen Crane, The Red Badge of Courage. About one-fifth of the collection is made up of juveniles by such popular authors as William T. Adams, better known as Oliver Optic; Charles Fosdick, whose pseudonym was Harry Castlemo, and Joseph A. Altsheler. The Civil War has been a popular theme for juveniles from the publication of Charles Fosdick's Frank on a Gun-Boat in 1864 to that of Walter D. Edmonds' Cadmus Henry in 1949.

Among the writers for adults the collection contains such well-known names as John Esten Cooke, Thomas Dixon, Stephen Crane, Ellen Glasgow, Stark Young, William Faulkner and Margaret Mitchell.

The publication of Civil War novels began as early as 1862 with such titles as Fort Lafayette: or Love and Secession, by Benjamin Wood; and Among the Pines: or South in Secession-Times, by James R. Gilmore, and continued throughout the course of the
war. Many more novels were written in the Northern states during the war than in the Southern. Three were written and published in the Confederacy during the war period which are worthy of mention: *The Aid-de-Camp: a romance of the war*, by James Dabney McCabe, Jr. (Richmond, 1863); *Raids and Romance of Morgan and his Men*, by Sally Rochester Ford (Mobile, 1864), and *Macaria*, by Augusta Jane Evans Wilson (Richmond, 1864).

Among other interesting titles in the collection are two by Jules Verne: *Les Forceurs de Blocus* (Paris, 1872) and *Nord contre Sud* (Paris, 1887).

The great majority of the titles in the Wilmer Collection are not "rare books" in the sense that they would bring high prices in the rare book market, but many of them are the sort of titles which are most difficult to locate. The Library has a want-list of about 200 titles for which it is currently searching. The collection, numbering 620 different titles, is the largest of its kind in the world. It is a distinct addition to this Library's growing collection of printed and manuscript materials relating to the Civil War. The University of North Carolina Library is justifiably proud that Dr. Wilmer chose to place his collection of Civil War Novels in its keeping.

—Lawrence F. London,
Research Assistant
U.N.C. Library
Chapel Hill

SOUTHERN BOOKS COMPETITION—1952

The first annual Southern Books Competition presents sixteen books as representative of the best in Southern book production in 1952. An exhibit of these sixteen books is being held this spring at Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro; Duke University, Durham; North Carolina State College, Raleigh; and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

The Southern Books Competition is sponsored by the Southeastern Library Association. From sixty titles submitted by Southern publishers and presses these sixteen have been chosen on the basis of typographical design and general excellence as examples of the bookmaker's art.

Books on exhibit are:


ARABIA REBORN, by George Kheirallah, University of New Mexico Press, 1952.


MEXICAN REVOLUTION: GENESIS UNDER MADERO, by Garlces Curtis Cumberland, University of Texas Press, 1952.


TEXAS RANGE GRASSES, by Benjamin Carroll Tharp, University of Texas Press, 1952.


HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN NCLA

To take special recognition of and to show deep appreciation to those of our colleagues, and to members of other professions and businesses, who through the years have given of their time and wealth in the furthering of library service in this state, the North Carolina Library Association initiated the practice of bestowing honorary memberships.

Honorary membership in NCLA carries with it the good will and gratitude of each member, and the rights and privileges granted by the Association. As tangible expression of this honor an especially designed card has been mailed to those who have been recognized.

It is our pleasure to present a listing of those whom you have so recognized:

Beal, Miss Marjorie
228 10th Street,
Havre, Montana.

Blanton, Mrs. Minnie L. (Mrs. E. R.)
1883 N.W. 22nd Avenue,
Miami, Fla.

Breedlove, Mr. J. P., Librarian Emeritus
Duke University Library
407 Watts Street,
Durham, N. C.

Crittenden, Mrs. Ethel T.
Wake Forest, N. C.

Griggs, Mrs. Lillian B.
915 Monmouth Ave.,
Durham, N. C.

Jones, Mrs. Nellie Rowe
Greensboro, N. C.

Petty, Miss Annie F.
515 Jefferson Street,
Greensboro, N. C.

Phillips, Mrs. M. D.
2969 Derbyshire Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

Ricks, Miss Katharine C.
Guilford College
Guilford, N. C.

Wilson, Dr. Louis R., Librarian Emeritus
U.N.C. Library
607 East Rosemary Lane,
Chapel Hill, N. C.

This is to certify that

HAS BEEN ELECTED TO HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN
THE NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

Date
President

Honorary Membership Card

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TAR HEEL LIBRARIANS AND FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES

Bessie Mae Cowan, formerly librarian at Mitchell College, is now employed by the Statesville Public Library... Mrs. Davis Purcell is the new Librarian of Mitchell College... Mrs. Richard L. Sugg has accepted the position of Librarian in Southern Pines as of February 1, 1953...

Spencer Murphy, representative of NCLA on the Library Commission, and Editor of the SALISBURY POST, has won the State editorial writing award for the third time. His editorial entitled "Total Threat", asking the public to be alert to the threats of communism, was chosen as the best daily newspaper editorial published in a North Carolina daily during 1952, by the North Carolina Press Association. Mr. Murphy defended the request for $620,000 for State Aid to Public Libraries, before the Joint Appropriations Committee of the General Assembly, in a speech which received favorable comment from several members of the Committee. He is performing with distinction the duties entrusted to him by the Association in placing him on the Library Commission and NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES is proud to salute Mr. Murphy's recognition by his fellow journalists.

Dr. Benjamin E. Powell, Chairman of the Federal Relations Committee of NCLA, has been doing outstanding work as Chairman of his Committee. Reread his article in the last issue of NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES on "Library Services Bill", and if you have not been receiving the Committee's legislative "news letter" write Dr. Powell. His last "news letter" was re-mimeographed in Washington and mailed throughout the nation.

Mrs. Mary Peacock Douglas had an article "Plans and Equipment for School Libraries" in LIBRARY TRENDS, Volume 1, January 1953... Eunice Querry has written an article "Some Laboratory Experiments Prior to Student-Teaching in Library Science", published in a recent issue of EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION AND SUPERVISION... Reprints of the article from the February 1953 ALA BULLETIN, "The Functional School Library: A Superintendent Looks at it", by Mr. B. L. Smith, Superintendent of Schools, Greensboro, may be secured from Mrs. Rachel DeAngelo, Executive Secretary, American Association of School Libraries of ALA. This article was written upon request, after Mr. Smith had been guest speaker for a School Librarians Annual District meeting.

The Winter of 1953 issue of AMERICAN HERITAGE, an historical quarterly published by the American Association for State and Local History contains three articles which were written by William S. Powell, N. C. Collection, UNC. Titles are: "North Carolina Foods", "Sir Walter Raleigh", and "Roanoke". In addition, Mr. Powell contributed a column entitled "History News"... VIRGINIA POWELL (Mrs. William S.), Assistant in the Order Department, UNC, has been made editor of the NEWS SHEET, official publication of the Library Staff Association.

Enjoying a mid-winter vacation in January, was Miss Mary H. Thornton, Librarian of the North Carolina Collection at UNC. She sailed from Norfolk, on the S.S. Maudam, a Dutch ship, for a two-weeks cruise in the Caribbean, with land tours at Haiti, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Barbados, and Martinique... The Division of Health Affairs, UNC, has appointed Miss Dorothy Long to the position of Cataloguer. Miss Long, a native of Tobaccoville, has been in library work at Camp Lejune, Veterans' Hospital in Virginia, and at the University of Kentucky, before coming to Chapel Hill.

Recent changes in the Duke University Library Staff include: Carlyle J. Fraeye, became assistant librarian on September 1, 1952. Mr. Fraeye compiled the index to the last volume of COLLEGE AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES... JAY LUEVAS was appointed in September to succeed E. Graham Roberts as director of the George Washington Flowers Memorial Collection. Dr. Roberts is now director of libraries at Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa... MISS MATTIE RUSSELL has been appointed curator of the manuscript collection. Since 1948 she had been Assistant-Curator... In January, Miss Miriam Jones (Emory 1952) assumed her duties in the reference department at Duke, replacing Miss Tattie Mae Williams, who had taken a position in the reference department at Georgia Tech, Atlanta.
PEN NOTES: BOOK REVIEWS

North Carolina Authors: A Selective Handbook

Seldom does a Who's Who type of reference book need to justify its existence to a librarian, and certainly this new book will be one of the most useful of its type. Prepared by a Joint Committee of the North Carolina English Teachers Association and the North Carolina Library Association, it is published as a University of North Carolina Library Extension Publication. (Price, paper $1.50, cloth $3.00).

The volume was planned to include "writers who have been most significant in the North Carolina literary scene, whether or not they were native born." To achieve this aim, the Committee first excluded two groups of writers: writers of articles, textbooks and works of a technical subject; and writers of ephemera. They included all well-known juvenile authors. Even after all the rules were made, many authors had to be considered on their individual merits. As a last point of judgment, the Committee included "those authors about whom it is likely information will be most often sought."

There is no assignment more difficult than attempting to define a local author or a "significant" writer. Therefore, it is purposeless to quibble about the selections, though some of them certainly should be "sharply questioned," as the Committee admits in its preface they will be.

Chronologically subjects range from John White of the Roanoke Colony to current authors, but contemporary writers are favored over writers of the past "no longer read," since the book is planned basically for teachers and librarians.

The entry for each author includes a sketch of his life, a list of his books or writings, and a few references. Autobiographical sketches are set in quotation marks; all others are signed.

It is probably the generous response from the living authors, who wrote their own sketches at the Committee's request, that makes the Handbook excel the usual volume of its type. Here successful professional writers are exercising their craft, changing the usual stylized catalog of bare biographical facts into brief essays of human interest. Customary statistics have been given a clarity and grace of expression, a sparkle and bit of humor which make this reference book one to be read for pleasure. Many of the authors have voiced their credo for writing, be it one of "simple honesty" or the belief that writing is something torn out of the writer's "moral passion and heart's roots." A few have been digressionary, contributing text of little reference use, but still delightful reading. In general, the Committee printed whatever the author sent in.

The mark of librarians-as-compilers is on the book, for it contains the bibliographical details a librarian looks for: a complete list of the series of which it is a part, the names of members of the Joint Committee, a table of abbreviations, a key to contributors' initials, and two valuable appendices: a very short bit about early printers of the state, and lists of the winners of the Patterson Memorial Cup and the Mayflower Society Cup.

The type page is well designed for ready reference. The format of the bound edition is satisfactory, but poor imposition, folding, and stapling instead of sewing give the paper bound edition such narrow and uneven gutters that it is very difficult to use. North Carolina libraries will find the bound edition indispensable and North Carolina librarians may be justly proud of their part in this project.

—GENEVIEVE Y. SCHEER
Serials Librarian
University of North Carolina Library
Chapel Hill

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Little Benders

"In the year 1789 . . . forty-seven determined Scots set out in a wagon train from the Carolina coast, intent upon finding highlands akin to their native Scotland. By some chance, when they were well into the southern Appalachians, they came across a deep gap, a high-walled narrow pass, and they went through to discover a tiny valley. There was no ready exit by wagon train and so they took this as a good omen. At least it was the only omen available; not one of these obstinate Scots would retrace his path. Without further ado or apparent thought to the matter, they broke soil, built cabins, erected a church and called their community Little Ben."

The Little Benders, in Joe Knox's collection of short stories of the same name (Lippincott, $3.00), are as hardy, self-sufficient and independent as their 18th century forebears. To Jonathan and his brother Pete, growing up in their North Carolina mountain village of a few scattered houses, a church, a school and a store, the world outside is a strange and improbable place, represented by such phenomena as the Sears, Roebuck catalog, a Wellesley graduate who comes to teach, and the occasional airplane that flies over the valley. But life in Little Ben is full of drama; of occasional tragedy and much lusty comedy; of poetic beauty and of sordid ugliness. The reader will long remember Miss Emma Grisby and her preoccupation with funerals, Mr. Sed Winters who attributes his great age to apple-cured tobacco; and the other men, women and children so lovingly portrayed here. This is not great writing, but the author knows his mountain people and his Scottish-Americans and he tells of them with humorous and affectionate understanding.

—MARY CUTLER HOPKINS
Public Affairs Librarian
University of North Carolina Library
Chapel Hill

HELP WITH CAMPAIGN AGAINST JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

The Children's Bureau of the U. S. Office of Education has asked the cooperation of North Carolina libraries in a national campaign against juvenile delinquency. By obtaining, displaying, and making available books, pamphlets, magazine articles, and films and by aid to discussion groups the librarian can stimulate interest, understanding and activity in the community served. ALA and the Federal Security Agency are working on a new, selective bibliography of such materials; and ALA is preparing a leaflet that will offer suggestions to the librarian on how to use the materials and otherwise to help in the campaign. Any librarian may receive a bulletin called NEWS NOTES ON JUVENILE DELINQUENCY and the other material as issued by asking to be put on the mailing list. Address Dr. Martha M. Elliot, Chief, Children's Bureau, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C.

AUDIO-VISUAL WORKSHOP TO BE HELD PRIOR TO ALA SUMMER CONFERENCE

Librarians will be able to study the major problems and newest developments in the audio-visual field at a special workshop to be held in Los Angeles, June 19-21, for the three days preceding the American Library Association's Summer Conference there.

The workshop is being sponsored jointly by the library schools on the Berkeley campus of the University of California and at the University of Southern California, and by the American Library Association’s Audio-Visual Board.

Persons interested in further details should write Irving Lieberman at the School of Librarianship, University of California, Berkeley 4, California.
DEAR FOLKS:

January and February appear to be traveling months for librarians. Dr. Benjamin Powell represented the Association at the Officers’ Conference held prior to Mid-Winters in Chicago, and, because of Miss Antoinette Earle’s illness, also represented us on the Council of the A. L. A. We are glad that Miss Earle is well again, and it is with pleasure that the Executive Board announces that Miss Earle, the official alternate for NCLA councilor, will represent the Association in California at the regular 1953 Conference.

Mr. O. V. Cook and Miss Gladys Johnson attended the important sessions of the reorganization of the Editors’ Round Table which met during Mid-Winters. Miss Charlesanna Fox, Miss Evelyn Mullen, and Miss Elaine von Oesen, acting for the president, attended the February meeting of the State Legislative Council in Raleigh.

January 16-18 were filled with many pleasant and profitable conferences and discussions with Miss Margaret Ligon in Asheville relative to the October state conference. Meal prices and functions, places for meetings, and a schedule were studied and planned. Since a tentative program has already been set up, it is most important that all Chairmen of Sections and Committees who have not filed their request blanks, send them to me at once. The arrangements committee will continue to try to meet all preferences mentioned, but, of course, those chairmen who have already made their wishes known are being given first choice.

The Association was presented by me at the inauguration of Dr. Joseph Clarke Robert at Coker College in Hartsville, South Carolina, on January 30th. I took greetings to your many friends who were in attendance.

February 11, Miss Nellie Roberson, Head of the Library Extension Division of the University of North Carolina Library, presented the joint committee of NORTH CAROLINA AUTHORS, recently published by the North Carolina English Teachers Association and the North Carolina Library Association, to the Bull’s Head audience. Brief summaries of the work and short explanations of its publication were given. Orders for NORTH CAROLINA AUTHORS are still being accepted, and it is the hope of the Executive Board that each member and each library represented in the Association own a copy of this interesting and helpful biographical aid.

It is not only a time for traveling, but a time for paying dues. Marianna Long is busy sending out notices, and she hopes that you will be busy sending in checks!

The next meeting of the Executive Board of the Association will be held in Durham, March 21st, at 10:00 a.m., and it is the wish that any section or member having a particular item of business to present would bring such a request to the president or the secretary.

The Study Committee of NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES and the editorial board of the official organ are still seeking suggestions and constructive criticism for and of the publication. At the end of the present biennium it is the plan of these committees to have evolved a satisfactory publication policy: one that will be readily acceptable to the membership.

May I wish you a pleasant spring?

Cordially,

—JANE B. WILSON, President

Plan now to attend the N.C.L.A State Convention in Asheville, October 22, 23, 24, 1953.
OFFICERS:
President: Miss Jane B. Wilson, 822 Third Street, Durham.
1st Vice-President: Miss Mildred Herring, Senior High School, Greensboro.
2nd Vice-President: Miss Margaret Johnston, Haywood County Public Library, Waynesville.
Secretary: Mr. George Bentley, Assistant to the Librarian, University of North Carolina Libraries, Chapel Hill.
Treasurer: Miss Marrianna Long, Iredell County Public Library, Statesville.
Director: Mr. Carlton West, Librarian, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest.
Director: Mr. Olen V. Cook, Assistant Librarian, University of North Carolina Libraries, Chapel Hill.
Past President: Mr. Harlan C. Brown, Librarian, Hill Library, State College, Raleigh.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION:
A.L.A. Council: The President; Alternate: Miss Antoinette Earle, Librarian, Davidson County, Lexington.
N. C. Legislative Council: The President; Miss Charlesanna Fox, Librarian, Randolph County Public Library, Asheboro; Miss Evelyn Mullen, North Carolina Library Commission, Raleigh; Miss Marrianna Long, Iredell County Public Library, Statesville.
Public Library Certification Board: The President; Mrs. Elmina Hearne Surratt, Rockwell.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:
Constitution: Mrs. Alice Hicks, Woman's College, Duke University, Durham; Chairman: Dr. Susan G. Akers, Chapel Hill; Mrs. Mary P. Douglas, Raleigh; Miss Margaret Ligon, Asheville.
Education for Librarianship: Mr. Wendell Smiley, Librarian, East Carolina College, Greenville; Chairman: Miss Emma H. Boone; Miss Margaret Kalb, Chapel Hill.
Federal Relations: Dr. Benjnim E. Powell, Librarian, Duke University, Durham; Chairman: Miss Evelyn J. Bishop, Smithfield; Mr. Neal Austin, High Point; Mr. Harlan C. Brown, Raleigh; Miss Margaret Johnston, Waynesville; Miss Elizabeth House, Raleigh.
Legislative: Miss Charlesanna Fox, Librarian, Randolph County Public Library, Asheboro; Chairman: Miss Antoinette Earle, Lexington; Miss Marrianna Long, Statesville; Miss Evelyn Mullen, Raleigh; Mrs. Hallie S. Baccelli, Greensboro.
Membership: Miss Annie Graham Caldwell, Supervisor of Libraries, Reynolds High School, Winston-Salem; Chairman: Mr. George Scheer, Chapel Hill; Miss Alice F. Bryan, Marion; Miss Marrianna Long, Statesville.
Nominating: Miss Evelyn Mullen, North Carolina Library Commission, Chairman; Miss Mary Roberts, Woman's College, Greensboro; Mr. Paul Ballance, Winston-Salem; Miss Emily Loftin, Durham; Miss Helen Rosner, Fort Bragg; Mrs. Dorothy Thomas, Celo.
Publicity: Mr. Neal Austin, Librarian, High Point Public Library, High Point, Chairman.
Recruitment: Mrs. Mary D. Grant, Director of Libraries, Greensboro City Schools, 501 Asheboro St., Greensboro; Chairman: Miss Elizabeth Walker, Greensboro; Miss Vernelle Gilliam, Salisbury; Miss Elizabeth Copeland, Washington, N. C.; Miss Martha Crowell, Concord.
Scholarship Loan Fund: Miss Margaret Ligon, Librarian, Pack Memorial Public Library, Asheville; Chairman; Miss Georgia Faison, Chapel Hill; Miss Esther Evans, Duke University, Durham.
Study Committee for North Carolina Libraries: Mr. Carlton West, Librarian, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest; Chairman: Mr. Thomas Simkins, Duke University; Dr. Louis R. Wilson, Chapel Hill; Mr. Spencer Murphy, Salisbury; Miss Elizabeth House, Raleigh; Miss Marrianna Long, Statesville; Mrs. O. V. Cook, Chapel Hill; Miss Ellice von Oesen, Raleigh; Mrs. Hallie Baccelli, Greensboro; Mr. Charles Rush, Chapel Hill; Mrs. Harlan Brown, Raleigh; Mr. Neal Austin, High Point.

SECTIONAL OFFICERS:
Trustees: Chairman: Mr. W. Clary Holt, Burlington.
Secretary: Mrs. George S. Sherrod, Greensboro.
College and Universities: Chairman: William L. Eury, Librarian, Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone.
Public Libraries: Chairman: Miss Charlesanna Fox, Librarian, Randolph County Library, Asheboro.
School and Children's: Chairman: Miss Margaret McIntyre, Librarian, Junior High School, High Point.
Secretary: Miss Beatrice Holbrook, Hugh Morson High School, Raleigh.
Children's Librarian: Chairman: Mr. T. H. Spence, Jr., Historical Foundation, Montreat.
Bookmobile: Chairman: Mrs. Dorothy B. Thomas, Librarian, Avery, Mitchell, and Yancey Counties, Celo.
Cataloger: Chairman: Mrs. Mary Duncan Ring, Supervisor, School Libraries, Mecklenburg County, Charlotte.
Secretary: Miss Phyllis Snyder, Librarian, Nantahala Regional Library, Murphy.
Cataloger: Chairman: Miss Florence Blakely, Reference Dept., Duke University, Durham.
Junior Members Round Table: Chairman: Miss Florence Blakely, Reference Dept., Duke University, Durham.
Secretary-Treasurer: Ms. Stella Townsend, Assistant Director, Greensboro Public School Libraries.