



THE NEW JOYNER LIBRARY AT EAST CAROLINA COLLEGE

By CHARLES T. LAUGHER*

With the greatly increased enrollment at the end of World War II, it was obvious that the library on the East Carolina College Campus would no longer be adequate. There was neither room for study nor space to house the collection and service it efficiently. It was decided to go ahead with the preliminary planning for a new library, to be built when building costs went down.

It was not until June 7, 1954 that the plans formulated in this period were realized. On that date, the new million dollar Joyner Library opened for service.

Plans for the building were drawn by Architect Eric G. Flanagan of Henderson, North Carolina, following the suggestions and incorporating the ideas of Librarian Wendell W. Smiley, who worked tirelessly to give the college a library of which it could be justifiably proud. That he did so is very evident today.

The physical plant itself, planned to house a collection of 120,000 volumes, is built of brick in dark and light shades with limestone trim, on a steel and concrete foundation. It was erected by R. K. Stewart and Company of High Point, North Carolina.

Of modern functional design, the library stands out on the campus with its simple, clean lines, yet manages to blend with the architectural style of the rest of the buildings.

Approaching the building from the north, one is struck by the wide expanses of glass; two-story-high windows run across the face of the building around the reading room on the west end. This extensive use of glass gives natural light for study throughout the building during most of the year.

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Entrance is from the north through large class doors set in aluminum frames. From an entry hall, the patron may either enter the lobby through another set of glass doors, or reach the second floor by a stairway to the right of the entrance. To the left of the entrance is a cloakroom, a pay telephone booth, and a drinking fountain.

The lobby is the focal point of the library, giving access to the combined reference and reading room, the periodical room, the offices and work areas, and the stacks.

The lobby floor is of terrazzo and the ceiling is of accoustical tile. Wainscoting is of natural maple, with plaster above. Lighting is indirect of the instant starter fluorescent type.

The custom built service desk opposite the entrance dominates the lobby, commanding a view of the main reading room and the periodical room through glass panel partitions. The service desk, paneling, furniture and built-in shelving throughout the building were built to the librarian's specifications by the Myrtle Desk Company of High Point.

The reserve book section is located behind the main desk on free standing shelving. There is a slot in the front of the desk for the return of books to a depressible book truck.

The cataloging and order departments open directly off the lobby, and the card catalog and tables for bibliographic tools to the left of the desk are strategically located for both librarians and patrons.

Flanking the entrance to the lobby are four specially designed tables holding the *Reader's Guide* and other periodical indexes, with space for a maximum of thirty-two users at one time.

The combined reference and main reading room, with a seating capacity of two hundred and fifty students, occupies the whole west end of the building, extending the full two stories high with a twenty-five foot ceiling.

Built-in shelving of maple for the reference collection, runs around the outside walls of the room. Above the shelving, the walls are white plaster. Study tables and chairs, atlas cases, and map cases are also of light maple. The floor is rubber tile and the ceiling accoustical tile.

Natural lighting is furnished during the day by windows starting above eye level and extending to the ceiling, and during the evening by suspended fluorescent fixtures. All windows are fitted with Venetian blinds, and the room is mechanically ventilated, though it is hoped one day the air conditioning, which at present extends only to the stacks and the radio-television studio on the second floor, will be expanded to include this area as well.

On the northeast side of the lobby is the periodical room with slanting shelves for the collection of over five hundred current periodicals, built-in shelves for bound general periodicals, and tables and chairs for seventy readers.

Opposite the periodical room, running along the south side of the building are the librarian's office, a staff room, a recreational reading room. At the east end of the building are the rest rooms, two seminar rooms and the periodicals office.

An automatic elevator and a book lift located behind the service desk give quick access to the four stack decks and to the study areas and carrells for graduate students and faculty located on the various decks.

Flooring and shelving are of steel throughout. Use was made of the stacks from the old library in combination with additional new shelving manufactured and erected by the Virginia Metal Products Company, Inc.

Special shelving areas for the collection of back issues of newspapers are located on the third and fourth decks.

All lighting in the stacks is of the fluorescent type. The basement floor contains the necessary library work rooms, a receiving and shipping room, and space for the ventilating and air-conditioning equipment. Another automatic booklift connects the receiving room with the order department on the main floor directly above.

The second floor is given over to the North Carolina Room, the Library Science Department and the Audio-Visual Department.

The North Carolina Room is at the head of the stairway on a balcony overlooking the main reading room.

On the north side of the long corridor running the length of the second floor east of the North Carolina Room are the juvenile room, the library science classroom, the curriculum laboratory and the audio-visual laboratory. On the east end of the building is the radio and television studio from which a weekly radio program originates on tape, and where rehearsals for the weekly television program, "Let's go to College," are held. At the end of the hall are rest rooms for men and women and a photographic darkroom.

The south side of the building is given over to an auditorium seating one hundred and fifty people.

As on the main floor, all rooms and corridors are finished in light colors, with floors of asphalt tile and ceilings of accoustical or fiber tile.

Students have access to the North Carolina Room and all the classrooms on this floor for study, giving a total area large enough at present to serve six hundred patrons.

Plans are now under way for the formal dedication of the library on March 8, 1955. An ambitious program is planned with L. Quincy Mumford, new Librarian of Congress, as guest speaker.

MRS. FORD S. WORTHY

By CARRIE BROUGHTON*

There are many ways a citizen may serve his state. Among the nonremunerative opportunities is that of serving on state boards and commissions. Mrs. Ford S. Worthy of Washington, North Carolina, has served on the North Carolina Library Commission from April 1942 through December 1954. She was appointed to four terms by the North Carolina Library Association. She has been a faithful and conscientious member of the Commission. Since her appointment there have been thirty-six meetings of the Commission and during this thirteen-year span Mrs. Worthy was present for every regular meeting except three. Illness, a wedding, and a trip abroad prevented her attendance on those dates.

The North Carolina Library Association was late in making a new appointment and Mrs. Worthy graciously continued six months beyond her last term. Having served on the library board for the town of Washington and the B H M Region, Mrs. Worthy understands public library needs from both the local and state level.

As a result of her work as a library trustee, Mrs. Worthy was inspired to know more of the professional side of library operations. She enrolled in the School of Library Science at the University of North Carolina and was awarded her degree in 1946. As a professional librarian she has been interim director of the B H M Region and currently is librarian of the Washington High School. All of this coupled with her contagious enthusiasm has enabled her to make an outstanding contribution on the Commission.

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INTERLIBRARY LOANS: MYTH OR FACT?

By DOROTHY BAKER THOMAS*

One of the axioms of library service is the virtue and necessity of interlibrary loans. In actual fact, however willing the spirit of librarians might be, the process itself has been so difficult that only a few hardy librarians have had the time, energy, and audacity to engage in much interlibrary borrowing or lending.

The small public library may or may not be able to boast of owning two books per capita, but it's an empty boast when it cannot supply the one book a patron particularly wants and needs. On the other hand, library stock gets a boost when the special need can be met through library service if not through the local book collection.

If the average reader actually existed, it would make library service much simpler for the small public library. Our libraries are more average than our borrowers. The "average reader" proves to be an unpredictable character. The man who regularly mulls over the shelf of western stories, in conversation turns out to be a cabinet maker who needs a book on contemporary Swedish design, Shaker clocks, or some other material equally unlikely to be found on the shelves of the small library. The housewife who faithfully borrows light romances for herself and picture books for her small children comes up with a request for the latest price book on early American glass. The local preacher ignores the current, popular volume of inspirational sermons and asks for help in obtaining early American imprints in connection with his master's thesis. The avid reader of mystery stories turns out to be also an author needing maps of 13th century Venice.

Prodded on by grimly determined borrowers, some of us in small libraries have braced ourselves to make requests of the larger public libraries and the college and university libraries. Frequently and generously the larger libraries have lent. Often, however, they have been obliged to refuse. The hesitation on the part of the small library to ask and some reluctance on the part of large libraries to lend are equally understandable. University libraries hold many books for reference use or reserved for required reading. The rare book may be more safely handled in the fire-proof vault of the large library or in its well-staffed reading room than in the usual small public library with its minimum staff, maximum overcrowding and confusion, and its frequently fire-trap construction. On the other hand, the large city library cannot always identify its borrowers personally as well as the small town library. The ordinary librarian faced with somewhat irresponsible borrowers blithely asking for expensive books sometimes thinks longingly of the possibility of requiring borrowers to be bonded instead of the library treasurer. Without any financial arrangement, the small library must ask a favor when it borrows from its larger and stronger city or university library.

For the most part, librarians have had to meet requests for special books in a haphazard way. The North Carolina Library Commission has served as an emergency reservoir of books and information but its general collection leaves many gaps in special subject areas that cover detailed or technical fields. Librarians coming from Ohio remember regretfully the Buckeye state's union catalog of the non-fiction holdings of its large public libraries.

Sparked by an idea developed by Miss Gladys Johnson of the staff of the Library Commission, a plan was worked out in September 1950 by a group of public librarians meeting in Greensboro whereby libraries might build up special subject collections of books that would be available on interlibrary loan to all libraries in North Carolina.

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NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

At first only libraries serving populations of over 75,000 were asked to build up such collections. In January 1951, the plan was set in motion when each of seven public libraries began to develop a book collection on a specific subject, a collection which should serve as a state-wide resource.

The North Carolina Library Commission Board gave a boost to the program by making \$750 available from State Aid to each library agreeing to participate. Each of these libraries contracted to purchase books in the special field of information, to make them available to other libraries, and to send a main entry catalog card of each title to the Library Commission. As time and staff permitted, each library agreed to send entries for older titles already held in the special field.

College, university, and special libraries helped greatly in the original planning of the project procedures. At the request of the University of North Carolina Library, catalog cards for the special collections are also sent to the North Carolina Depository Catalog in Chapel Hill. This catalog is microfilmed at intervals and is integrated into the National Bibliography being developed by the Library of Congress. Symbols of the National Bibliography have been assigned to the participating North Carolina Libraries.

As each collection has grown, the Library Commission has issued a basic bibliography and distributed copies of it to the county and regional libraries in the state. When the growth of a collection warranted it, a supplementary bibliography has been issued. The Library Commission has also provided printed post cards and report blanks to simplify the handling and reporting of requests.

The test of the value of the interlibrary loan collections has been the steady increase in the use of these collections and the amazed gratitude on the part of library borrowers when the local library has been able to meet special requests. If public libraries wish to outgrow their reputation as purveyors of light fiction for women and school children, the new resources available through the interlibrary loan program have given librarians a chance to prove that public libraries also stand for the organization and dissemination of knowledge.

The building up of special collections has had a double value to North Carolina libraries. It has not only relieved the pressure on the local library book budget to buy books in special fields, but it has also opened up to general knowledge and use the already existing specialized collections in some of the larger libraries.

It is safe to say that in four years the program has not organized "all knowledge," but some important areas of knowledge have been built up and made accessible in North Carolina. Over 4,000 titles are now listed in the Union Catalog at the Library Commission in Raleigh, and each week additions are being made. Requests are cleared through the Commission and relayed on to the appropriate library. The program is not a closed one. Eleven libraries are now developing collections, but any local library that has sufficient professionally trained staff, and space to house a growing collection, may contract to develop a special subject that is agreed to be of importance within its community and in demand throughout the state. Additional subjects are needed and several libraries are considering the possibility of joining in the program.

Subject fields and participating libraries at present are:

Architecture—Pack Memorial Library Asheville.

Art—Olivia Raney Library, Raleigh.

Business and Industry—Greensboro Public Library, Greensboro.

Family Life and the Home—Durham Public Library, Durham.

Gardening and Landscape Gardening—Rowan Public Library, Salisbury.

Human Relations (Including Politics and Government), Cumberland County Library, Fayetteville.

NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

Industrial and Vocational Manuals—Public Library of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County, Winston-Salem.

Minerals and Mineral Industries—Mitchell County Library, Bakersville

The Negro: Books by and about Negroes—Richard B. Harrison Library, Raleigh.

Textiles: Knitting, Yarn Manufacturing, and Machinery—Gaston County Library, Gastonia.

Textiles: Weaving and Design, Chemistry and Dyeing, and Synthetics—Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, Charlotte.

The Interlibrary Loan program in North Carolina doesn't succeed in filling all book requests received by willing but baffled librarians in local libraries. Nevertheless it goes a long step forward in meeting some of those requests. It begins where we are and meets some of our most urgent needs. It decentralizes library resources (not a bad technique in this atomic age) and coordinates them. The program can be expanded almost indefinitely. It is hoped that other libraries may join and that eventually it may be possible to include all unusual or especially valuable books or groups of books in the Union Catalog.

The greatest value of the program cannot be measured in any statistical record of books owned or books used, but it is a value that is felt through the whole process by borrower and local library and lending library alike. That value is a sense of understanding and pride in the library resources of a whole state and in the cooperative spirit that makes them available to every responsible citizen.

The above article describing the special interlibrary loan collections of North Carolina's public libraries is the first of a series on library resources in this state. The next issue will carry a description of the microfilmed document collection at the University of North Carolina by Associate Editor William Pullen. The purpose of the series is to acquaint all librarians in the state with resources they may not know about. Suggestions from members of the Association for future articles will be most welcome. EDITOR.

TAR HEEL LIBRARIANS

Mrs. Bettye E. BREEDLOVE has been a member of the staff of the Cumberland County Public Library since June 15th. She was formerly library assistant in Central High School, Charlotte.

MYRA FRIZZEL is a new member of the staff of the Rockingham County Library, Leaksville.

Katherine HOWELL of Rome, Georgia, became Assistant Librarian of the Wilmington Public Library on November 1.

Dr. Charles E. JORDAN, Vice President of Duke University, has been appointed to the North Carolina Library Commission by the Executive Board of NCLA. Dr. Jordan succeeds Mrs. Ford S. Worthy of Washington, N. C.

Robert E. THOMASON recently joined the staff of the University of North Carolina Library as Supervising Bibliographer. He was formerly librarian of the Institute of Industrial Relations at the University of California at Los Angeles.

J. P. WAGGONER, JR., has been named Assistant Librarian of Duke University. He was formerly head of the Circulation Department.

BOOKS AND LIBRARIES IN THE USA*

By ROBERT BINGHAM DOWNS



ROBERT BINGHAM DOWNS

My assignment is to give some impressions of books and libraries around the country, as I have had a chance to observe them during the past year. Such a summary is rather difficult, for libraries, of course, carry on a variety of activities, and any selection I may make will omit significant and interesting items. For better or worse, however, I will mention certain matters which seem to me important.

Since it is fundamental to the future of our profession, I would like first to make a few remarks on education for librarianship. Within the past few months, I have been a member of three visiting teams to accredit new library schools, have visited a number of other schools, and for the last ten years have directed a library school. On the basis of this experience, I have come to some definite, though perhaps not very startling conclusions. The first is that an extremely poor job of re-

cruiting is being done in the library field. I know of no library school in the country which is filled to capacity or near capacity, even while staff shortages in college, university, public, and school libraries become increasingly acute. Everywhere I go, head librarians, college presidents, and school superintendents are asking why library schools are failing to provide needed staff members, and I have no satisfactory answers. Of course, I know some of the reasons: competition with other professions, the extra year of graduate study required to become a librarian, the fear among the girls that becoming a librarian would doom them to spinsterhood, the lack of knowledge of the advantages of librarianship as a profession, our recruiting literature is ineffective, and so on. These handicaps can be overcome by education, and probably that would help the recruiting situation.

A pertinent question to ask, I think, is this: whose job is it to recruit prospects for the profession? Most of us seem to assume that it is the responsibility of library schools. I am convinced, however, that it is a job for the whole profession, and most especially the working librarians in high schools and colleges, who are in positions to offer career guidance to some of the best students with whom they come into contact. Many leading librarians were led to enter library work in just that way. No doubt there are also other good solutions. The point I want to stress is that what we are doing now to bring high-quality new recruits into librarianship is proving thoroughly inadequate, and the problem demands the time, attention, and best thought of the whole profession.

*Text of a speech delivered at the Second General Session of the Twenty-eighth Biennial Conference of the North Carolina Library Association, Asheville, N. C., October 23, 1953. Dr. Downs is Director of the University of Illinois Library and Library School, Urbana, Illinois.

Another conclusion, apparently contradictory, about library education is that we have too many library schools. This seeming contradiction would be removed, however, if an answer could be found to the primary matter of recruiting. What I am suggesting is that there are too many schools for the present number of students. Probably one-half the existing number of library schools could accommodate comfortably all the students now enrolled. There are a few schools with low standards, of course, whose closing would doubtless be of considerable benefit to the profession, but I am thinking more particularly of some excellent library schools with first-class standards, now enrolling 25 or 30 students, schools which could easily take care of classes of 50 or 75. It simply is a most uneconomical operation for these schools to continue to run so far below their capacity. Yet, that is substantially the situation which confronts us throughout the country: Too few students for too many schools.

Since none of the schools is likely to go out of business, and since the serious shortage of librarians is certain to continue, we return again to the problem of how to expand our ranks, and there is the dilemma to which we need to find a solution.

Another matter which I have found is of considerable concern to librarians everywhere, but particularly in the metropolitan areas, is the effect of what are sometimes referred to as the newer media of communications on books and reading. Television is perhaps the most alarming of these media, and now that the Federal Communications Commission has unfrozen a number of additional channels, numerous communities that have not previously enjoyed the dubious blessings of TV are in process of receiving it. Consequently, it will soon be a nearly universal benefit or plague, depending upon the point of view. The testimony of librarians, teachers, and parents is fairly unanimous regarding the effects. It appears that for the first few months after TV is installed, it is thoroughly demoralizing on practically all other activities, including reading. Every available hour, far into the night, is filled with TV viewing, at the expense of school work, regular meals, social life, eyesight, and all normal living. Then a reaction begins, and the TV set may not be turned on for days at a time, or perhaps only for certain favorite programs, and the household starts to pick up other activities again, such as reading.

From the evidence thus far, I am not inclined to think that TV will do any permanent injury to the habit of reading. Some of my friends among public libraries even argue that in the long run it may result in more rather than less reading. For example, librarians are finding that television is bringing people into libraries to look up books on subjects they have seen on their TV screens. This is particularly true in biography, history, politics, and current events.

We know as librarians, and have known for years, that books are in competition with radio, television, motion pictures, and other forms of amusement and recreation. Nevertheless, the American people are continuing to read more books, magazines, and newspapers than ever before.

In this connection, I was much struck several months ago by some comments by Gilbert Highet in *Harper's Magazine*. Mr. Highet wrote that: "It is strange to compare the world of books with the other realms of communication: the movies, the radio, and their child TV. If you go regularly to the movies, watch and listen to TV and radio, you keep feeling that they are brilliant in execution, but poor, desperately poor in ideas. When you look over a library or bookstore, you find the opposite. Thousands, millions of ideas confront you; almost too many to cope with; a wonderful plenty: something like the richness of life itself. Only, the execution is often faulty. Brilliant thoughts are unintelligibly presented. Complex arguments are buried beneath irrelevant facts. After a good

conception is clumsily worked out and couched in ugly jargon. Still, there is no dearth of ideas in our world. They come up so plentifully that we can only select, and admire, and enjoy.”*

There you have an excellent summation of the strong and weak points—both of books and of the other media of communication.

In an increasing number of cases around the country, librarians have decided that if they cannot lick the new media, they will join them. That is why we find that the stock in trade of librarians today is by no means limited to books. Books continue to be our basic tools, but we are using a wide range of auxiliary devices: documentary films, film strips, sound recordings, slides, microcards, microfilm, FM radios, TV installations, etc. Instead of letting the so-called audio-visual materials and paraphernalia steal the show from them, progressive librarians everywhere are simply incorporating these devices into their varied arsenal for the dissemination of ideas. It is a case of conquering rather than being conquered.

There are those who think the public library is losing ground, or at least is in danger of losing ground, under the pressure of the new media. Bearing upon this point, I would like to read a quotation from a letter written by one of the outstanding leaders in the library profession, a man eminently qualified for the title “library statesman.” In the letter, he writes, “Today the public library will either have to become more soundly educational or it will go out of business. The radio, television, and movies give information and entertainment. The rental library and the news-stand furnish light reading. The public schools give a lot of training that young men like Benjamin Franklin got from subscription libraries. Consequently, the demand for the library is not what it once was. I should add also that the elimination of immigration has likewise lessened the need of the public library as an institution especially useful in Americanization. In view of these changed conditions, the public library is going to have to appeal to people at a different level. It will have to be more understanding, and it will have to know more about teaching with books and other library materials. That means staffs will have to be employed that have better educational backgrounds than staffs have previously had. And the same is true of other types of libraries.”

In case you don't recognize the language and style, the writer of the letter was Dr. Louis Round Wilson.

Proceeding now to another topic, one of the striking features of the library landscape in this country since the end of World War II has been the many new buildings. New ideas of library planning, architecture, and decoration have brought about a revolution. Among the interesting developments are modular construction to provide for greater flexibility, scientific lighting, air conditioning, and extensive use of color. The emphasis is on function, but at the same time the buildings have frequently achieved much beauty and attractiveness. We do not need to go far to find excellent examples, such as Chapel Hill, Cullowhee, and Greensboro. Next month, in Georgia, two more outstanding examples are to be dedicated, at Georgia Institute of Technology and at the University of Georgia. I was also much impressed with the new buildings at Oklahoma A. & M. College, Ohio State University, and the University of Toledo. There are numerous others I haven't had an opportunity to visit. One point is clear: the users of libraries in the future will have pleasanter, more comfortable, and more convenient buildings in which to work than they have ever had in the past.

*Highest, Gilbert, “Fiction, History, Fun.” *Harper's Magazine*: v.205, p.102, Nov. 1952.

In this cursory review, I have mentioned library education, the effect of TV and other media of communications on libraries, and recent developments in library architecture. All these are of live concern to the librarians of the country at present. Another topic that has been much on the minds of librarians in recent months is intellectual freedom, censorship, and the problem, in general, of attacks on books. Nearly everywhere I go, this is an issue that is exciting debate and controversy. Last month, I did a guest column for Robert S. Allen on this subject. The column was syndicated to a number of newspapers around the country. Because it expresses my own ideas and also describes what is happening these days, I would like to give you the substance of this article, which was entitled "Books Under Fire."

At home and abroad, books are under attack. Book burning, real and symbolic, has become a common spectacle. A phenomenon commonly associated with medievalism, the Inquisition, Nazi Germany, Communist Russia, and other authoritarian regimes has suddenly appeared to menace certain basic freedoms in the United States.

Repressive action takes various forms: inquiries by Congressional Committees, state legislation, local ordinances, extra-legal steps by police officials, movements by sectarian interests, veterans' organizations, and other private pressure groups to ban books of which they disapprove, the withdrawal by school boards of liberal textbooks (mainly in the social sciences), attempts to force libraries to remove from their shelves or to label controversial books and magazines, boycotts and legal measures against booksellers and publishers. Incited by these activities, our lunatic fringe has proposed such absurdities as the formation of a vigilante committee to purge a great Midwestern university library of Communist literature, the labeling of "all subversive material" in the Library of Congress, the removal of publications of the United Nations and UNESCO from school libraries, and the branding *in red ink* in letters an inch high all Communist or "subversive" material kept in libraries for research purposes. According to a recent estimate, over one hundred communities in the country are feeling the impact of censorship, and there are signs in every direction that the drive is gaining momentum.

This wave of obscurantism is easily explicable psychologically in terms of the period in which we live. The people are reacting in a perfectly normal fashion to fear and hatred of an enemy. They are responding to demagogic statements by headline-seeking politicians, to the inflammatory and violently-prejudiced writings of a few sensational columnists, to growing antagonism to the United Nations and internationalism in general, and to other emotional appeals. In every critical era of our history there have been similar attempts to suppress unpopular points of view, but probably none comparable to the present in virulence and intensity, because our very survival as a nation appears to many to be at stake. Another factor is that more books, magazines, and newspapers are being read than ever before, and the rise of American literacy has made reading more suspect among the anti-intellectuals. Legitimate scholarship and creative literature in the United States are therefore being threatened in ways unmatched in our time, except during the Hitler reign in Germany and in Communist Russia.

An object lesson in the rapidity with which an important operation can be undermined, sabotaged, and partially destroyed may be observed in what has happened to the United States information libraries abroad in the past six months. Here was an excellent system of 194 centers in 61 countries, standing high in prestige and influence, among the most effective ambassadors any country could have, with 30,000,000 visitors passing through their doors last year. The information libraries were engaged in presenting a broad, fair picture of life in the United States, helping to correct the too-prevalent conviction that Americans are barbarians, with no genuine culture or civilization of their own. The book collections were representative of our best writings in science, technology, fine arts, literature, history, philosophy, religion, and the social sciences. Within a few

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A DREAM COME TRUE (or was it a nightmare?)

By EVELYN J. BISHOP*

Dreams do come true; and to prove it, Louise Brown, Elizabeth Sanders and I had travelled from Johnston County Library to Wooster, Ohio. After months and months of planning and anticipation, we had just taken delivery of a shiny new Trailblazer Bookmobile. Hearts aglow with pride and happiness, we maneuvered our Dreamboat out of the grounds of the Gerstenslager Company into the afternoon traffic of Wooster, and pointed its gleaming beauty toward North Carolina and home. Thursday, January 6, 1954, would ever be a red-letter day in the history of our library, marking the perfect fruition of a seed planted more than two years before. The next few days would be un-



eventful, we anticipated, except for our enjoyment of the snowy beauty of Ohio and Pennsylvania as we drove leisurely through them at 35 miles per hour "breaking in" our new motor and watching for the disappearance of snow and ice as we drove steadily southward. The veil over the future had not been lifted to give us any warning of what was to come.

The speedometer registered a total of 50 miles traveled from Wooster, and dusk was falling as we approached the town of Salem, Ohio. Since life was so sweet and fatigue unknown, we made plans to drive as far as feasible on the Pennsylvania Turnpike before seeking a motel for the night. Alas,

for the best-laid plans! Wishing to get a sweater from my suitcase, I rose from the seat beside the driver just as a changing traffic light necessitated a quick stop. Our new, tight brakes were overly efficient. Their instantaneous grab sent me sprawling backwards, only to strike my head severely on the metal of the front seat.

While my life's blood gushed forth from a gash in my cranium and poured in a steady stream down my neck and shoulders, and my one coherent thought was to keep it off the new Bookmobile, my two thoroughly-frightened companions valiantly applied first aid to pressure points and literally became my "staff" as they supported me between them into the emergency room of the Salem Hospital. A bewildered doctor and nurse ministered very gently to me while trying to ascertain, at the same time, how one could get so battered without actually being in an automobile accident. Two hours later we emerged from the hospital with reservations at a motel, made by the kindly doctor, who explained our predicament over the telephone to his friend, the motel manager. Explanations were definitely in order. There I was in clothes so stiff with blood they would stand alone, with my partially-shaved pate and its six neat stitches all bound round and round with gauze in a design like a Hindu turban. A county librarian, indeed!

*Librarian, Johnston County Library, Smithfield.

After a night spent just as the doctor had cheerfully predicted—"with a head like a terrific hang-over"—I reported back to him in the morning for a check-up, accompanied by my two faithful retainers. He opined that in spite of being bruised and battered I would live to reap my just desserts. Over yards of a fresh Hindu turban he pulled a white skull cap to keep it firmly in place, and anchored the material to my forehead with strips of adhesive tape. Rather gingerly, it must be confessed, we three musketeers clambored aboard the Lethal Machine (formerly known as the Dreamboat) and, in due time, entered the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

The sun shone brightly on the crisp snow. The scenery was lovely, the air like wine, and our spirits lifted as we rolled smoothly over the super-highway. It was going to be a good trip after all! The fuel gauge registered one-fourth full and the speedometer had just turned over the 100-mile mark when the smooth purr of the engine changed to sputters and finally hissed into silence. With horrified faces we looked at each other—out of gas on the Turnpike! Though badly bent, I was still the main support of the library, and my girls looked to me for help. "What do we do now?" they quavered.

"Just wait here until the road patrol comes along," I comforted them.

In about ten minutes a brisk young officer pulled up beside us on his motorcycle. Seeing the storm-clouds gathering on his authoritative brow when he learned of our gas shortage, I hastily interposed, "Officer, this is a brand new bookmobile which we have driven only 100 miles. It has many idiosyncrasies, like the fuel gauge not being accurate, and we'll have to learn about them."

Batting his eyes slightly, he said, "A bookmobile, eh? I've heard about them, but we don't have any around this part of Pennsylvania."

"Do come around to the other side and come in and see it," we chorused. "It's a beautiful piece of craftsmanship."

"I'll tell you one idiosyncrasy you might as well learn right away. It is that your Dodge has a quarter tank of gas all right, but it just won't pull this heavy truck up a grade. Always keep your tank at least half full and you will be safe."

While the officer was admiring the beautiful interior of the bookmobile and learning about Johnston County Library, I noticed that he kept looking rather askance at me, but I thought it was perhaps my odd head gear which was impressing him. Suddenly my eyes fell upon some blood spatters we had overlooked in our morning clean-up job. Yes, that was the subject of his inquiring look, for suddenly he demanded, "What's happened here?"

Shamefacedly, I confessed.

"Aha," he gloated, "now you can understand why we have a state law forbidding passengers to ride standing up in a bus or truck!"

While we waited for the gas he promised to send, I complained, "Why did he persist in calling this a Truck? We explained plainly that it is a Bookmobile."

Louise, whose turns at the wheel had happened to coincide with my fall, and again with the gas incident, muttered that she agreed with the officer—it was a truck, and a big one, too—and, personally, she longed for our little old familiar one-half-ton pick-up bookmobile.

A day with no further incident, but spiced with admiring visitors at gas stations and eating places all along our route, lulled us into contentment again, and evening found us comfortably bedded down in Maryland, planning several hours' sightseeing in Washington, D. C., on the morrow.

Lumbering along in the Saturday morning traffic, we spied the white finger of the Washington monument pointing skyward just ahead. Once more we all looked out upon

a world grown rosy again. Just then Louise spoke up, "If we don't do anything else this morning, I would like to climb to the top of the monument."

"Let's do it the first thing," was my suggestion. "Turn up this road to the right. It leads directly to the monument."

"But," objected Elizabeth, who was driving at this time. "Look at that sign. It says 'NO TRUCKS ALLOWED'."

"Ho! Ho!" I scoffed. "That means big freight carriers. We are not a TRUCK. We are a BOOKMOBILE."

"You're the boss," shrugged Elizabeth, and drove down the parkway to nuzzle our big "Blunderbus" in among the low-slung passenger cars in the parking area.

What a thrilling half-hour we spent: riding the elevator to the very top of this tallest all-stone structure in the world, looking out over the whole city of Washington from a height of 550 feet, identifying nationally-recognized buildings! Enthusiastically planning which shrines to visit next, we pulled out into the main road once again.

But suddenly our joy was interrupted by the sound of a police siren, ever so close upon us; and with a side-glance in my direction, which could have been interpreted as an I-told-you-so, Elizabeth pulled to the curb and looked down upon a small policeman bristling with importance.

"What are you doing with a truck on the Parkway? I'm sorry, ladies, but there is a \$25 fine for driving a truck on the Parkway in Washington."

Silence from the Bookmobile!

"And," in a tone fraught with menace, "I seen you parked up by the monument a little while ago!"

Heavy silence!

"What are you doing with this truck, touring the country?"

I drew in my breath to expostulate, "But, Officer, this isn't a Truck. This is a Bookmobile!" A flash of genius was granted me, however, as I remembered my turbaned head, "Let young southern charm handle this," advised Wisdom. "You keep out of it."

A humble account of our journey from Wooster to Smithfield, a heart-stirring picture of our longing to visit the President's memorial since we were driving so close to it; warmed by the lovely smiles and soft drawls of my North Carolina belles melted the stony heart of the Law.

"Well, under those circumstances, I'll let you off. But, (with a returning growl) Get this thing outa here!"

"Here's to the Old North State," we carolled, as the Bookmobile nosed safely in to the stream of traffic on U. S. 1, and we regretfully left our nation's shrines behind us.

If space permitted, we could wring your hearts with the account of our heroic attempts to "get that thing outa here"! Having been warned about the deadly traffic clover-leaves around Washington, we stopped to get directions for reaching the Shirley Highway into Richmond. For the next thirty minutes, following three sets of instructions, we turned right, we turned left, we turned under (every way but up) and at the end of each road so followed we came up short at a different facet of the Pentagon (a shrine not on our itinerary at this time).

Where were all the cops? The question "What are you doing here?" would have been most welcome, since what we wanted desperately was to get out. Nothing human stirred in the vast spaces. Spying a moving bus across a parking lot, Elizabeth took after it like a homing pigeon, and it led us at last into Alexandria. The evening shadows found us in Petersburg, Virginia, with welcome visions of home next day.

(Continued on page 67.)

RECRUITMENT DAY AS HELD IN THE CATAWBA COUNTY SCHOOLS

By LOTTIE HOOD*

Catawba County is no exception to other sections—we, too, have experienced a critical shortage of trained library personnel. In our High Schools we have only one librarian with a degree, although she does not serve full time. In our elementary schools, prior to this year, we had only one teacher with six semester hours in Library Science. This situation to us was a real challenge and we decided to devote our Spring Student meeting to one on "RECRUITMENT" for students as well as Teacher-Librarians.

Preplanning:

1. It was necessary to hold several meetings with teacher-librarians to discuss plans for the meeting.
2. Consultants, who were specialists in their fields, were selected to serve at the meeting. They were contacted and were willing to work with us on the project.
3. Students were then selected to serve as leaders and secretaries of each group.
4. Questionnaires in the form of "STUDENT INFORMATION" were sent to all Library Club members and each was asked to select fields of his interest according to first, second and third place.
5. Students were assigned to groups they had selected.

Objectives:

1. To help teachers and students realize that library service is an expanding profession.
2. To reveal the shortage of librarians and to point out the opportunities for advancement.
3. To attract students to library work while they are making plans for a career.
4. To assure students that they will render a service from library work and in return receive a value and personal satisfaction for this service.
5. To show students and teachers that salaries are comparable with those in other fields that are similar in purpose and preparation.
6. To give them first-hand information on the requirements for a library career.
7. To give them information from our State Schools about requirements in Library Science. (Faculty members present to give this information.)
8. To point out to our teachers that school librarians are also teachers.
9. The over-all objective was to inspire teachers and students to study library science and become librarians in our schools.

The Meeting:

1. The students of Fred T. Foard School served as guides to visiting students.
2. Rooms were assigned, numbered and the consultant's name placed on the door.
3. A student served as leader and introduced the consultant in each group. One additional student served as secretary and summarized the meeting.
4. The meeting was held especially for our high school library club members. One hundred and thirty-two students attended and all elementary and high school teacher-librarians attended.
5. Library Supervisor from Hickory, Instructor Supervisors from Catawba County and Newton City Schools also attended.
6. County Superintendent, Mr. Harry M. Arndt, took a very active part.

*Library Supervisor, Catawba County Schools, Newton.

7. The Meeting time was divided as follows:

Registration.

Conference periods: Each student attended three, twenty-minute periods with the consultant they had selected.

Free period: This period was used for discussing Library Science with colleges' representatives.

Assembled in Cafeteria for a program. Mr. Arndt, Superintendent of Schools, traced the development of the libraries of the Catawba County Schools.

Miss Bomar brought inspiring remarks and then introduced our brilliant speaker, Miss Vernelle Gilliam, Boyden High School, Salisbury, N. C. She spoke on "*Librarianship as a Career.*" With her dynamic and pleasing personality, she completely captured the interest of the students and each of them wanted to be her type of librarian.

Evaluation:

1. Consultants were asked to evaluate the meeting. Some evaluations follow:
 1. Good for stimulation of students and teachers.
 2. Information valuable for students making a choice of a career.
 3. Well planned except periods were too short.
 4. Especially good for 11th and 12th grade students but a little above the 9th and 10th grade students.
 5. In general, the meeting was an inspiration to all in attendance.
2. Teacher-Librarians then evaluated the meeting, as follows:
 1. Students reported to teacher-librarians that the meeting was wonderful, and they would like to have another meeting of this type.
 - a. They felt they could ask more questions since they have a better understanding of the various phases of library work.
 2. The 9th and 10th grade students did not feel that the meeting was too advanced. (Consultants felt they did.) This age student responds to meetings in a different way from more advanced students.
 3. The students, in most cases, felt that the consultants had presented their subject matter in a most inspiring manner.
 4. The teacher-librarians were most fascinated with the meeting and as result, several attended summer school during the summer months and studied library science.
 5. The Teacher-Librarians felt the meeting was a great success.
3. Student evaluation of meeting:
 1. Students realized how many fields were open in library work from which to choose a career: School, college, medical, legal, etc.
 2. Students were happy to learn the scholastic requirements as well as personality necessary to be a good librarian.
 3. Periods were too short; want another meeting next year with longer periods and two sessions instead of three.
 4. Students were willing to eliminate program in order to have longer periods with consultants.
 5. Students felt it was the most inspirational and most beneficial meeting they had ever attended.

Results:

1. Six teacher-librarians attended summer school and completed 12 semester hours in library science. They plan to again attend next summer in order to be certified librarians.

(Continued on page 60.)

DO LIBRARIANS TALK TO THEMSELVES?

By CHASE DANE*

In folklore psychology talking on oneself is a sign of approaching insanity. It is evidence of something seriously wrong with the integration of one's personality. It is often a mark of frustration and of spiritual or mental maladjustment. To accuse librarians therefore of talking to themselves is to make a very grave charge. It is an accusation which must not be made thoughtlessly or humorously, although again in popular psychology it does have humorous implications, for it usually denotes only a mild and amusing form of insanity.

Do, then, now that we are aware of the gravity of such an accusation, librarians talk to themselves? In all honesty we must admit that much of the time they do. But with equal honesty we must hasten to explain that they talk to themselves only in their professional literature—never, we hope, *via voce*. By this we mean that librarians all too often write articles for other librarians about problems which really be taken to a much larger audience.

One or two examples may serve to explain more clearly how they do this. When the book collection or the book selection policy of a library is attacked on the grounds of censorship librarians immediately begin to protest, as indeed they should—but only to each other. They publish articles in professional journals in which they set forth clearly and forcefully the evils of censorship. Unfortunately however the people who should read these articles, the people who would benefit most by reading them, are not librarians and consequently never see them. Instead these articles are read by other librarians who are already well aware of these evils, who have also been shocked by the attack and who have been fighting the good fight.

The narrow minded and censorious citizens who initiated the attack, however, do not read library journals and so they fail to receive the message which might do them some good. The sound arguments against censorship presented by librarians leave them untouched because they are unseen. Consequently whenever a library is attacked on grounds of censorship a furor breaks out among librarians but not among the people on whom it would have the most effect and who are responsible for the attack in the first place. The little furor among librarians goes unnoticed by the general public and the advocates of censorship chalk up another victory.

This is not to claim that librarians would, *ipso facto*, be more effective if they wrote articles on the evils of censorship for the general public instead of for themselves. Rather it is to point out that in that direction at least lies their greatest opportunity. It is somewhat futile to persuade people that something is bad when they are already convinced that it *is* bad. It seems much more sensible to try to persuade those who are not already convinced. In this way librarians would add to the number of their supporters rather than simply render more fanatical those who already agree with them.

As a second example we might cite those articles in which librarians lament the fact that a great many people in rural areas still do not have access to books and libraries. Librarians are well aware of this fact and require no further persuasion of its truth. Librarians however can do little about this situation alone. To correct it they need the help of laymen. Yet by and large librarians describe this situation for other librarians and not for laymen who could do something about it. Once again we see that librarians do talk to themselves.

*Assistant to the Chief, Publishing Department, American Library Association.

Essentially the problem of librarians is the same as that of an unhappy employee who talks to himself because he is reluctant to talk to his employer about his grievance. Librarians are not afraid to talk to their employers, to the people who use their libraries, they have simply never got into the habit of talking to them. They have found that it is easier and sometimes more profitable professionally if not socially to talk to themselves than it is to talk to their patrons. This habit has become so deeply ingrained that they are often not aware that they are unheard by others.

The fact remains however that often the people who most need to read an article on library service are not the people who read the periodical in which the article appears. It is a problem of not reaching the audience for whom the material is really intended or whom it would do the most good.

In another area librarians have recently become aware of the importance of this mistake. For years librarians tacked up posters and set up displays within the library and could not understand why they had so little effect in bringing new patrons into the library. Instead, they discovered that old patrons simply came back more often. This was good but it was not the result they sought. Then someone awoke to the fact that posters and displays are seen only by those people who already use the library. It was then obvious that what was needed was posters and displays outside the library which would attract new customers.

This lesson so obvious in the case of posters and displays has not yet been fully learned in relation to articles and books and news items. That is why librarians still continue to talk mostly to themselves.

What solutions are there to this problem? There are a number of things which librarians could and should do if they hope to reach the audience which justifies their existence. Most of these activities are not new, it is simply that librarians have not engaged in them sufficiently to put across their message successfully.

We need to write more articles for general and national magazines. Only seldom do we see an article on library service in a weekly magazine or in a magazine with nationwide circulation. Occasionally such an article does appear but we need more of them. We need an over-all plan which will insure that such articles appear regularly. Here we must borrow a lesson from the advertisers who have learned the value and effectiveness of repetition. We need to explain over and over again the importance of libraries in a democratic society. That we have failed to do this is proven by the fact that so many people are still unaware of the existence of the library in their community.

We need to secure the publication of more news items about library services. Too often librarians describe their activities and their new services only for other librarians. Thus a librarian in Chicago may know more about some service recently initiated by the Detroit Public Library than does the average citizen of Detroit. We make sure that other librarians know all about our latest experiments but we forget to make equally sure that our patrons know about these experiments also. And in the long run it is much more important for us to tell them what we are doing than it is for us to tell each other.

Books as well as articles need to be written for the citizen, telling him of the services and resources of the library. Often we are so concerned with professional literature that we forget that the layman also needs to be informed of what we are doing. Professional literature is important and without it we cannot hope to develop a sound philosophy of library science or outline a program for future research which will result in the growth of the profession. At the same time, however, we need to keep our patrons informed of the over-all development of library service. Too few books like Ernestine

Rose's recent *The Public Library in American Life*, which interprets the public library for the citizen, have been written. Such books do for library science what Paul de Kruif's *Microbe Hunters* did for microbiology and we need more of them.

Going outside the field of literature for a moment, we should not forget that librarians often talk to themselves literally. Librarians talk to other librarians at conferences and workshops and conventions. Such devices are excellent but they should not blind us to the fact that we need to talk to the citizens of the community also. We can do this by taking active part in community affairs and by relating the story of the library in terms of its public whenever an appropriate occasion arises.

Part of this work can be done by means of radio and television. Many librarians indeed already use radio and television to tell the public about their work and it is to be hoped that more will do so in the future. The greatest value of these two media, from the point of view of the library, may be the opportunity which they present for the library to tell its story to the public. We may eventually discover that the book is after all the best means by which to transmit knowledge but that radio and television are the best means by which to advertise that knowledge.

Finally, we can spread our message through cooperation with other institutions. By working with schools and clubs and professional associations we can do a great deal to describe and introduce the services of the library to a public which might otherwise never hear of them. In this way we can do more to attract new patrons than we can with a hundred posters or displays inside the library.

None of these suggestions is new: many libraries have adopted all of them. The trouble is that we usually think of them as ways to extend our service rather than as means by which to increase our effectiveness. If we approach them with this added awareness we will not need to lament the indifference with which too often the library is regarded by the public.

The future does look brighter, however. We are becoming increasingly aware of the danger of talking to ourselves. Through extension work and community service librarians are doing much to correct this fault. But that it is still a problem we know well. One of the most important revelations of the Public Library Inquiry was that most people are only vaguely aware of the library and its services. Hence we constantly need to guard against talking to ourselves. We need to make certain that the people we hope to serve hear us, too.

RECRUITMENT DAY

(Continued from page 57)

2. Three teacher-librarians completed six semester hours in library science.
3. Several students have made plans to study library science.
4. Principals, teachers and students have become more library conscious. Our Superintendent, Mr. Harry M. Arndt, has always backed this program 100 per cent.

Our Goal in Catawba County is:

We believe that by encouraging our student library workers and our teacher-librarians to study library science, that at some time in the distant future we will be able to have a professionally trained librarian in each elementary and high school library in our county.

Last year we used over 300 students in the elementary libraries to assist in carrying on the program. In the high schools we used approximately 135 students in the library work.

NCLA SECTION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

At the half-way point between Conferences of the North Carolina Library Association the chairmen of sections and committees have been asked by the President to report to the membership. Some sections do not have activities outside of Conference programs and so do not have anything at this time. Some committees have been working, but are not ready to report. The following communications have been received:

Catalog Section

The activities of the Catalog Section began very soon after the Asheville meeting. The newly elected secretary-treasurer was not present and it was necessary for her to be informed of her election and to secure her acceptance of same; also, an introduction to the chairman was desired. Miss Mary Huff, Cataloger, Appalachian State Teachers College, agreeably surprised at her nomination and election, accepted the office by mail.

In February before the N. C. L. A. Executive Board meeting on March 20th, Miss Huff and your chairman traveled a total number of about 600 miles to meet in Greensboro. We reviewed together the past activities and the bank account of the Catalog Section. Miss Huff received the books of the minutes and the treasurer's account consisting of \$37.98 which had accrued from dues.

We felt that three items required attention for the Catalog Section to function properly:

1. A complete and up-to-date mailing list of the membership.
2. A revision of the Section Rules into By-laws.
3. A permanent file that would adequately take care of the agenda of the section.

Early in May six copies of the Official Rules of the Catalog Section were sent to Miss Jeanette Trotter upon her request for six copies of the section By-laws.

We have secured the names and addresses of the Catalogers of the colleges and universities and the Catalogers of Public Libraries in North Carolina. The challenging activity now confronting us is to secure the interest and membership in the Catalog Section of a greater per cent of the catalogers in the state.

At the Planning Meeting on March 20th in Greensboro the program for the Catalog Section for the 1955 N. C. L. A. Conference in Winston-Salem was discussed and plans for the committees were given attention. Present for the committee meeting of catalogers were: Miss Arabella Gore, Elon College; Mrs. Anna J. Cooper, now of the Salem College Library; Miss Mary Huff, Secretary-Treasurer of the Catalog Section, and your Chairman.

SOPHRONIA COOPER, *Chairman.*

College and University Section

The officers of the College and University Section would be pleased to have any suggestions or recommendations for the program at our next meeting. Suggestions as to the topic to be discussed or speakers you would like to have would be most welcome.

CHARLES M. ADAMS, *Chairman*
The Library,
Woman's College of the
University of North Carolina,
Greensboro.

Education For Librarianship Committee

I. A directory of the various institutions in the state offering library science instruction (Appalachian, Bennett, East Carolina, Lenoir Rhyne, North Carolina College, the University of North Carolina, Woman's College). For each institution the following material will be included:

1. The Library Science Program.
 - A. Scope and objectives of the particular programs of each school.
 - B. General required areas of instruction embodied in programs of each school.
 - C. Electives. Special requirements such as thesis, comprehensive examinations, etc.
2. Library Science Instructors in the Various Institutions.
3. Approximate College Expenses at Each Institution.
4. Scholarships Available to Students of Library Science.

We hope to have this directory ready for distribution by the Christmas holidays. It will be distributed to the various colleges in the state and at least one copy to each high school in the state.

II. Newsletters or Newsbriefs:

Material is being compiled for two future issues of a NEWSLETTER.

1. The January-February issue will be a symposium of methods and devices that outstanding teachers have found helpful in the various areas of library science instruction.
2. Anonymous reporting of graduates of library science for each institution concerning areas in which they have felt that they needed additional training. Forms were mailed in October to each institution to be distributed among a percentage of graduates for the past five years. (A number have already been returned.)

Tentative plans are for a one-day conference of library science instructors in each of the institutions in the state. This will be for late spring or early fall, however, and I believe that you wanted the activities for this year only.

ILA M. TAYLOR, *Chairman.*

Federal Relations Committee

The Committee on Federal Relations has no formal report to make. I can, however, state briefly what has been done. At the initial meeting of the Committee plans were made which were directed principally toward two objectives: (1) to devise some means of getting information about Federal activities not only to librarians but to interested and influential laymen, (2) to evoke greater interest among librarians themselves. It was hoped that these objectives might better be approached if each librarian would make a point of presenting important phases of Federal activity to laymen within his reach. The Committee felt that this might be better than trying to reach a mass of laymen directly. It was further hoped that libraries would subscribe more generally to *The Washington News Letter*. An effort was made to send sample copies with information about *The News Letter* and its objectives. Unfortunately the response of North Carolina Libraries was not noticeably enthusiastic. To what extent laymen have been reached is not easy to determine.

The Committee is expecting to renew its efforts before the opening of the new Congress.

CARLTON P. WEST, *Chairman.*

Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee of the North Carolina Library Association has not had a committee meeting since March 1954, when all committees met in Greensboro.

The Legislative Committee has coordinated its efforts with those of the Development Committee of the Public Libraries Section of North Carolina Library Association.

The Committee, too, has been represented at the North Carolina State Legislative Council meetings, and the Chairman has attended meetings of the Study Committee from the Legislative Council.

The Committee anticipates close cooperation with the North Carolina Library Commission in its appeal to the General Assembly for increased State Aid to North Carolina Public Libraries.

ANTOINETTE EARLE, *Chairman*.

Public Libraries Section

The Public Libraries Section of the North Carolina Library Association is concentrating on plans for a workshop to be held in 1955. In March, they will assist the Trustee Section with a one-day workshop for library board members. Topics suggested by the trustees include: Library buildings and facilities; library laws and tax votes; library finance; and public relations from the trustee viewpoint. This workshop will be held at three or four locations across the state.

All the trained public librarians in the state will be invited to attend a three-day professional workshop in Winston-Salem, tentatively scheduled for April 20-22. Antoinette Earle is heading the workshop committee comprised of Evelyn Bishop, Elizabeth Plexico, Paul Ballance, and Vera Melton, chairmen, Adult Education, Audio-Visual, Personnel, and Public Relations Committees respectively. Each of these people is preparing approximately a two-hour program in the field of his interest. Registration fee for the workshop will be \$3.00 for first professional staff member attending from a library and \$1.00 for each additional professional librarian from the same library.

It is anticipated that these workshops will provide the springboard for another series of in-service training sessions for library staff members.

PHYLLIS SNYDER, *Secretary*.

Recruiting Committee

The Recruiting Committee has completed the writing of a recruiting bulletin and 20,000 copies should have been delivered by the printer by this time. To Miss Shirley Deal of Salisbury goes the sincere appreciation of the committee for the clever drawings in the bulletin. She did them at no cost to the Association. Miss Deal is now studying art at Pratt Institute. The plan is to mail a copy of the bulletin to each member of the Association, a copy to each college librarian, each public librarian and each high school librarian in the state. In addition, the committee plans to put copies in the hands of the counselors in high schools throughout North Carolina. It is the sincere hope of the committee that all N. C. L. A. members will like the bulletin and that it will prove helpful in the recruiting of young people into the profession.

In addition to the work on the bulletin, the committee has secured the services of

NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

one librarian in each of the six educational districts to serve as a coordinator to work with the Speakers' Bureau which is being set up by the Junior Members Roundtable. Each coordinator will have available pamphlets on librarianship which may be borrowed by anyone called on for a speech in the interest of recruiting. These materials are available from the following people on request:

WESTERN DISTRICT—Mrs. Elizabeth H. Fortner, Librarian, Hall Fletcher Junior High School, Asheville.

NORTHWESTERN—Miss Marjorie Hood, Circulation Department, Library, Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

NORTH CENTRAL—Miss Beatrice Holbrook, Librarian, Hugh Morson High School, Raleigh.

SOUTH PIEDMONT—Miss Aileen Aderholdt, Librarian, Lenoir Rhyne College, Hickory.

SOUTHEASTERN—Mrs. Dorothy E. Shue, Librarian, Cumberland County Public Library, Fayetteville.

NORTHEASTERN—Mrs. Louella S. Posey, Librarian, Kinston Public Library, Kinston.

Also, the Rerercruiting Committee would like to call special attention to an article by Miss Lottie Hood, Catawba County, about a successful project which she planned and carried out last spring. The article will appear in *North Carolina Libraries*, *North Carolina Education*, and *School Libraries*.

MAE TUCKER
EMILY LOFTIN
ELIZABETH WALKER
I. T. LITTLETON
EDITH CLARK
VERNELLE PALMER, *Chairman*
Recruiting Committee.

Scholarship Loan Fund Committee

Two recommendations of the Scholarship Loan Fund Committee have been approved by the Executive Board, with the result that the maximum single loan now available to prospective library school students is \$500 instead of \$300 as formerly, and an improved application form is to be issued soon.

The rules now in effect for loans from the fund are as follows:

1. Application for loan shall be made to the Chairman of the Scholarship Loan Fund Committee.
2. Applicant must have been a resident of the state of North Carolina for at least two consecutive years before making application.
3. Applicant must have been accepted by a library school before loan can be made.
4. Applicant must be recommended by a member of the North Carolina Library Association.
5. The loan to any applicant shall not exceed \$500.00.
6. The recipient shall execute a promissory note for the principal amount borrowed to bear interest at the rate of 3 per cent per year. Interest will be waived during the period recipient is in school.
7. Recipient shall begin repaying the loan as soon as employment is secured. A plan of repayment should be approved by the Treasurer of the North Carolina Library Association.

8. The loan shall become due immediately if the holder leaves the library profession.

There were no applications for scholarship loans in the fall of 1954. At present there is one outstanding loan, and the fund stands at \$2,282.44.

Copies of the new application form may be obtained on request from the Chairman of the Committee. Bulletin board notices and full information concerning N. C. L. A. scholarship loans are to be sent out soon to libraries in North Carolina.

THOMAS M. SIMKINS, JR., *Chairman.*

BOOKS AND LIBRARIES

(Continued from page 52)

short months, through violent attacks from various sources, largely *uninformed*, the State Department's confused and confusing directives, the bad judgment of several librarians in the field who, lacking proper guidance, actually burned some books, and the accompanying unfavorable publicity throughout the world, there was a quick reversal of sentiment toward the information libraries. Because of the presence of a few hundred controversial books among a total of more than two million volumes, the library staffs have been demoralized, the reputation for objectivity of the libraries has been seriously damaged among the people they are designed to reach, reduced congressional appropriations may force the closing of about one-half the centers, and the impression has spread around the world that freedom of speech and of the press no longer exists in the United States. This is a high price to pay for the removal of a handful of questionable books—books which, if they did not belong, should have been quietly taken off the shelves without fanfare. What can be salvaged from the wreckage by the now-independent International Information Agency remains to be seen.

How to combat and to counteract the current reactionary trend against books, reading, and other things of the mind is a complex problem. No doubt our difficulties will continue until the end of the cold war and international turmoil, for it is in such an atmosphere that fear and hysteria flourish. We need also a revival of confidence in the rightness of American traditions, in particular those fundamental guarantees enumerated in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Most of all, we need courage on the part of influential citizens, following President Eisenhower's precedent, to speak out against those forces which, often plausibly and with good intentions, are trying to destroy freedoms essential to our form of government. In one locality after another, it has been found that where citizens' committees or other organizations are willing to take a strong stand against censorship, it has been possible to defeat pending legislation, to have municipal ordinances declared unconstitutional, to stop illegal police activities, to frustrate self-appointed private groups, and to awaken the people to the dangers inherent in repressing free expression.

There are two basic facts about censorship which would-be censors apparently will never learn. First, banning a book, given the contrary streak characteristic of human nature, automatically creates a universal desire to read it, and frequently has been responsible for making best-sellers out of what would otherwise remain mediocre failures. (For an analogy in another field, note our "noble experiment" of the twenties and thirties). Second, ideas cannot be killed by suppression. There is scarcely any record of a book's total disappearance being caused by censors' fires. Somewhere, almost invariably, a copy has survived which can be multiplied and passed on to succeeding generations. Only when the ideas expressed in books have lost their interest do the books vanish. The most certain way to breathe life into a book and to insure its longevity is to prohibit its being read.

These, then, are a few matters of concern to American librarians in the mid-1950's.

BOOK REVIEW

Technical Services in Libraries: Acquisitions, Cataloging, Classification, Binding, Photographic Reproduction, and Circulation Operations. By MAURICE TAUBER AND ASSOCIATES. New York: Columbia University Press, 1954. 487 pp. \$6.50. (Columbia University Studies in Library Service, Number Seven.)

Much has been written about the various technical services of libraries as defined in the title above. This volume serves to bring together and summarize practices and opinions. It is an excellent text for library schools, and this reviewer enjoyed the refresher course provided in a careful reading of it.

One of Dr. Tauber's associates is Carlyle J. Frarey, Associate Professor of Library Science at the University of North Carolina. Mr. Frarey wrote the portion of the book concerned with subject cataloging, "made many pertinent criticisms of the first draft and helped with the proofreading."

As stated in the Preface: "The volume purposes to survey the various technical services and to orient the student to the range of operations and techniques associated with the procurement, recording, preservation, and handling of library materials. The specific aims are: (1) to familiarize the student with problems in the technical services and with current thought concerning the best solutions of them; (2) to familiarize him with sources of published and other information concerning the practice and administration of the technical services; (3) to indicate methods that have been used in studying the technical operations; (4) to point out those areas in which research or special study is needed or likely to prove fruitful; and (5) to furnish a background of information that may be useful in performing the technical services in libraries."

The book fulfills its aims quite adequately. The arrangement is logical and full bibliographical notes, printed between the body of the book and the index, lead the student and librarian to greater detail in the areas discussed.

Dr. Tauber and his associates include in the area of technical services that part of a library's activities which is not direct reader service, but which is a necessary prerequisite to good reader service. The authors favor the unification of as many technical processes as possible in a single department. Over-all planning can avoid duplication of operations needed in several processes. The division of necessary work between professionals and clerical workers is also discussed.

The book was written with the large research library in mind. It will be used as a text in many library schools, and by administrators and professional librarians employed in university and large public libraries. But there is much meat in it for the librarian of a smaller library. There is a trend in the public library field, for example, to larger units of service, especially in the case of county and regional library systems. Many acquisition practices of the large research library can be adapted into book selection and ordering procedures for the regional library serving a wide area. There are also suggestions to aid in planning a cooperative processing center for a number of small public libraries which are not organized into a region. Many procedures of large libraries have been forgotten or are unknown to the librarian who has for years been administrator, public relations officer, technical processor and direct server of the general public.

The book would be useful simply as a summary and index to the existing thought in the field and as a point of departure for newer ideas and experiments. Its potentialities are greater. It was needed and it is good to have it.

ELAINE VON OESSEN.

MEMOS FROM MEMBERS

The November 1954 issue of *North Carolina Libraries* has just come to me. Two hours have passed while I perused each article, page by page. The arrangement, the information and the authors were certainly well chosen and well presented. It was an excellent issue!

ANTOINETTE EARLE.

Lexington, November 22, 1954.

* * * * *

I think you have a fine number. Congratulations!

LOUIS R. WILSON.

Chapel Hill, November 23, 1954.

* * * * *

Congratulations on the 50th Anniversary Issue of *North Carolina Libraries*—A bang-up job.

The index is welcomed . . .

In the picture on page 25, is not the unknown on the top row, Miss Adelaide Fries?

OLAN V. COOK.

Chapel Hill, November 23, 1954.

* * * * *

North Carolina Libraries in its bright red cover came today. You should be very proud of it! It is a very important number, attractively presented.

CHARLESANNA FOX.

Asheboro, November 23, 1954.

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Additional copies of the 50th Anniversary issue are available. Orders at twenty-five cents per copy should be sent to NCLA treasurer, Miss Marianna Long, Law Librarian, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina.

A DREAM COME TRUE

(Continued from page 55)

The warm, balmy sunshine of a typical North Carolina Sunday morning cheered our hearts as we started on the last lap of the journey we had visualized as being so "uneventful." For sentiment's sake, the girls had permitted me to drive over the Virginia-Carolina state line, and I had just negotiated the church-time traffic of Wilson. Gayly chattering, we sped (at 35 mph) over the road toward home, and, as you would naturally expect, I completely ignored the large sign reading ALL TRUCKS PULL TO THE RIGHT. In less than a moment, police whistles sounded and two men ran to flag us down. I must return and go through the truck weighing station! Instead of censure this time, however, we were teased about being "overloaded," and again enjoyed the admiration of bystanders for our new Bookmobile.

Route 301 stretched smoothly before us in the bright sun. Only thirty miles separated us from Smithfield, and we had brought home our prize unscathed. Thoughtfully I turned to my pals and sheepishly admitted, "This *is* a truck!"

SUGGESTIONS, PLEASE!

The Committee on Federal Relations of the N. C. L. A. is attempting to develop a short supplementary mailing list of the names of persons who have the widest contacts and who might exert the strongest influence in connection with Federal activities which have a bearing on libraries and library service. Specifically, it is hoping to find the one most active, alert, and vitally interested person in each Congressional district of the state. When speedy action is indicated, it is impossible to reach a comparatively large group of librarians and laymen. The Committee will most appreciate your suggesting such people in your district. This should be done as soon as possible. Communications should be sent to Mr. Carlton P. West, Librarian, Wake Forest College Library, Box 872, Wake Forest, N. C.

Old National Geographic Magazines Wanted

The Elbert Ivey Memorial Library is seeking to complete its files of the *National Geographic Magazine*. Anyone having available copies of this magazine between 1888 and 1908 is asked to contact Miss Grace Patrick, Librarian, Elbert Ivey Memorial Library, Hickory, N. C.

Index To Volumes XI Through XIII

Miss Vivian Moose who edited the index to the first ten volumes of *North Carolina Libraries* has consented to complete the indexing through the current volume. The index to volumes XI-XIII will be mailed out with the first number of volume XIV.

Free Phonograph Record Catalog

Educational Record Sales has announced a 36-page catalog listing available recordings of the major record companies especially selected for school programs. Records are arranged by subject areas: music appreciation, rhythms, square dance, social studies, language arts, etc.; and by grades: kindergarten to ninth grade. The catalog is free to educators. Send requests to Educational Record Sales, 146 Reade Street, New York 13, New York.

BOOKLIST PUBLISHED FOR HALF CENTURY

Fifty years of service to librarians is marked by *The Booklist*, one of the best known publications of the American Library Association, with its January 1, 1955 issue.

Originally published eight times a year, *The Booklist* has grown to 23 issues a year and its circulation has increased to more than 12,000 subscribers. Its purpose, set forth on its inception in January, 1905, has remained the same—"a current buying list of recent books with brief notes designed to assist librarians in selection."

Librarian of Congress L. Quincy Mumford, who is ALA President, in a message of greeting on the anniversary occasion, said of *The Booklist*:

"Through the years, *The Booklist*, as it was descriptively titled, has become a primary source of authoritative and objective information concerning new books and the audiences for whom they are best suited. . . . As long as there are so many books, and I am not one to suggest that there be less, selection is inescapable. It is gratifying to have, within the library profession itself, a vehicle that holds so steadfastly to high standards of reliability. . . ."

Edna V. Vanek, who has served on the staff since 1942 and was appointed Editor in 1952, describing *The Booklist* method of selection as "one of its distinctive features," said:

"Although the reading, final selection, and annotating of books are done by *The Booklist* staff at ALA Headquarters, the selection of the books listed is made to a large extent with the collaboration of a group of practicing librarians—specialists working in book selection for adults, young people, and children in public and school libraries in various parts of the United States and Canada. These cooperating librarians are sent a weekly checklist comprised of books received from publishers by *The Booklist* office during the current week. By their votes and comments the librarians indicate those books which, in their opinion, should be listed in *The Booklist*, as suitable for library purchase."

The Booklist, according to Miss Vanek, will celebrate its anniversary with a change of cover design which will accommodate a table of contents; also, a new makeup will employ single-column section headings to make arrangements of the contents more flexible.

NEW ALA PUBLICATIONS

Public Librarians may look forward to several new publications to be issued in the coming months. Committees of the Public Libraries Division of the American Library Associations are currently busy on the revision of several standard works.

Dr. Lowell Martin, of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J., met on November 17 at ALA Headquarters with his Committee to work on the revision of *Post-War Standards for Public Libraries*. The committee includes John M. Cory, Lucile Nix, Jean C. Roos, Amy Winslow and Mrs. Carma R. Zimmerman.

Mrs. Genevieve Galick, Head of the Massachusetts Division of Library Extension, heads the committee which is revising *State Grants to Public Libraries*; and Miss Dorothy Randolph, of the Vermont Free Public Library Commission, is Chairman of the committee now working on the revision of *Regional and District Library Laws*.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Executive Board. At the meeting of the Board on October 9 which was held in Raleigh at the State College Library, the report on the membership vote was received. It was decided that the membership would be notified of the results by mail since the next issue of *North Carolina Libraries* was already at the printers. The letter to the members mailed on October 12 contained the following information: that by the vote of the Association (255 for and 107 opposed) Negroes have been admitted to membership. Those who had applied were informed of the decision and the President of the North Carolina Negro Library Association was also notified.

The Board decided also to conduct the ballot on ALA Chapter status in November since NCLA members were scheduled to vote on this question before ALA members do. The results of this vote were:

"The North Carolina Library Association should apply for redesignation as a chapter of the American Library Association."

Yes . . . 255 No . . . 4

The President conferred with Mrs. C. H. Marteen, President of the North Carolina Negro Library Association on October 23 concerning the schedule for the vote by ALA members in this state concerning chapter status. The schedule which our Association had proposed was a satisfactory one for their Association also. At the meeting of the Negro Library Association in Wilson, on November 5-6, the Association voted to endorse the application of the North Carolina Library Association for chapter status in this state, and not to make application on behalf of their association.

Sections and Committees. Several of our Association groups are making progress reports in this issue. Mid-biennium finds them checking off the things they have accomplished and listing anew the projects for 1955.

North Carolina Library Commission. Dr. Charles E. Jordan, Vice President of Duke University, has accepted NCLA's appointment to the Commission as of January 1, 1955, for a three-and-one-half-year term succeeding Mrs. Ford Worthy.

March 19 meeting. The Executive Board is calling a meeting of Committees and Section officers on March 19 to do conference planning. As soon as more plans are made, members will be hearing about the 1955 Conference.

Southeastern Library Association Conference. The President attended the Conference along with other librarians from this state. If the record had been kept, we could probably show that the time spent in between-session NCLA committee meetings equaled that spent in the Southeastern Conference meetings. The Recruiting Committee, for one, was in almost constant session. Their report in this issue shows the results of their enthusiasm.

CHARLESANNA FOX, *President.*