

THE AIMS OF NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

By EMILY HARRIS PREYER

Chairman of the State Committee for NLW

I am pleased to call to the attention of all North Carolinians the aims of National Library Week.

The objective of the week is to remind the American people that reading can help them to explore and to satisfy their need for a greater sense of purpose and meaning in their lives; to urge them to use more fully the libraries of all kinds in which the treasures of the printed word await throughout the land.

Suddenly, "a better-read, better-informed America" has become a necessity. The printed word, the very basis of education, has assumed a new importance. Only a lifetime of continuing self-education through reading, after formal education is completed, can keep Americans in watchful readiness to exercise responsible citizenship.

National Library Week is a time to reassess personal riches of mind and opportunity. It is also a time to explore through reading, intellectual potential; to develop readiness to adapt to the changes that an age of atoms and automation is bringing. Though it can be an unparalleled source of entertainment, reading is not a tranquilizer, but a channel to new ideas and viewpoints that can help Americans respond to the challenge of leisure in a creative, satisfying way. It offers an exciting form of escape from preoccupation merely with having and doing, into a full life of being, knowing, understanding and believing.

National Library Week is a focus for the continuing activities of the countless organizations and individuals that share its objectives. It can be a catalyst, working with all these other forces for the support of libraries and the spread of reading. Libraries work with and through all aspects of American life; strengthening them in home, school, college and community will help Americans to read and be ready for whatever the future may bring.

It is with these aims that the North Carolina State Committee looks ahead to a growing, continuing and developing program which becomes more meaningful each year in each community.

The same objective—"a better-read, better-informed America"—underlies our conviction that we cannot afford a nation of non-readers.

The theme is

"OPEN WONDERFUL NEW WORLDS — WAKE UP AND READ!"

Let's make

EVERY WEEK

LIBRARY WEEK!

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES: 50 EAST HURON STREET, CHICAGO 11

TO: Elizabeth Hughey, President of the North Carolina Library Association, and Sara Jaffarian, State Executive Director of National Library Week.

FROM: Benjamin E. Powell, Chairman, ALA Committee for National Library Week.

As you perfect plans for the observance of National Library Week in your state this year, I hope you and your associates will utilize the great potential of the Week and make it serve to the maximum your own local needs.

You are aware of the large audience National Library Week reaches through television, radio, the printed page and assembly. When you have caught the eyes and ears of every person in your state, which you can with this vehicle at your disposal, what will you want to say to them about the situation with respect to books and libraries in your state?

To hear more and to be stimulated to think more about the importance of books, reading and libraries is good for everyone. Any publicity that encourages reading and promotes books and libraries is useful, and the effect is obliged to be cumulative. But how much do your people know about the availability of books and reading matter in your state—in your town? Do they know enough to be proud—or distressed? If such facilities are inadequate, do they know why; and do they know how an inadequacy can be corrected? Direct your National Library Week publicity, therefore, to a specific purpose. Use the opportunity it presents to acquaint your state with the condition of its libraries, their strength, their weakness, and their most pressing needs. Explain your long-range plans and use the facilities of National Library Week during the next three years to implement these plans. Any state or community that does not utilize the facilities offered by National Library Week during the next three years is neglecting a most valuable opportunity to advance its program for library development.

The President of the State Association should work closely the year around with the State Executive Director for National Library Week. As the Executive Director prepares Library Week plans for 1960, 1961 and 1962, he should be familiar with the library program of the state and with all of its aspects that need emphasis. I hope that you will appreciate, therefore, how completely dependent each of you is upon the other; and that you will plan together how you can make National Library Week most effectively advance your association's objectives for the development and expansion of library service throughout the state in all types of libraries.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

April 3 to 9, 1960

April 16 to 22, 1961

April 8 to 14, 1962

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK PLANS FOR NORTH CAROLINA

By SARA JAFFARIAN

*and Director of Libraries, Greensboro Public Schools
North Carolina Executive Director of NLW,*

State Chairman Emily Preyer presided over a lively 1960 National Library Week planning session after a luncheon for state committee members at the Woman's College on last December 10th. Busy and influential citizens engaged in public relations, education, law, writing, book selling and communication, both press and television, discussed with representatives of the North Carolina Library Association ways and means of carrying out the aims of National Library Week in the state.

Reports on the status of public and school libraries in North Carolina and their provisions of service in relation to standards set up by the American Library Association were presented. It was decided by the group that short and long term statewide goals be worked out and a brochure for wide distribution to publicize facts and figures of the state's library story be issued.

Information at the state and national level has been provided by the state committee for dissemination throughout the state by the following means: the News Bureau of the Woman's College to 127 weekly and 41 daily newspapers; the *News Letter*, December through April issues, from the State Library and School Library Divisions in Raleigh; state published periodicals; house organs; radio and television stations; North Carolina Writer's Association, the Historical Book Club; local book clubs; civic and educational organizations through state officers; booksellers and publishers; and *North Carolina Libraries*.



Mrs. Luther H. Hodges, Chairman of the Friends of the Library of the Woman's College with Mrs. L. Richardson Preyer, State Chairman for National Library Week co-ordinating plans for the State Book Fair and the annual dinner of the Friends of the Library. Reading from left to right, Charles M. Adams, Secretary of Friends of the Library; Wendell Murray, Treasurer, Friends of the Library; Mrs. Preyer; Mrs. Hodges; Sara Jaffarian, State Executive Director for NLW; and Mrs. John Sockwell, Director, Friends of the Library. Mrs. Hodges accepted the position of Honorary Chairman of the State Committee for National Library Week.

A non-commercial state Book Fair featuring about 5,000 books for all ages will highlight the state committee's observance on April 5th and 6th at the War Memorial in Greensboro. Friends of the Woman's College Library and Friends of the Greensboro Public Library are cooperating with the state committee in arrangements for the Fair. A dinner at the Woman's College honoring outstanding authors and special guests of the College will precede a lecture by Walt Kelly, creator of Pogo, author and illustrator, at the War Memorial Auditorium on "A Better-Read, Better-Informed America". North Carolina authors will be honored on April 6th.

The Children's Book Council of New York is providing 2,000 juvenile books from over 70 publishers for the Fair. These books will be donated to charitable institutions in the state after being displayed in Raleigh immediately after the Greensboro Fair and in other communities. Joseph Ruzicka, Inc. is loaning 3,000 adult titles touching every subject interest, with special concentration in the field of North Caroliniana. The Greensboro News Company is supporting the Fair through morning and evening dailies and Television Channel 2.

Talks, films and plays will be featured on both days and school children will be dismissed during the school day to attend the Fair with the local PTA's assisting with transportation. Television spot interviews with authors and visitors are planned for both days through the mobile unit of Educational Channel 4.

A special area at the Fair will be devoted to library services and library recruitment planned by a committee of librarians. Attention will be called to those services and materials that are available in the state through all types of libraries.

Theme of the Fair will center around *Pogo* calling attention to opening up wonderful new worlds through reading.

Walt Kelly in accepting the invitation to North Carolina wrote, "Your proposal of April 5 as a date is fine with me . . . I am always happy to do something in Library Week. It seems we pay too much attention to the afflictions of our limbs and not enough to what is wrong with our heads. Thanks for thinking of me."



The book exhibit displays are being planned by architect Edward Loewenstein with the cooperation of store window display men. Sears Retail Store of Greensboro will furnish a den with a home library for children and parents. The books for this unit will be selected by the committee. Civic organizations will be staffing the book booths.

In North Carolina a statewide committee of 41 laymen and 14 librarians has been working for months on plans to focus public attention on reading, books and libraries. (See page 82 for full list).



The signing of the Statement for National Library Week in North Carolina by Governor Hodges. Reading from left to right above: Dr. Benjamin Powell, Sara Jaffarian, Mrs. L. Richardson Preyer and Mrs. Elizabeth Hughey.

Sponsored by the National Book Committee, Inc., a non-profit citizens' group, in co-operation with the American Library Association, NLW has the full cooperation of newspapers, magazines and the broadcasting media.

On Tuesday morning the Junior League of Greensboro will present *Hansel and Gretel* in the Auditorium at 10:00 a.m.

Among the distinguished guests will be J. P. Marquand of Pinchurst; Virginia Mathews, Assistant Director of National Library Week, New York; Ann Durrell, Editor-in-chief of the Junior Literary Guild, New York; Dr. Benjamin E. Powell, President of the American Library Association; President William Friday of the Consolidated University of North Carolina; and Mrs. Charles W. Tillett of Charlotte who will introduce Walt Kelly.

Initiation of a television series entitled *North Carolina Authors and Books* featuring noted authors of the state reading from and talking about their works are being produced by the Committee under the direction of Channel 4. These 30 minute programs will be put on film and made permanently available to educational and commercial television stations, libraries and groups through the state's Adult Film Project.

Early reports indicate that the local committees throughout the state are building upon the good foundation of the first two years of NLW. We are pleased that NLW will continue for two more years. Goals and recommendations for state library associations (see page 64) by Dr. Benjamin Powell are being developed by a committee of the NCLA. It is hoped that every community throughout the state will become more and more conscious of its library needs and take advantage of the state and national library week program for developing its local library program.

OLIVE TILFORD DARGAN

By VIRGINIA TERRELL LATHROP

Newspaper writer, former President and present member of the Board of Asheville Friends of the Library, and Trustee of the Consolidated University of North Carolina.



Olive Tilford Dargan was born on a farm near Litchfield, Kentucky, the daughter of school teacher parents, Elisha Francis and Rebecca Day Tilford. She was brought up in an atmosphere of books and learning and developed early a love for both.

She had one sister, Leona (Mrs. George Worley); and two brothers, John Y. (the Y. for both grandfathers, James Yandel Tilford and Mordecai Yarnel Day) and Tilden, named by his father, an ardent Democrat, as a gesture of faith in the defeated presidential candidate of that year, 1876.

Mrs. Dargan always felt that young Tilden was the "genius" of the family, with a promising writing career. At 14 he was writing stories that were published in various papers of the day. At 16 he won a "best story" contest conducted by the *Detroit Free Press*, and at 20 wrote a novel, published by Appleton, "Butternut Jones". Circumstances prevented him from following his career, and he died early.

When Olive was ten years old the family moved to Doniphan, Missouri, where both her father and her mother taught for three years. Then, for the mother's health, they moved to higher land in northern Arkansas, and lived at Warm Springs, an abandoned resort town. There the father taught a school that became known, because of its popularity and success, as "Tilford's Academy." It was near the Missouri border, and ambitious pupils crossed the state line to attend it.

At the age of 13, Olive assisted her father with the teaching. The next year, at 14, she took entire charge of a school four miles away, teaching all of the grades and having 30 or 40 pupils ranging in age from six years to twenty, and teaching subjects from the "chart class" to algebra.

With such a variety of ages and subjects the school had the reputation of being a difficult one. The teacher before Olive was a muscular male who brought the school to a precipitous close by leaping through an open window to escape the fists of rebel pupils. Two nephews of the state's then notorious outlaw, Hildebrand, were in the school.

Mrs. Dargan recalls her first day's experience in the school, when she won the confidence of her pupils by going outside with them to play "Ant'ny Over," a game of ball at which she was proficient. Her only restriction was that they "mind the windows." She brought the school through the term so successfully that patrons and parents came on the last day with big dinner baskets for all, and asked her to promise to return.

But she was hoping that some day, somewhere, perhaps in nearby St. Louis, she would enter a college, so she must earn and save for that purpose. When a school in Missouri was offered her, with better pay, she accepted. Two years later she learned that the state of Arkansas would award a scholarship to Peabody College to the applicant winning a competitive examination. She resigned her teaching position as soon as a sub-

stitute could be found, and returned home to study for two months. Then, after 80 miles of travel (20 of them on horseback) and a sleepless night on a train, she reached Searcy (where the competition was held) in the last minute of time to sign for the examination. The grilling lasted three days, and she won the scholarship. She was 17, barely the age required for admission to Peabody.

She had two years of "rapturous study" as she recalls it, then she was graduated. It was here that she learned one of her most needed lessons, to overcome some of her timidity and shyness and "to talk on her feet." So successful was this lesson that she was chosen to represent the graduating class at the commencement exercises, reading her own essay.

Before going to college in Nashville she visited a friend in South Carolina, and while there went on an overnight camping trip into the mountains of western North Carolina. She said at the time: "If I ever have a home of my own it will be in these mountains"—a prophecy that was fulfilled some years later.

The young girl was already beginning to write, though she told no one of this interest. As early as the year she was teaching in the one-teacher school near Warm Springs, at the age of 14, she was writing. During the week she boarded in the neighborhood, but at the end of the school week she walked four miles home to her family, and inspired by the beautiful trees and flowers along the way she wrote poems.

"The best poem I ever wrote," she once said "was as I sat down to rest on one of those walks, a poem about a wild rose. I showed it to no one, not even to my mother, and now I cannot remember any of it—except that I never surpassed it in beauty."

As a child Olive, affectionately called "Ducky" by her father, listened to stories told by both her grandmothers, adventurous tales of early days in Kentucky. Her great-grandmother, Susannah Whitely, a tiny woman married to big, steel-muscle John Day, had been a colorful figure in the settlement of Kentucky. Susannah, a Virginia gentlewoman, pioneered with her husband, and reared 12 sons and five daughters. All of her 12 sons had Bible names, adding, she hoped, a spiritual strength to their hardy physiques. Mrs. Dargan recalls the names of some of the twelve: Adam, Abel, Abraham, Jacob, Isaac, Joseph, Hezekiah and Mordecai, the youngest, who became her grandfather.

"Mord" Day, daring the wrath of seceders, preached that slavery was an abomination before the Lord, displaying courage for social justice that was later displayed in his grand-daughter. He was a farmer who loved his fields, his orchards, his horses, and loved and was proud of his three tall sons and ten daughters.

Back of his orchard was a coal mine, and here the grandchildren liked to play. The grandfather, fearful for their safety, warned them that the devil came up that way when he wanted to walk on the earth.

"Ducky", whose imagination was highly developed at an early age, furnished awesome delight to her youthful relatives by catching a glimpse of a golden horn as they peeped over the brink of the coal mine. Mrs. Dargan tells the story that her mother asked her in private:

"Did you really think you saw the devil's horn?"

"Oh, no", the seven year old feminist replied, "I just wanted to see the boys scatter."

On the father's side of the family the Tilfords were just as prolific as the Days, and just as colorful. Grandmother Tilford was a teller of tales, too, and when she rested in her low rocker, with her full skirt spread on the floor, Olive would sit snuggled on the

skirt listening to anecdotes about the early days of Kentucky and about her family, that instilled in her a deep loyalty and love for both.

Later, as she lived in Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, Massachusetts and North Carolina, her loyalty was given to each in turn, for always she was interested in the people who made up the state, and she came to think of them all as of the same goodly stuff and heritage.

But along with this faith in mankind there emerged doubts. Even as a child she was troubled by the sufferings of others, and by what she recognized later as social injustice. She often asked her father questions about life that he was unable to answer, for he was a pedagogue who found answers in his beloved books.

At nine years of age she was asking her father why "poor old black Nancy had to stump around with no feet— why had they been frozen when there were fires to sit by?"

She was 11 when an item in the *Courier-Journal* (which she had been reading since she was seven) brought another question:

"Why did people let that baby be born in jail?"

Her father's answer: "The mother violated the law and had to be kept in prison" did not satisfy her.

"But what had the little baby done?" she wanted to know.

"Don't cry," the harassed father answered, "You will understand some day."

But she never found a satisfactory answer to human suffering and what she believed to be injustice.

Her pioneer background, fertile with tales that delighted her, was combined with Scotch and English ancestry. The ambitious, curly-haired girl cared more for books and study and thinking and dreaming than she did for play. Some of her thinking and dreaming she began to weave into stories and poems. But she put them away, shyly and secretly.

The year after graduation from Peabody she taught again in Missouri, then went to Houston, Texas, to live with an aunt. Here she took a business course, and later went to San Antonio where she taught in a business college.

During these years she saved all the money possible, for she wanted to do more advanced study. Her horizons were widening and her ambitions soaring. She was hungry for more learning and more experiences, and contacts with more people.

She wanted to know more about books, and the colleges that symbolized learning to her, so when she was about 24 she entered Radcliffe. Here she studied English, French, Economics and Philosophy, the two latter her favorite subjects. Her Philosophy teacher was George Santayana.

And here she met a Harvard senior, (Louis) Pegram Dargan, of Darlington, S. C., who was later to become her husband. During that year the two young people, both of them with literary tastes, for he, too, wanted to write, met occasionally. But at the end of the year at Radcliffe she accepted a teaching position at an Institute for young women in Nova Scotia.

After that experience she returned to the business world, which she had explored briefly in Texas. Her deep concern for humanity never lessened, and she came to know all levels of people—the worker, the producer, the creative artist, the rich, the poor. At this time, in Boston, she was private secretary to the president of a rubber company which was merging with the United States Rubber Company, and for a year she had the opportunity to observe closely the ramifications of big business, mergers, and the effects on both employers and employees.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLIVE TILFORD DARGAN



When a student at Radcliffe College, 1894.



During the 1920's at the side of "Bluebonnet Lodge".



One of her latest pictures, by Lotte Jacobi, New York.

The years of hard work had taken their toll, however, and doctors suggested that she leave the rigorous Boston climate and go to Colorado. Instead, her thoughts turned back to the southern mountains, and in 1897 she went south, deciding finally on Blue Ridge, Georgia.

Here she rested for several months and wrote her first complete play. This, too, she put away, and it was later lost. She recalls that it was based on the legendary story of Joan, the "woman Pope." It was a milestone, however, in her writing career, for, with the first opportunity she had ever had to devote uninterrupted hours to her dream, she gained self-confidence.

In the meantime, while still in Boston, she had met Pegram Dargan again one day in an Art Shop. He was looking for a sculpture of Venus to send to his mother, and she was there to see a portrait of Keats that was on display.

After she went to Blue Ridge, the young South Carolinian went to see her, and remained for six months, until she agreed to marry him. They were married at Blue Ridge on March 2, 1898.

They settled in New York, and for six years enjoyed the cultural advantages of the city. Mrs. Dargan's interest in writing had not diminished. She began a course in drama construction, and after a week the instructor asked her to write a skeleton play with two major conflicts, and to preserve unity by their interaction. She felt that she already had a complete play that was just what he wanted. She had written it in five days, uninterrupted, while her husband was in South Carolina.

The play was in blank verse, and brought the comment from the instructor: "This throws me on my beam ends. I don't know what to say of it, or to you." That ended the course for Mrs. Dargan.

The drama was "Semiramis". It was published in "Semiramis and Other Plays", with "Carlotta" and "The Poet", in 1904. This first book brought praise from critics all over

the east. *The Sevannee Review* gave it six pages of scholarly study, beginning: "A poet of exceptional genius dwells among us."

In these first dramas, as in the writing that followed, the effort to "find the answer" was the driving force, as it has been in all of her contacts with life.

During the years in New York Mr. Dargan's health was not good, and the young couple decided they would find a quiet, peaceful place in which to pursue their interests and rebuild his strength. Again Mrs. Dargan's thoughts turned to the southern mountains, and in 1906 they bought a farm at Almond, N. C., near Bryson City. The down payment on the farm of several hundred acres was made with a check she received from Henry Sothorn as the first payment on one of her plays, "The Shepherd." Julia Marlowe had read the play and hoped it would be produced with her in the leading role of the boy poet and violinist.

In 1906 a second volume was published, "Lords and Lovers, and Other Dramas", containing three plays in verse and one in prose. Critics praised the volume highly. *The New York Times* said of it: "An assurance of touch, a virile command of plot and form which constantly suggests a man's hand."

James Huneker, writing in *The North American Review*, said: "Lyricism suffuses every page. She uses blank verse as her mother tongue, winning our ears with its subtle, picturesque, finely fibered music . . . there is a quality of Browning in the robust optimism, wholesome revolt, and the touch of Sordello idealism in the young violinist."

Though both the Dargans loved the farm, and Mr. Dargan's health improved with the outdoor life and the invigorating climate, the management was exacting and Mrs. Dargan's strength was not equal to the strenuous life it involved. She found little time for writing, but the desire remained strong. Finally she and her husband decided that she should go back north to be near able physicians and literary sources.

But enfeebled nerves did not revive in New York and Boston, and doctors, with serious concern, urged her to take a long sea trip and rest for a year or more in quiet places abroad. An unexpected opportunity presented itself to go to England with friends, one of them a physician, and she settled in rural England. After a while she moved slowly northward, stopping in the cathedral towns, and finally finding a secluded place near "The Lakes", where she was able to return gradually to writing.

It was here that she finished "The Mortal Gods and Other Dramas", which was published in America in 1912. This done, she ventured to London, to "verify the dreams of her life, wandering on streets with the beloved immortals, and resting with them in places they had made sacred."

While there she received a request from a friend in America which brought about the writing of another, and now rare book, "The Welsh Pony." Ann Whitney, the famous sculptor, of Boston, and a friend of Mrs. Dargan, wrote that a relative of hers, Mr. Charles A. Stone, wished to make a breeding ground for the Welsh Pony on his Virginia estate. Would Mrs. Dargan write her a letter that she could give him about the pony's origin and development? Mr. Stone was willing to pay \$250 for such a letter. Mrs. Dargan was delighted with the opportunity to do her friend a favor, and to visit Wales. The Horse Show was then on at the Olympia, and she went there to see the beautiful prize winner, Shooting Star, owned by Sir Walter Gilbey, the big Clydesdales, and among others the tiny Shetland whose mistress was little Princess Juliana of Holland.

From the Olympia she went to the British Museum and read everything she could

find on the pedigree of the Welsh pony. Then she bought a ticket to Brecon, in Wales.

The mayor of Brecon was a gracious lady, the first woman mayor in the British Isles. She introduced Mrs. Dargan to the owner of the largest herd of ponies in Wales, who took her to see his herd, and told her all she wanted to know about their qualities. She visited Shelley's "Tanyrallt", and his little boy's grave, made many acquaintances in the friendly community, and was soon back in London, where she wrote "the letter."

Mr. Stone was so delighted with the material that he sent her a check for \$500. He had the letter handsomely printed, making a little book of 50 pages with 27 illustrations, for private distribution among friends. It was never listed with her literary productions and is now rarely found or seen. Collectors often write her about it, but she cannot help them. The dozen copies that Mr. Stone gave her were lost in the fire that later destroyed her home.

One copy found its way to George Herbert Palmer who said of the author: "This writer is a master of prose."

In London, with renewed health and friendships she became a part of the intellectual life and literary circle of that day. In 1914 her first volume of lyrics, "Pathflower", was published by J. M. Dent in London, and by Scribner's in New York.

With strength restored she was ready to return home. Her husband could not join her abroad. His father had died, and Pegram, an only son, could not leave his invalid mother. In 1915, nearly a year after Mrs. Dargan's return home, she was visiting his mother while he was on a brief visit to Cuba. The message came to the two of them that he had been drowned while crossing the channel.

Again Mrs. Dargan sought refuge in the mountains, filling her days with the work of the farm, and with the writing of a sequence of sonnets which was published in 1916, "The Cycle's Rim." This was a tribute to her husband, and has been described as a record of "deep spiritual experience."

For several years Mrs. Dargan remained on the farm. Until this time she had written only poetry and poetic drama, but as she lived more closely with her mountain neighbors and the three families on the farm, her love of people and her creative interest produced some mountain sketches which she sent to *The Atlantic*. The magazine asked for more, and Mrs. Dargan recalls that the farm she couldn't make pay with plows and mules, she was soon supporting with her typewriter.

In 1922 another collection of dramas, "The Flutter of the Goldleaf and Other Plays", written with Dr. Frederick Peterson, distinguished neurologist and poet, appeared. Mrs. Dargan and the Petersons were old friends, having been on the boat together when Mrs. Dargan made her first trip to England.

"Highland Annals", a collection of her mountain sketches, and considered one of the finest ever written about the North Carolina mountains and people, was published in 1925. It was so popular that in 1941 it was revised, illustrated by Bayard Wootten, of Chapel Hill, N. C., and brought out as "From My Highest Hill."

With the publication of this book in 1925, Mrs. Dargan went abroad again, visiting friends in England, but spending most of her time in France and Switzerland.

In 1923 the house on the farm had burned, with all of its contents. Among the valuables lost were her treasures from travels, an accumulated pile of poems for probable publication and her library of valuable books and first editions that she and Pegram had found when rummaging through New York's old bookstores.

But the burning of a completed blank verse drama that she had worked on intermittently for five years, touching it only in moments of impelling inspiration, was a shock from which it took her years to recover. The play was built around Francis Bacon, and titled "The Baron of Verulam." She still believes that it out-valued anything else she has written.

It was then that she decided to go abroad again, but one day, in 1925, while in Asheville, N. C., she took a drive with a friend and discovered an old log house that reminded her of her lost home. The next day she found herself its surprised owner. The house, at 58 Balsam Avenue, called "Bluebonnet Lodge", where she has made her home ever since, was originally a pioneer cabin. It is in a beautiful setting of trees, with views of the surrounding mountains. The older part of the house is more than 100 years old, the newer part added over the years.

It was purchased in the latter part of the past century by Rutherford Platt Hayes, son of Rutherford B. Hayes, as part of a large tract of land that he owned from 1897 to 1922. His estate was called "Falconhurst", and he lived there until 1922 when he and his family moved to Florida and the land was sold and sub-divided. "Bluebonnet Lodge" he had enlarged and maintained for an aunt.

Mrs. Dargan, who loved flowers, she says, "as much as I love Shakespeare and little children", did much landscaping, and made the house comfortable for living and working. She remodelled the old stable into a study, and farther from the house built a small one-room "hide-out", deep in a well-wooded acre, where she could retreat when meeting a deadline for her work.

In remodeling the house she preserved the fine old chestnut logs, the wide heart-pine floor boards, and the big old stone fireplace, adding two more that made the house homey and comfortable even after the addition of central heating. She planted flowering fruit trees, annuals and perennials, and nurtured the large boxwood beside the front door at the end of the flagstone walk.

Mrs. Dargan entertained many friends in her home. Despite her busy work schedule she always stopped to visit with neighbors, callers and particularly with aspiring young writers. She was a gracious hostess, with a tea tray always ready, and often said that it was too easy for her to leave her work to be with people.

In 1925, following the publication of "Highland Annals", Mrs. Dargan was given an honorary degree of Doctor of Literature by the University of North Carolina.

As the years passed her contacts had widened to include the school room, the business office, the people of cities, the people of rural areas, the people of her own country, the people of foreign lands. In the south, where she was making her home after her husbands' death, industry was assuming an important place in a former rural economy. Mrs. Dargan had come to know closely and to love and admire the people of the southern mountains, and her interest quickened to the situation of the independent-minded, agricultural men and women leaving their farms to work in the mills.

Years before, as secretary to the president of the rubber company in Boston, she had been in the center of big business, of mergers and the effect of changing economy on both employers and employees. Now she was seeing another angle of the effect of industrial development.

In 1932 this culminated in a novel of social unrest, "Call Home the Heart", based on the experience of a girl from the North Carolina mountains, who went to work in

a mill in the Piedmont area. The novel was by a then unknown author, "Fielding Burke". It received immediate notice and praise, and there was much speculation about the identity of "Mr. Burke". The *Saturday Review* said of the book: ". . . perhaps the best novel yet written of the industrial conflict in contemporary America. And how long we have needed it!"

It was not until Laurence Stallings, the famous North Carolina playwright, then a writer for the *New York Sun*, disclosed the name of the author as Olive Tilford Dargan, that it became known that the poet and dramatist had turned novelist. A reader of the book, familiar with her work and her mountain life, had recognized it, and told Stallings.

Mrs. Dargan had hesitated to publish the book. She had confidence in herself as a writer of prose, and once said that she completed her novel with satisfaction to her conscience and her feeling for art. But her subject and her treatment of it might be too controversial, she felt, and her friends, who were prophesying for her a future in poetry—would they be disappointed?

She hesitated until a friend from Kentucky, a critic and author, persuaded her to let him take it to a publisher, under the pseudonym of Fielding Burke. It was accepted with enthusiasm by Longmans, Green. Three months after a hurried publication, the staff was working on a third edition, and the editor decided the pseudonym should be retained for any novels which he hoped would follow.

Two novels did follow: "A Stone Came Rolling", 1935, again a novel with a social theme; and "Sons of a Stranger", in 1947, a novel of men, women and mining in the early years of the present century. She considers this her best prose work.

After the publication of this third novel Mrs. Dargan again returned to poetry. In December 1958 "The Spotted Hawk" came from the press. But before it was in book-stores she was already at work on more poems. Always impatient with herself that she does not write more, Mrs. Dargan, with her delightful sense of humor, chose the title for this collection from a poem by Whitman, "Song of Myself"

"The spotted hawk swoops by and accuses me;

He complains of my gab and my loitering!"

But Mrs. Dargan has been able to turn out a remarkable amount of work, combining it with her enjoyment of people and their friendship. She has been able to try her hand at several careers, encompass many phases of experience. She has had years of making a home; years of travel; years of farming; years of writing, and hosts of friends. She has gardened, and not only loved the flowers for themselves and for the earth from which they came, but for the beauty they added to her home. She has kept unceasingly at her writing, and has taken her place among the great writers of America.

In a recent note to a friend she said:

"There is much I have forgotten of the old days . . . I don't look back, you know, but *forward*, always."

Pictures of Mrs. Dargan as a young woman at college, and during the years of her marriage show her as the small, curly-haired, beautiful person with large, dreamy eyes . . . blue . . . that she still is today. The curly hair is snow-white now, and close-cropped. Her whole face smiles with deep interest in her friends who come to see her. Her voice has the same gentle quality that pervades her personality. An amazingly strong person,

she spends part of her day writing, then works among her flowers, and often walks the several blocks to the West Asheville post office for her mail.

Many books from her collection have been stored in the loft of the old study, once a stable, and she often gets the step ladder and goes nimbly up to find a book she needs.

Always in advance of the time, Mrs. Dargan does all of her writing on a typewriter which she learned to use as a young woman in business school. She has put it beside a casement window in her upstairs bedroom where she can look out on the flowers and trees that she planted, and see the mountains, the clouds and the sky that have been the inspiration for so much of her writing.

When admonished recently by a friend after the publication of "The Spotted Hawk" not to tire herself too much, she protested quickly,

"But I'm starting another book!"

BOOKS BY MRS. DARGAN

Semiramis and Other Plays	1904
Lords and Lovers and Other Dramas	1906
The Mortal Gods and Other Dramas	1912
Pathflower	1914
The Welsh Pony	1913
The Cycle's Rim	1916
Flutter of the Goldleaf and Other Plays,, with Dr. Frederick Peterson	1922
Lute and Furrow	1922
Highland Annals	1925
Call Home the Heart	1932
A Stone Came Rolling	1935
From My Highest Hill (reprinted from Highland Annals with additional stories)	1941
Sons of a Stranger	1947
The Spotted Hawk (won the Thomas Wolfe and the Roanoke-Chowan Poetry Awards)	1958

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<i>New York Times Book Review Section</i>	December 15, 1935
<i>Asheville Citizen</i>	March 23, 1959
<i>The Southern Packet</i> , Vol. 4. No. 6	June, 1948
<i>North Carolina Authors: A Selective Handbook</i>	1952
<i>North Carolina Fiction, 1734-1957; An Annotated Bibliography</i>	1958

Two manuscripts (each incomplete) written by friends of Mrs. Dargan several years ago: "About a Prize-winner", by Winifred Godfrey Crowell, published, Mrs. Dargan thinks, in the *Christian Register*, of Boston; and one (untitled) by Joy Kime Benton, referred to by Mrs. Dargan as "notes made by Joy Kime Benton after 20 years of close friendship with Mrs. Dargan".

Some letters written to Mrs. Dargan by friends; some of her own notes, and many other conversations with Mrs. Dargan during the 32 years I have known her.

ADULT EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES IN NORTH CAROLINA

By GORDAN W. BLACKWELL

*Chancellor of the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina and
Immediate Past-President of the North Carolina Adult Education Association*



In a discussion of the role of libraries in adult education one should first give heed to major social and economic trends in North Carolina. I must at the outset admit that our State is not homogeneous. Rather we have a commonwealth whose economic and social fabric resembles a patchwork quilt. There is a tremendous difference between the sea island people of Hatteras and the city people of Charlotte, or between the apple growers of Buncombe County and the tobacco farmers of Wilson, or between the machine operators in the cigarette industry in Durham and the workers in pulpwood in Graham County. We have a state of great contrasts; and yet I believe we have a cultural and political unit which, in spite of its many diversities, does stand out as separate from the rest of the South. We have a state which exemplifies the best of the traditions of the South, while it has at the same time sloughed off some of the least desirable features of the region.

What are the trends which are of significance to libraries?

During the first half of the twentieth century North Carolina's population more than doubled. While the white population was increasing by 136 per cent, the Negro population gained by only 71 per cent. By 1950 the Negro proportion of the population had dropped to 27 per cent. By 1970 the prediction is that the Negro ratio will be down to 23 per cent.

With more than 4.5 million North Carolinians now, 5.3 million are predicted for 1970.

Whereas we cannot predict with certainty whether the birthrate will remain at its present level or resume the decline which has characterized it for many generations, we can more confidently forecast an increase in the proportion of persons over sixty-five years of age. From 3 per cent in this category for the country in 1850, the proportion increased to 8 per cent in 1950 with predictions of 11 per cent by 1975 and 13 per cent by the year 2,000. Figures for North Carolina are somewhat lower being 5.6 per cent in 1950 with a prediction of 8.5 per cent by 1970. The economic, psychological, social and leisure needs of aging persons present a challenge to adult education.

The rapid mobility of our people has also resulted in one of the most significant changes to take place in North Carolina, as well as the larger South, during the first half of the twentieth century—urbanization. Perhaps no other factor is so significant in changing the face of the state. North Carolina has been referred to as the balanced state with one-third of its population rural farm, one-third rural non-farm, and one-third urban. However, in most respects fully two-thirds of North Carolinians are essentially urban in their modes of living and in their basic values, and the trend toward more urbanization continues. While 14 urban counties in the state have been gaining population through migration in recent years, the remaining 86 counties have been experiencing a net out-migration.

It may be argued that, since the towns and cities are being peopled by those from the country, our urban centers remain primarily rural in the character of their residents. While there is some basis for this belief, my own opinion is that national forces such as advertising and entertainment through the mass media of communication are perhaps more potent influences than a rural background.

The rapid growth of suburban communities around the larger cities reflects a striving by many North Carolina families to leave the heart of the cities, perhaps to have some advantages of country living. However, these suburbs are essentially urban rather than rural. The rapid growth of the satellite residential areas and shopping centers is often without adequate planning and has sometimes resulted in social disorganization and social strain. Not frequently there is a lack of essential services for the rapidly expanding population in these suburban areas. The homogeneity of suburbia in family composition and social class status affords a rather unique social environment which merits the careful study of librarians and adult educators in the future.

As we look at the North Carolina economy we find signs of gradual maturing. Agriculture engages a steadily decreasing proportion of our people, while business, industry, and the professions provide employment for an increasing proportion. From 34 per cent of our people employed in farming in 1940, the ratio dropped to 24 per cent in 1950. The 1960 figure will undoubtedly be lower, with still further decrease anticipated by 1970.

Related to urbanization and in fact one of its chief causes has been the rapid industrialization of North Carolina. Industrialization came more rapidly to this state than to most other southern states. By 1940 fully 29 per cent of the state's workers were in manufacturing, with the ratio up to 34 per cent by 1950. The vigorous program of Governor Luther H. Hodges gives promise of further industrialization both in amount and in diversification.

As would be expected, income levels in North Carolina have been improving with these basic changes in the economy. However, in manufacturing our average wage per worker still is only about two-thirds of the national figure. The same is true for per capita income and per capita retail sales. Only a handful of southern states year in and year out rank below us in these respects.

North Carolinians are becoming better educated. The illiteracy rate has been cut markedly in the past 30 years. A much higher proportion of our young people are going to college, although the proportion is still much too low, especially for girls.

Another basic trend of concern to leaders in adult education and libraries is the rapid increase in technological developments of all kinds. Science and engineering now yield more significant new discoveries in a single year than used to be the case in a generation. What one knew or thought one knew last year concerning a scientific or technological matter may no longer be true this year. Automation bids fair to change the character of much of our business and industry. Our earlier conceived systems of education are faced with obsolescence.

With increasing technology has come increasing leisure time for many people and the end is not yet in sight. Herein lies another of the great challenges to adult education and libraries.

A final basic trend which I shall merely note concerns developments in the mass media of communication, particularly television. Herein lies one of the great hopes for new methods and new techniques of effective education of large numbers of adults. Li-

braries must seek to use and support these new educational techniques.

In summary, then, our people in increasing numbers need more and better education to aid them in adjusting to the inevitability of rapid social and economic change which may be surely forecast for the future.

Midst these social, economic and technological trends, the responsibility of adult education has been summarized by Gerald W. Johnson in *Public Library Service* as follows: "It is not enough to train the rising generation to meet their new responsibilities, for here irreversible decisions must be made before they come to maturity. It is the quality of American men and women who are already of voting age that will tell the tale."

As libraries consider their potential role on adult education it is well to note the complexity of this field in terms of objectives, agency resources, and clientele. The very complexity of our society and the variety of educational level of the people dictate the multiplicity of objectives which adult education must seek to meet.

Along with the library there are many agencies and organizations which are engaged in adult education: the public schools, institutions of higher education, business and industry, the armed services, museums, labor unions, churches, neighborhood groups, community councils, voluntary associations, societies, federations, leagues, and so on. The institutional structure of each community should determine just what role the library should play in adult education.

Adults to be educated range in interests, needs, and ability as widely as the various social, economic, and racial groups of the community. Few localities have a homogeneous population. The clientele of adult education is generally extremely heterogeneous, calling for varied approaches and educational techniques.

Cyril O. Houle holds that the library is the most fundamental of our adult educational institutions. He has cited a number of reasons. It is a storehouse of knowledge. It is perhaps the most flexible of our institutions of adult education. And finally, the library can provide the communication materials which are needed by all other agencies of adult education.

No longer is the library concerned merely with the individual and a book. Educational activities of a group nature now characterize many library programs. No longer is the library a passive institution waiting for people to come to it for service. When soon after the turn of the century the bookmobile—horse drawn, of course—was set on the roads of the Blue Ridge out of Washington County, Maryland and out of Berea College in the Appalachians, we had a symbol of the new active, initiating role of the library. This was the predecessor of the modern bookmobile which is serving city and suburban areas as well as rural communities. According to 1955-56 figures North Carolina, with 99 bookmobiles, had the most of any state in the Union, and the South had more than all of the rest of the United States, including Alaska, the Canal Zone and Hawaii.

Just a year ago the North Carolina State Library made an inventory of adult education activities which are being carried on by public libraries in the State. This indicated considerable activity and a surprising variety of kinds of adult education services which may be classified as follows: Making available adult education materials, assisting in planning adult education activities, consulting concerning adult education activities, provision of training for people engaged in adult education, serving a clearing-house function for adult education efforts in the community, conducting a survey of adult

reading interests, and conducting various kinds of adult education activities in the library including book review programs and learning opportunities based on printed materials, films, recordings, radio and television.

Ruth Gregory's nation-wide survey of adult education services in public libraries across the country in the past year has revealed the following priority listing of areas:

1. Community development
2. Public affairs
3. Creative arts
4. Human relations
5. Aging
6. Home and family life
7. Intercultural education
8. Vocational education
9. Personal development
10. Health and safety
11. Economic education
12. Fundamental and literacy education
13. Recreation and physical education

Miss Gregory reached the following significant conclusion: "Smallness in size of library seemed to be no deterrent to a resourceful librarian in a library-centered adult education program in any field." (ALA Bulletin, October 1959, page 788).

Along with the public libraries, the special libraries, school libraries, and libraries in college and universities must be enlisted to help in carrying out programs supporting the adult education work of many new social agencies, the churches, and other kinds of adult courses and activities. These opportunities result not only from the new found leisure but also from the increased level of educational background now characterizing North Carolina. This will call for more cooperation among libraries to meet specialized interests of adults throughout the State. This need is already evidenced in the establishment of the new Interlibrary Center in the University at Chapel Hill with a record of holdings of the major public libraries in North Carolina, as well as those in the libraries of the University and in the State Library.

Cooperation will also be needed to meet the problems of educational television as it reaches out over the State from our college and university stations. It is hoped that soon there can be an educational television network across the state, if not throughout the South. Books will still be fundamental. It may be that libraries should begin to avail themselves of the opportunity of reaching large groups through television. The TV series of North Carolina authors reading from their own works, begun this year by the State Committee for National Library Week, is an interesting project to be evaluated. The publication of bulletins from the Extension Division of the University is a well established education library service as are subject lists and stimulating programs of reading in literature and the arts provided by public libraries. Our libraries must be conscious of the need for information to keep adults abreast of technological and industrial change. Special libraries connected with industry itself will be needed, but also public libraries must acquire materials which were never available to most adults in high school or in college.

The review of trends in North Carolina presented at the beginning of this article revealed many opportunities and needs for adult education as we move into the decade of the

1960's. Public libraries are responding to these needs, but one has the feeling that a great deal more should be done. Here the boards of trustees of our libraries have a serious responsibility. They determine major policy which in turn determines the variety of library programs. The former concept of the individual and a book is no longer adequate for today's needs. Rather should we come to think of the library as a *learning laboratory* for the community.



Miss Kiwanis, the first bookmobile in North Carolina. It was a gift of the Kiwanis Club of Durham to the Durham Public Library and was put into operation October 17, 1923. Today the South has more bookmobiles than all other parts of the United States together and North Carolina has more than any other state in the union.

Nowhere are these newer ideas about the role of the library more clearly evident than in the Library-Community Project under the sponsorship of the American Library Association. In pilot libraries in various parts of the country, including Fayetteville, North Carolina, community surveys have been made in an effort to determine what should be the responsibilities and program of the library as determined by the expressed intellectual and educational needs of the people. In no better way can the critical importance and the wide range of adult education responsibilities of the library come to be understood. Participation by citizens' committees keeps the project close to the people. In the survey some of the trends in North Carolina which I have discussed are analyzed for the particular community. The significance of these trends for the library is explored. Both citizens and library staff come to a new appreciation of adult education needs which the library may seek to meet in the future.

Since the publication of *Libraries of the Southeast* in 1949 edited by Louis R. Wilson, there has been a growing awareness of the needs and opportunities for adult education among libraries. "The regional lag of the Southeast—Gerald Johnson called it waste—provides the opportunity for new solutions to the peculiar characteristics of the region." I am in complete agreement with Dr. Wilson that to meet these problems "will require social vision and civic courage of a high order."

NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK COMMITTEE, 1960

- Mrs. Luther H. Hodges, *Honorary Chairman*, Executive Mansion, Raleigh
 Mrs. L. Richardson Preyer, *Chairman*, 605 Sunset Drive, Greensboro
 Miss Sara Jattarian, *Executive Director*, Greensboro Public Schools
- Charles M. Adams, *Editor*, NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES, Woman's College, UNC
 William H. Alspaugh, *Television Production Director*, Channel 4, Woman's College, UNC
 Claude C. Armheld, Jr., *President*, Bank of Lenoir, Lenoir
 J. W. Atkins, *Editor*, GASTONIA GAZETTE, Gastonia
 Neal Austin, *Librarian*, Public Library, High Point
 Paul Ballance, *Chairman*, Public Libraries Section, NCLA, Winston-Salem
 Mrs. Karl Bishopric, *Vice-President*, N. C. Historical Book Club, Spray
 Dr. Gordon W. Blackwell, *Chancellor*, Woman's College, UNC
 Miss Cora Paul Bomar, *School Library Adviser*, State Dept. of Instruction, Raleigh
 H. C. Bueck, *Superintendent*, Macon County Schools, Franklin
 Dr. Charles Carroll, *State Superintendent of Public Instruction*, Raleigh
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 Jonathan Daniels, *Editor*, RALEIGH NEWS AND OBSERVER, Raleigh
 Burke Davis, Jr., *Staff Writer*, GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS, Greensboro
 Mrs. Evangeline Davis, *Book Editor*, GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS, Greensboro
 Mrs. Fred Davis, *Lecturer of N. C. State Grange*, Stoneville
 Dr. A. C. Dawson, Jr., *Executive Secretary*, North Carolina Education Association, Raleigh
 Charles B. Deane, *President*, Baptist State Convention of N. C., Rockingham
 A. C. Edwards, *Executive Vice-President*, N. C. Farm Bureau, Raleigh
 Dr. Dale H. Gramley, *President*, Salem College, Winston-Salem
 John W. Harden, *John Harden Associates*, Public Relations, Greensboro
 W. Clary Holt, *Attorney-at-Law*, Burlington
 Mrs. Elizabeth Hughey, *President*, North Carolina Library Association; *Librarian*, State Library
 Robert Lee Humber, *Chairman*, N. C. State Art Commission, Greenville
 Leon S. Ivey, *President*, Southern Desk Company, Hickory
 Gaines Kelley, *General Manager*, WFMY-TV, Channel 2, Greensboro
 Mrs. Carl Killian, *Reading and Library Chairman*, N. C. General Federation of Women's Clubs, Cullowhee
 O. Arthur Kirkman, *Manager*, High Point, T. and D. Railroad, High Point
 Morton R. Kurtz, *Executive Director*, North Carolina Council of Churches, Durham
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 Miss Adelaide McLarty, *Librarian*, Onslow County Public Library, Jacksonville
 Mrs. Vera B. Melton, *Chairman*, School and Children's Section, NCLA, Raleigh
 Miss Evelyn Parks, 1959 NC NLW *Director*, May Memorial Library, Burlington
 E. P. Pearce, Jr., *Superintendent*, Guilford County Schools, Greensboro
 Dr. Willa B. Player, *President*, Bennett College, Greensboro
 Dr. Benjamin Powell, *President*, American Library Association, Duke University Library, Durham
 D. Hiden Ramsey, *Retired, General Manager*, ASHEVILLE CITIZENS TIMES, Asheville
 Joseph Kuzicka, *Vice-President*, Kuzicka Bindery, Inc., Greensboro
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 Mrs. J. Z. Watkins, *President*, N. C. Congress of Parents and Teachers, Charlotte
 Philip J. Weaver, *Superintendent*, Greensboro Public Schools, Greensboro
 Carlton West, *President-elect*, NCLA; *Assistant Director*, NC NLW, Winston-Salem
 Albert A. Wilkinson, *Director*, News Bureau, Woman's College of UNC, Greensboro
 Thomas H. Woodard, *President*, Anderson, Deans and Woodard, Insurance, Wilson

EXCERPTS FROM A TALK, *Library Services to the Nation*

By JOHN G. LORENZ

*Director of the Library Services Branch of the Office of Education,
Washington, D. C. Delivered at the Public Libraries Section of the North
Carolina Library Association at Durham, N. C. on October 9, 1959*

Library services to the nation, Mr. Lorenz pointed out, are administered by the Library Services Branch, which is a unit of the Research Division in the U. S. Office of Education, which is in turn part of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

"To provide national leadership without domination and assistance without interference, to fill gaps in information and services and to stimulate ideas and action" has been stated by the Commissioner of Education as the purpose of his Office as it works to achieve better schools and libraries for more people.

"Even though the Office was founded in 1867, a library services unit was not created until 1938, a short 21 years ago." Prior to this, no federal agency was responsible for the studying and collecting of information on the status of libraries. "Up to the passage of the Library Services Act in 1956, the total staff of the Library Services Unit was three professional and three clerical employees with a very limited budget for everything including travel. As a result the compilation of library statistics was the major output of the unit."

The *Statistics of Public Libraries*, 1955-56 show, that "nationwide, since 1951, during the period in which TV was having its greatest impact and many people said that books and libraries were becoming obsolete, library circulation increased by 100 million volumes and that more than 30 million volumes were added to public library collections."



Left to right: Paul Ballance, President of the Public Library Section, of Winston-Salem; Mae Tucker, Past-President, of Charlotte; John Lorenz of Washington, D. C.; and Elaine von Oesen of Raleigh.

"We find nothing to be complacent about in our nationwide library statistics. Of the approximate seven thousand public library systems in the nation, 60 per cent have annual budgets for all expenditures under \$4,000. Over one-third of our public libraries have less than 6,000 books in their collections. Only four per cent have budgets over \$100,000 per year, and in 1956 over 1,000 public libraries had average annual budgets of \$230."

"It was probably just a few shocking library statistics, well used, more than anything else which led to the passage of the Library Services Act. These statistics showed that in 1956 there were more than 26 million Americans without any local public library service available and 87 million more with inadequate public libraries and over 300 counties in the nation, almost one-tenth of all our counties, with no public library within their borders."

"We are now in the fourth year of the program made possible by the Library Services Act, and much progress in public library development has already been made even though the full appropriations under the Act up to this year have not been available."

"Here is a summary of some of the results. Fifty-two states and territories are now participating—in other words, all states and territories eligible except one. This is the most remarkable result of all: Since 1956 state appropriations for public library service to rural areas have increased over 50 per cent. Some states have actually doubled, tripled, and quadrupled their state appropriations for the state library extension agency. This still brings the total number of states with state grants to public libraries to only 22. The fact that 28 states still provide no state financial aid to public libraries is one of the most serious deficiencies in the whole public library development picture. Nationwide, state funds for public libraries total only 3 per cent of all public library expenditures, whereas state funds for schools total about 50 per cent of school expenditures, a tremendous difference between the two educational programs."

"The Library Services Act is really a grass roots program. Reports after the first three years indicate that about 30 million people in rural areas have new or improved public library service available to them, and over 1,200 counties are involved in the program. To be sure, much of this new and improved service is still not as yet adequate service, but the program has already had a great impact on many people and many areas."

"Much of the development under the Act, especially in the first two years, has been in strengthening the staffs and services of state library agencies which in many cases have been the weakest links in the chain of public library development. Over 130 county and regional library development projects have been placed in operation. Many of these demonstrations have already resulted in added local support or local support for library service for the first time. Several states have achieved their first regional libraries since the program began. Centralized cataloging and processing projects have been very popular and have developed in over 30 states."

"All of this development has also been paying off in library usage as a result of increased availability of service, more staff, large book stocks, and better book selection . . . In Arizona, in an area which had no library service before 1957, almost 80,000 books were loaned in the first 10 month period."

"There is one theme that runs through the whole program and I am certain it is not just a mere coincidence that it is the same theme that runs through the new public library standards—the importance, the necessity for cooperation between libraries and areas without libraries in order to achieve better library service for all."

"Even though the Library Services Act provides that it is the state library agency which shall prepare and administer a state plan which will in its judgment assure the best use of the funds, we have observed that it is those state agencies which have consulted and planned with their librarians and trustees in the preparation of their plans and programs, which are accomplishing the best results. We have also found that it is those state plans which have established priorities and have put first things first, instead of spreading their resources thin and trying to get everything accomplished at once that have achieved most success. The funds in all states are insufficient to try to demonstrate and establish good library service in every rural area of the state at the same time. Most successes to date have resulted in a concentration of funds in areas which are most ready to move forward, and where there has been strength and resources in staff and collection to build from."

"Perhaps this is a point which I don't need to make in North Carolina, but it is our observation that quite a few library systems are succumbing to the overwhelming demand for children's services and giving less emphasis to their adult programs. This is not a good development, since it is most important to future library development that libraries build their services and reputation as adult education agencies as well."

"You are most fortunate in North Carolina to have such fine leadership in your State Library. I urge you to give your state library agency and the state funds it requests, your most ardent and active support. From close observation, I am convinced that the strength of the State Library and its program and the future of public library development in North Carolina and every other state are very closely tied together."

INTERLIBRARY LOAN AMONG NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

By GLADYS JOHNSON, *Librarian,*

*General Services Division in Charge of Reference, Lending and
Interlibrary Loan Services from the State Library*

Sir Ronald, who mounted his horse and rode off in all directions, could symbolize problems and possibilities in Interlibrary Loan. As union lists and union catalogs become more adequate and up to date, Sir Ronald will not need to go in so many directions. As standard procedures and practices are more generally understood and followed, he increasingly is being recognized as a respectable messenger who may be trained to cover the routes between libraries with speed and according to the accepted rules of the road.

One of the functions of the North Carolina State Library is that of supplementing resources and services of the public library systems of the state. Its interlibrary service policy also covers service to public, college, special and to school libraries through local public libraries. Within the public library system of North Carolina, the State Library is the central clearing house for interlibrary loan requests. The history of

this clearing house relationship to public libraries goes back to the organization of the Library Commission in 1909. The book collection of that agency was developed primarily to supplement the public library resources of the state, and public libraries were encouraged to call upon it freely. Out of this relationship, which continued and developed through a period of about forty years, came a spirit of cooperation and an appreciation of the advantages of mutual assistance.

In September 1950 librarians from the larger public libraries of the state and representatives from the Library Commission met for a conference in the Greensboro Public Library to consider how the total information resources of the public library system could be strengthened and enriched. In that conference the Special Interlibrary Loan Collections came into being: On the basis of a simple agreement between seven public libraries and the Library Commission, each library accepted responsibility for developing a strong collection in a subject field of interest in its community and for which the Library Commission was aware of an expressed need on a state wide basis. Special grants were made to these seven libraries from State Aid Funds to buy books and/or other materials for these special subject collections when the library agreed to make the materials available on interlibrary loan throughout the state. In the nine years since 1951, the number of special collections has grown to 16. Included in this number the High Point Library, though not eligible to receive a State Aid grant, has developed a special collection on Furniture Design and Manufacture which receives its support in the form of gifts from a local foundation supplemented by funds from the general book budget.

The Library Commission, and after the 1956 merger with the State Library, the North Carolina State Library, continued to make State Aid grants for the development of these Interlibrary Loan Collections. As a basic part of the original agreement, the State Library receives a union catalog card for each book in the special collections, and arranges for duplicate cards to be supplied to the North Carolina Union Catalog in the University Library at Chapel Hill.

After seven years of the Interlibrary Loan Project, public libraries and representatives of the State Library held another conference, this time in the Public Library of Winston-Salem in August 1957. The purpose of the conference was to consider what had been accomplished in strengthening public library resources and to plan what should be done next. The meeting proved to be a landmark in the development of interlibrary loan within the state. There was a general interest in expediting interlibrary service. The hope was expressed that TWX, or some other direct wire communication, between libraries could be worked out to meet the rapidly expanding needs of interlibrary service in North Carolina. Important decisions and plans for improving and expediting interlibrary loan in the state included:

1. A new policy of direct borrowing among public libraries when the location of the desired book was known. The State Library continued as clearing house for books of unknown location and for referral of requests received by public libraries when they were unable to supply the desired title, and
2. Plans for improving bibliographical control within the state by
 - a. compiling a union list of serials, with inclusive dates, held by North Carolina libraries, university and public. (*Union List of Periodicals in Selected North*

Carolina Libraries prepared by the Resources Committee, Public Libraries Section, North Carolina Library Association, was published in the fall of 1959)

- b. by considering ways and means of developing bibliographic control of the important holdings of libraries within the state. This included consideration of the expansion and location of union catalogs and a survey of significant small subject collections and specialties held in individual libraries.

At the request of the public librarians present in the Winston-Salem meeting, a survey of significant small subject collections and specialties held in public libraries of the state was undertaken immediately after the conference by the North Carolina State Library. A questionnaire was designed to get information about all special or unusual resources beyond the Interlibrary Loan Collections. Returns in the survey were meager and disappointing, and no further expansion of the union catalog of Special Collections in the State Library seemed justified at that time.

Chronologically speaking the next major development in interlibrary loan came in January 1958 when the Interlibrary Center, was opened in the Louis Round Wilson Library of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Cooperating in the planning and development of the Center were the North Carolina State Library and the libraries of Duke University, the North Carolina State College and the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina. Among other services, the Center undertook the development and maintenance of the North Carolina Union Catalog. By November 1958 the Interlibrary Center, the State Library and Pack Memorial Library in Asheville had installed teletype equipment and the Interlibrary Center was contributing an important service in supplying locations from the North Carolina Union Catalog which included the major holdings of the larger academic libraries of the state as well as an increasing volume of public library holdings.

Time gained by TWX communication between the State Library and the Interlibrary Center is saved by a truck delivery service operated by the Center within the Research Triangle which includes Chapel Hill, Durham and Raleigh. Three times each week the truck makes rounds from the Center to the Duke University Library, the North Carolina State library and the D. H. Hill Library of North Carolina State College delivering and collecting materials at each library.

The Public Libraries Section of the North Carolina Library Association appointed a subcommittee "to work with the State Library on procedures for implementing wider use of interlibrary loans throughout the State." In June 1959 a manual of interlibrary loan procedures entitled *Interlibrary Service Procedures in North Carolina*, was completed by the subcommittee and was distributed to the public libraries of the state. The manual is designed primarily for the use of borrowing libraries.

Late in 1959 the State Library inquired of the major lending libraries in North Carolina whether a conference "to review interlibrary loan procedures and routines with a view to improving and expediting the service" would be helpful. The inquiry led to a conference on January 20, 1960, in which those present expressed the opinion that the conference was helpful and that similar conferences at intervals to discuss interlibrary loan matters of mutual interest would be desirable.

We can see that Sir Ronald is becoming a more orderly fellow and that he will be able in the foreseeable future to ride off in the right direction almost every time.

THE BOOK FAIR

Greensboro War Memorial — April 5 and 6, 1960

Over twenty booths, as noted below, will bring to visitors about 5,000 of the best in current books. Subject areas to be displayed and local organizations that have assumed responsibility for providing personnel to staff these booths are:

JUVENILE

Animals, Nature and Science—Greensboro Junior Museum

People and Places—American Association of University Women and Children's Literature Classes at Woman's College

Picture Books—Children's Literature Classes, Woman's College and ACEI

Poetry, Music, Art and Religion—Greensboro Writers Club

Fairy and Folk Tales, Legends and Myths—Greensboro Junior League

Hobbies and Teen-age Fiction for Girls—YWCA

Teen-age Boys' Fiction and Sports—YWCA

Boy Scouts — General Greene Council, Boy Scouts

ADULT

Reference (Encyclopedias) and Education—North Carolina Education Association and Greensboro Library Club

Business and Technical—American Business Women's Association

Civil War Books—United Daughters of the Confederacy, Guilford Chapter

Current Fiction—Woman's Club

Current Non-Fiction—Bennett College

Drama, Art, Music and Poetry—Altrusa Club

Gardens and Flower Arrangement—Tar Heel Garden and Green Thumb Garden Clubs.

Homes, Homemaking and Cooking—Guilford Home Economics Association.

History, World Affairs, Social Sciences—National Council of Jewish Women

Pure and Applied Science—Guilford County Medical Auxiliary

Recreation—Indoor and Outdoor, Golf and Hobbies—Recreation Department

Religion—Biblical Research

The 100 Book Library: Lifetime Reading Plan, by Fadiman—A & T College.

Travel (Home and Abroad)—Mrs. Mabel Lucas

SPECIAL FEATURES

Library Services—A special area will be devoted to aspects of library services, arranged by a committee of librarians, with Neal Austin, Librarian at High Point, and Grace Farrior from the Council on Librarianship as co-chairmen.

Rare Books—Mr. Charles R. Sanders, a private collector and bookman is arranging an exhibition of books of special interest to North Carolinians.

North Carolina Books—Straughan's Bookstore is collecting books by North Carolinians which will be manned by the Greensboro Legal Auxiliary.

Notable Books of 1959—Prepared by the Notable Books Council, Adult Services Division, American Library Association, manned by the National Council of Jewish Women.

"Thanks America" books from the Fund of German Exchangees, presented to the Woman's College Library, U.N.C., through the courtesy of Governor and Mrs. Hodges.

A Home Library Room setup in early American reproductions through the courtesy of J. E. Moore of Sears Retail Store of Greensboro with a selection of books by the Book Selection Committee.

NEW CAROLINA BOOKS

By WILLIAM S. POWELL

Books received or annotated in this section are written by North Carolinians or are about North Carolina. Occasionally regional or more general material may be included when it has some bearing on North Carolina.

GERALD W. JOHNSON, *America Is Born*. New York: William Morrow and Company, 1959. 254 pp. \$3.95.

Gerald W. Johnson, distinguished newspaperman and historian, has written a brilliant history of the beginnings of the United States for young people. Directed to his grandson, it is designed to tell young Americans how they are "connected with the things done in America." Being a part of that past, he points out, makes them Americans. The story he tells has a beginning and a middle but no end; it is still going on.

There is much of North Carolina in this history of America from the fifteenth century to 1787, written by a native Tar Heel. Handsome woodcuts decorate the story and the large type suggests that it was written to be read by the young people to whom it is directed.

H. F. SEAWELL, JR., *Sir Walter, The Earl of Chatham, or Call Your Next Case*. Charlotte: Heritage House, 1959. 218 pp. \$3.50.

Here, interwoven into a biography of Judge Walter D. Siler (1878-1951), is a choice collection of "courthouse humor." Many prominent North Carolinians are mentioned but the stories are not about them alone. Many tales of the everyday doings of ordinary Tar Heels, having business with the law, are included to inform and delight the reader.

MANLY WADE WELLMAN, *The Rebel Songster, Songs the Confederates Sang*. Charlotte: Heritage House, 1959. 53 pp. \$2.00 paper.

Manly and Frances Wellman have recorded words and music for 21 songs which the Confederate fighting man sang, but there's a great deal more here than just words and music. There are good stories about all the songs and the men who sang them.

GEORGE H. MAURICE, *Daniel Boone in North Carolina*. Eagle Springs: Privately Printed, 1959. 31 pp. \$2.25. (Order from The County Bookshop, Southern Pines.)

This attractively printed little book on a subject of perennial interest to many Tar Heels is illustrated with photographs, drawings, and maps. The text very carefully traces Boone's life in North Carolina.

J. B. O. LANDRUM, *Colonial and Revolutionary History of Upper South Carolina*. Spartanburg, S. C.: The Reprint Company, 1959. 364 pp. \$5.50.

DAVID RAMSAY, *History of South Carolina, from Its First Settlement in 1670 to the year 1808*. Vol. I. Spartanburg, S. C.: The Reprint Company, 1959. 274 pp. \$8.00.

All North Carolina librarians should be introduced to The Reprint Company. These first two volumes in what is promised as a long series of reprints of valuable out-of-print material, are faithful reproductions of the original text in a readable format. It so happens that both of these first two titles have much on North Carolina even though they

are marked by the present publisher "South Carolina Heritage Series." A "North Carolina Heritage Series" is also in the planning stage, and Mr. T. A. Smith of The Reprint Company is drawing up a list of desirable, out-of-print North Carolina titles to issue in this series.

ROBERT RUARK, *Poor No More*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1959. 706 pp. \$5.95.

Announcement of the publication of a new Ruark novel always triggers inquiries from regular library patrons eager to read it. In his latest novel, Wilmington-born Ruark writes of a poor North Carolina boy's driving compulsion to be "poor no more."

WILLARD M. WALLACE, *Sir Walter Raleigh*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1959. 334 pp. \$6.00.

Professor Wallace's reasons for writing a new biography of Raleigh are that the recent publication of studies of Elizabethan parliaments and governments make a better assessment of Raleigh's role possible, and a new interest in the origins of the American heritage demands a reappraisal of his contributions. Here, then, is a biography by a historian instead of by a professor of literature or a professional free-lance writer. No new contemporary sources, at least no obvious ones, are cited, but recent monographs and books have been combed for new facts and interpretations. The result, however, is a well-documented yet readable life of Raleigh.

The author is head of the history department at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn. We trust that his "poetic license", if that is what it is, was generally more accurate in points not familiar to North Carolinians than it was in describing one scene on our coast. Undoubtedly better acquainted with the rock-bound coast of New England than with sandy Southern shores, he wrote that when John White and his companions were searching for the Lost Colony "no sound came to their ears except that of the waves breaking against the rocks and sand."

The Autobiography of Cecil B. DeMille. Englewood Cliffs, N. J.: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1959. 465 pp. \$5.95.

Few North Carolinians, at any rate few outside the town of Washington, have known exactly what Cecil B. DeMille's connection was with North Carolina. Now we have it spelled out very carefully as a part of the master film-maker's autobiography. Movie goers (or ex-movie goers) and students of the American scene during the past 45 years will also find the rest of his comments and observations of much interest.

A. L. ROWSE, *The Elizabethans and America*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1959. 222 pp. \$4.00.

Prof. Rowse's very scholarly yet readable study of this early period of American history qualifies as a Carolina book because of its material on the Roanoke Colonies, Sir Walter Raleigh, and other Elizabethans associated with explorations and attempts at settlement on our coast. He places that whole movement in a new perspective, as, indeed, he does for the whole of early American history. The Elizabethan origins of many of the New England leaders will perhaps come as a new revelation to many readers.

THAD STEM, JR., *The Perennial Almanac*. Charlotte: Heritage House, 1959. 118 pp. \$3.00
 ZOE KINCAID BROCKMAN, *Unguarded Moments*. Charlotte: Heritage House, 1959. 112 pp. \$3.25.

These two volumes of brief essays by North Carolina newspaper writers show signs of careful thought in selecting topics as well as words. Some, if not all, of Mr. Stem's thoughts have appeared in his editorials contributed over the past several years to the *News and Observer*. They frequently hark back to the "good old days" and are arranged in a month-by-month subject order. Mrs. Brockman's essays generally deal with the more recent past in a nostalgic tone. She has a little story to tell in many of them, and she tells it well. Both books are good for the reader who expects to be called away from his reading in a little while. No doctor's office should be without several copies. Librarians might recommend them when the inevitable patron comes asking for something to "give the feeling of North Carolinians about themselves."

NANCY ROBERTS, *An Illustrated Guide to Ghosts & Mysterious Occurrences in the Old North State*. Charlotte. Heritage House, 1959. 53 pp. \$3.50.

Sixteen Tar Heel ghost stories, a few old favorites but most of them unfamiliar, are told here in good style and illustrated with very convincing photographs. They all make spine-tingling reading, especially now on a foggy spring night when the windows are opened for the first time. Or, for those who prefer to go out seeking a ghost (rather than being sought), this guide is sufficiently explicit to direct the seeker to the right spot.

CORNELIUS M. D. THOMAS, *James Forte, a 17th Century Settlement*. Wilmington: The Charles Towne Preservation Trust, 1959. 59 pp. \$5.00.

Two seventeenth-century maps which have a cartographer's symbol for a fort near the present site of Wilmington have been the cause of this little book. No conclusive evidence is presented to show that such a fort actually existed. The hodgepodge between the two handsome white parchment covers includes a facsimile of the 34-page *Relation* of William Hilton, published in 1664 following his exploration of the Cape Fear area, and three seventeenth-century maps.

WILLIAM S. HOFFMANN, *North Carolina in the Mexican War, 1846-1848*. Raleigh: State Department of Archives and History, 1959. 48 pp. .25c paper.

STANLEY A. SOUTH, *Indians in North Carolina*. Raleigh: State Department of Archives and History, 1959. 69 pp. .25c paper.

These two pamphlets are the latest in a series being published by the State Department of Archives and History. They are directed primarily to students at the grade school level and provide concise, accurate information in their respective fields. A bibliography for additional reading and numerous illustrations supplement the text.

RICHARD WALSER, *Nematodes in My Garden of Verse*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, Publisher, 134 pp. \$3.50.

No self-respecting library should be without several copies of Prof. Walser's anthology of verse by North Carolina's amateur poets of all ages. It just might make poetry readers of patrons who never before got beyond the latest book of cartoons on the new book

shelf. "On Ladies Carrying Their Watches in Their Bosoms," written in 1855, is a poem to make many readers take a second look:

Among our fashionable bands,
No wonder now if Time should linger—
Allowed to place his two rough hands
Where others dare not lay a finger.

RESOURCES COMMITTEE, Public Libraries Section, North Carolina Library Association, *Union List of Periodicals in Selected North Carolina Libraries*. Winston-Salem: No publisher, 1959. 33 pp.

The periodicals held by sixteen libraries and the State Library in North Carolina are recorded here. A brief report on duplicating service and loan policy for periodicals is stated in connection with identifying symbols. This is a commendable report and any information is most welcome. Some of the entries are not consistent, however, and it is evident from studying the list that many North Carolina periodicals are not being collected by the public libraries of the State.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE, Public Libraries Section, North Carolina Library Association, *North Carolina Public Library Personnel Manual*. Chapel Hill: Institute of Government, 1959. 50 pp.

"This manual is a guide for librarians, library boards, and city and county officials desiring to improve personnel administration in their public libraries. It is a revision of the 1952 edition. . . ." Included are directions for developing personnel policies and recommended salary ranges. A number of tables and samples forms add to the usefulness of this manual.

In un-librarian fashion, the manual bears no date of publication.

LOUIS B. WRIGHT, *The Atlantic Frontier, Colonial American Civilization, 1607-1763*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 354, ix pp. \$3.75.

This book, first printed in 1947 and reprinted in 1951, has almost attained the status of an American classic in its field. It has been out of print for a number of years, but is again available in a sturdy but attractive format. Author Wright, Carolina-born and educated at the University of North Carolina, deals at length with the early colony of Carolina and the later North Carolina. Librarians whose copies have been worn out in use and those who need new or additional copies will be pleased that the Cornell University Press has reprinted Dr. Wright's book.

WILLIAM M. NORMAN, *A Portion of My Life*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1959. 242 pp. \$4.00.

A native of Surry County, Norman wrote this autobiography in 1865 when, as a Confederate soldier, he was imprisoned on Johnson's Island in Lake Erie. He tells of his struggle to gain an education, teaching in a country school, seeking his fortune in the West, studying law, and finally of his service in the Civil War.

CHARLES EDWARD EATON, *Write Me from Rio*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1959. 214 pp. \$3.95.

The Winston-Salem-born author of the dozen short stories in this work gives us a

picture of a number of Americans and their reaction to their surroundings in Brazil. In a highly polished style he succeeds admirably in relaying by word the atmosphere of the tropics. Some of the stories have only the thinnest plot, but they are delightful little pictures nevertheless. Only one—"Letters from Brazil"—has a North Carolina (Charlotte) setting, but it is still a story about Brazil told in a novel way. The current interest in South America being stirred up should spur Tar Heels to gain a better insight into at least a part of that continent through this pleasant means.

PORTE CRAYON (David Hunter Strother), *The Old South Illustrated*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1959. 296 pp. \$6.00.

Prof. Cecil D. Elby, Jr. has rescued from oblivion the delightful sketches by word and crayon of David H. Strother, published in *Harper's Monthly* between 1853 and 1858. The book is divided into four sections: "Virginia Illustrated," "The Dismal Swamp," "North Carolina Illustrated," and "A Winter in the South." From the swamps of northeastern North Carolina, through Raleigh, Greensboro, and Salisbury "Porte Crayon" toured the state and recorded the contemporary scene as it appeared to him. We have here his interesting text illustrated by many of his drawings as they were reproduced in *Harper's*, but we also have handsome plates showing his more delightful original drawings before they were tampered with by the engraver.

THEODORE J. GORDON AND JULIAN SCHEER, *First Into Outer Space*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1959. 197 pp. \$3.95.

Charlotte newspaperman Scheer has joined in producing this exciting story of America's first missile into outer space. It is a first-person account told from inside the blockhouse by a space engineer. Thirty-seven illustrations and a 5-page glossary help clarify much of the story for the lay reader.

ELMER D. JOHNSON, *Of Time and Thomas Wolfe, A Bibliography with A Character Index of His Works*. New York: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1959. 226 pp. \$5.00.

Dr. Johnson's classified bibliography of material by and about Wolfe in the variety of forms (books, periodicals, radio programs, engravings, music, etc.) which it has taken is invaluable to the Wolfe fan and collector. Periodical articles about Wolfe and books which deal only in part with him are carefully described. Nearly 300 "brief notices in periodicals," however, are not described and only the name and date of the periodical are given in chronological order by date of appearance.

While bound in cloth and of a conventional size, the body of this book is reproduced from typewritten copy.

FRANCIS CHARLES ANSCOMBE, *I Have Called You Friends, the Story of Quakerism in North Carolina*. Boston: The Christopher Publishing House, 1969. 407 pp. \$5.00.

Dr. Anscombe's history of North Carolina Quakers is filled with much interesting information not only about the Quakers but about North Carolina in general from the seventeenth century to the present. A chronology, classified bibliography, and an index help to make much of the material in an otherwise rather erratically organized book more readily available.

JOHN EHLE, *Kingstree Island*. New York: William Morrow & Company, 1959. 281 pp. \$3.75.

True to the promise held forth in his previous works, John Ehle has produced another very readable book. This time the setting is a thinly-disguised Ocracoke Island and the characters are old residents of the Island. The plot deals with their reaction to a newcomer. It is a most entertaining and believable story. Written about North Carolina by a North Carolinian, it has none of the false dialect or strange situations which unfamiliar writers frequently (and in error) slip into books about the state and which make embarrassing reading. Western Carolinian Ehle writes convincingly of the East.

GORDON D. SHIRREFFS, *Roanoke Raiders*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1959. 160 pp. \$2.95.

Chicago native Shirreffs who writes in San Fernando Valley, California, has turned his hand to a story for 12 to 15-year-olds. He writes of blockade-runners and other naval activity in North Carolina during the Civil War. The hero is a pro-Union North Carolina boy who spies for the Yankees. The story of the ram "Albemarle" plays an important part in the book.

INGLIS FLETCHER, *Cormorant's Brood*. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1959. 345 pp. \$3.95.

This ninth novel in Mrs. Fletcher's "Carolina Series" will delight her followers just as the earlier ones have. We have here the story of one of the Proprietors of Carolina who comes to Edenton in 1725 because of the conflicting reports he has heard on life in the colony. In order to get a true picture of the situation he takes an assumed name and says he has come to buy property. The governess to Governor Burrington's children recognizes the Proprietor as an old friend of her brother's, but she keeps his secret and helps him to gather the facts. It becomes obvious to him that the colonists are dissatisfied and want to be free from the Crown. The characters, from bondservants to land owners, all seem to be striving for freedom.

JIM BOOKER, *Trail to Oklahoma*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1959. 184 pp. \$2.95.

This moving story, told from the viewpoint of a 12-year-old Indian boy, relates the tragedy of the "trail of tears" when the Cherokees were moved from their Great Smoky Mountain homes to Oklahoma. The many interesting illustrations supplement the vivid word-pictures to give the modern reader a better understanding of the Indian and his way of life.

MRS. BILLY GRAHAM, *Our Christmas Story*. New York: Thomas Nelson & Sons, 1959. 80 pp. \$2.50.

Mrs. Graham, in simple but moving language, tells a story to children of the birth of Christ. To explain the beginning of Christmas she starts her story with the Garden of Eden and concludes with an account of the first Christmas. Illustrations which help explain the text to young listeners are attractive and adequate.

STEPHEN W. MEADER, *Wild Pony Island*. New York: Harcourt Brace and Company, 1959. 192 pp. \$2.95.

This sympathetic and realistic story of a boy's life on Ocracoke Island will thrill and

delight many a Tar Heel youngster. In reading of the experiences of a city boy who moves to the Island and immediately begins to learn about a whole new way of life, they should learn much that will interest and entertain them.

MAY JUSTUS, *Barney, Bring Your Banjo*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1959. 61 pp. \$2.50.

The dust jacket contains the only clue as to the setting of this little story of an episode in the life of a Smoky Mountain lad. We're told that it's Tennessee, but it could just as well be North Carolina! Barney's uncle, in this story for the beginning reader, has made him a banjo. How Barney goes about learning a pretty song to sing at the Saturday night "play party" on the other side of the mountain is told in a very pleasant little story.

JULIA M. STREET, *Candle Love Feast*. New York: Coward-McCann, Inc., 1959. 35 pp. \$2.75.

Mrs. Street, a Winston-Salem Moravian, tells here, for children, the meaning and the ritual of a Moravian love feast. The service of "breaking bread together in brotherly love" is carefully explained. Handsome illustrations in color accompany the story.

EDITORIAL BOARD

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The summer issue of *North Carolina Libraries* will be devoted to the Membership. Miss Marjorie Hood will be Guest Editor.

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FOR A BETTER-READ, BETTER-INFORMED AMERICA



Remember, Walt Kelly, author of *Ten Ever-Lovin' Blue-Eyed Years With Pogo*, will be the speaker at the Greensboro War Memorial, Tuesday, April 5th., at 8:30 p.m.