FILM PREVIEW PROJECT

The Film Council of America, by a special arrangement with the North Carolina Library Commission and the UNC Bureau of Visual Education, is providing 100 films for previewing in 10 public libraries in the state. This cooperative project covers the period from January to June, 1953. Libraries to participate in the project were selected on the basis of the first ten applications received at the Library Commission before the deadline for filing applications on December 14, 1952.

In the project, preview films are sent to participating libraries in packages of ten. The subject categories represented in the packages are: Political Education, International Relations, Economic Education, Humanities, Health and Safety, Marriage and the Family, Child Development, Biography, History, Travel, Children’s Films, Religion and Ethics, Contemporary National Scene.

There are two chief advantages to be derived from the Preview Project: (1) It will afford an opportunity for community group and club leaders to see good films on topics which are important to all members of the community and enable them to plan ahead to secure suitable films for community use. The project will also (2) enable public librarians to see a variety of films and to recommend titles to be purchased by the Adult Film Project and made available for general use in the state.

The Film Preview Project for the state was discussed and formally accepted by the Public Library Section Audio-Visual Committee of the North Carolina Library Association in its meeting in Concord on December 6. The project was adopted as an integral part of the Committee’s Adult Film Project which was initiated early in 1952, and plans were made by the Committee to expand adult film service in the public libraries of North Carolina in 1953.

—GLADYS JOHNSON.

AMERICAN HERITAGE PROJECT

The American Heritage Project in North Carolina is off to a good start. Two discussion groups began their meetings in October, and eight others began their series of meetings in November and December. During January, the final 13 groups will begin their meetings. Most encouraging of all is the fact that there are evidences that the idea of adult discussion groups has found favor in some public libraries which are not officially operating as parts of the American Heritage Project. In Rockingham, Mrs. Dorothy Moore, Librarian of the Rockingham-Richmond County Library, conducts a series of book review programs on subjects of current interest; and groups of adults in Asheboro and in Bryson City meet informally to discuss such books as Johnson’s This American People.

Fifteen of the American Heritage Discussion Groups have reached decisions about the types of materials to be used: five have chosen to use books alone and ten expect to use a combination of books and films.

Statistical information about the kinds of people participating in the American Heritage Groups is being collected as each group is organized. These data will be compiled into a profile of the American Heritage Project in North Carolina.

—GLADYS JOHNSON, Director,
American Heritage Project in N. C.,
N. C. Library Commission, Raleigh.

North Carolina Libraries will publish an interpretation of the profile, and information as to where copies may be obtained, in a future issue.—Eds.