

Report from the President

Almost everyone had the opportunity to attend a workshop during the fall of 1972. Many special topics were offered to people engaged in various types of library work.

More than three hundred and fifty public library staff members attended workshops on communication held in four sections of the state. Lectures, films, discussion groups and role playing were used to emphasize and dramatize the subject. I attended two of the workshops and was impressed at the enthusiasm I observed among staff members who are doing public service work.

An innovative type of mini-conference was held in Greensboro by the College and University Section. Fall tutorials consisted of nine special sessions under the able leadership of Dean Edward Holley, Dr. Doralyn Hickey, Mrs. Rosalind Campbell, Dr. Walter Hagaman, Dr. Jerrold Orne and Dr. Wayne Yenawine. In addition we heard Dean Holley at lunch and Dr. Katherine Stokes at dinner. Joseph Ruzicka was host at a lovely social hour. All of us felt that we had a very worthwhile and productive two days. This energetic section has plans for additional workshops this year.

On the 19th of September I was in Raleigh for the first meeting of the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey Committee. Dr. Mary Edna Anders from the Georgia Tech Research Institute is Director of the survey. Our association and the North Carolina State Library have contributed to the study which will repeat a landmark work conducted in 1946-47. It is designed to measure trends and growth since that time and to help formulate objectives for future use and development.

We had a full and busy day with a lovely lunch served by Jane Wilson and her staff.

The next day I met with the North Carolina Certification Board in the office of the State Librarian. We had a long list of applications to approve and we discussed revision of the regulations for certification. We decided to wait on this however until we see what directions the Board of Governors of the Greater University might take.

Quite a number of North Carolinians went to New Orleans for the joint meeting of the Southeastern-Southwestern Library Associations in early November. A crowded program kept many of us busy trying to take in as much as possible. Noted speakers were Mr. Robert Cromie, Columnist for the Chicago Tribune and Mr. Charles



Elizabeth Copeland

H. Stevens, Executive Director of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science. Quite a few of our members participated in programs of special interest. In addition to the meeting we found time to explore the French Quarter, the Garden District, the New Orleans Port and other places of historical and colorful interest.

The week following our return the Biennial School Media Work Conference sponsored by the North Carolina Association of School Librarians and the Educational Media Association was held in Durham. "It's a Love-In" featured the individualization of instruction, learner oriented vibrant education through an individualized network. Several hundred school librarians were in attendance for the entire conference. I was a special guest at the banquet Friday evening and was delighted with Suzanne Newton, author of *Purro and the Prattleberries* who spoke on the subject "You-from my point of view."

November 17 found me in Raleigh again for a meeting of the Joint School-Public Library Committee to discuss ways of cooperation. So far as I know this is the first time that school and public librarians have sat down together to talk to each other about matters of state-wide interest. I felt that it was a very good day for it established lines of communication which we have not had before. Other meetings will be held and I believe we shall all benefit from this joint effort. Jane Wilson and her staff served us another delicious lunch. I continue to be very appreciative of their never-failing hospitality.

That afternoon Kathleen Gilleland, Nancy Wallace and I went to Chapel Hill to hear Dr. Jesse Shera address the School of Library Science on "The Future of the

Public Library." This wise statesman of national reputation warmed our hearts with his assessment of the public library and its worth, both in the past and in the future. As public librarians we were deeply appreciative of his remarks, sometimes philosophical, and of his urging that we, like the lantern bearers, should continue our efforts "to carry what light we can into the darkness."

On November 20 Marion Johnson and I attended the meeting of the State Council for Social Legislation. It was the annual meeting of the participating groups of the Council. This is a vital organization which concerns itself with the promotion and enactment of legislation chiefly affecting people who cannot speak for themselves. At lunch we heard an address by Lt. Gov.-Elect James B. Hunt, Jr.

During Culture Week in Raleigh, I attended the annual meeting of the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association presided over by fellow librarian Bill Powell. At the evening session we were especially pleased to be present to see Bill receive the Christopher Crittenden Memorial Award for his significant contributions to the stimulation of interest and knowledge of North Carolina history. Katherine Howell and I were the only other librarians at that session and we were very proud of our colleague and friend for the distinction he brought to himself and to our profession. He deserves the award richly and we congratulate him.

The new year brings new opportunities for all of us. May we take advantage of them and use them well. May we remember the words of Dr. Shera that we should not be apologetic about our past but that we should continue to try "to carry whatever light we can into the darkness."