

The President Reporting

February 15, 1966

Dear NCLA Members:

Greetings to each of you as we begin the 1965-67 biennium. Your support and cooperation have brought growth and expansion to our association. We need the cooperation and support of every member during the current biennium. The attendance at the biennial conference in Winston-Salem was the largest of any conference in the history of the association. The total membership of our organization has increased to more than 1,500. The interest and enthusiasm evidenced by all who had a part in the conference indicates a healthy and energetic organization. The association has a definite responsibility of promoting and advancing libraries throughout the state.

The work of the new biennium began a few minutes after the conference adjourned. During a called meeting of the Executive Board, the president was authorized to appoint a committee to study the dues structure of the association. This special committee is composed of the chairmen of the five sections. The Board officially designated this as the Committee to Study the Financial Structure of the N. C. L. A. This committee has been asked to study ways and means of increasing the income of the association with a recommendation for establishing the office of Executive Secretary. It is felt that the everyday activities and routines of the association should be conducted by a paid official. The various programs, committee, and section functions should be directed and coordinated by a full or part-time Executive Secretary.

The Executive Board held its first regular meeting December 14. The foremost item of business was the consideration of appointments to committees for the next two years. The Board again tried to follow the practice of not appointing a member to more than one committee or office; however, there were one or two exceptions. It is felt that an individual may concentrate his attention on a single assignment and not have a duplication of responsibilities when attending work sessions. The major activities of the association are developed and carried forward by the committees and sections. These groups have demonstrated their effectiveness by the results of their accomplishments. I have every confidence that in the current biennium the committees will develop and carry forward the work of the association in extending our purposes and goals.

The Executive Board has authorized the continuation of all standing committees except the Adult Services Organizing Committee, which was abolished. The N. C. Periodicals Committee, an exploratory committee, is to be continued during the current biennium as the N. C. Periodicals Bibliography and Union List Committee. The Organization Committee is to be continued. A new committee was instituted upon the recommendation of the Public Libraries Section. This will be the North Carolina Books Committee. The principal function of this committee will be to compile a list of North Carolina books in print available for school and public libraries. This committee will also explore the possibility of having important out-of-print items republished.

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Six weeks after the meeting of the Executive Board, at which members were recommended for various committees, I can report that the committees are ninety-five percent complete. This is most gratifying to me, and means that the committees will be able to formulate plans and begin to develop their programs early in the biennium.

I would like to express deep appreciation to the staff of the North Carolina State Library for their cooperation and guidance in the many programs of the association through the various committees and sections. Miss Elaine von Oesen capably performed the duties of Acting State Librarian for almost a year after Mrs. Elizabeth Hughey resigned and the association is grateful to her. I salute our new State Librarian, Philip S. Ogilvie, and welcome him back to North Carolina. We pledge Mr. Ogilvie our cooperation and support. (See his article on page 24).

Alva Stewart, reference librarian at UNC-Charlotte, has assumed the duties of editor of NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES. Under his guidance the high standards of the past editors of our publication will be maintained. Mr. Stewart has some interesting and informative issues planned. To Mrs. Adriana Orr, who served as editor of NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES for almost two years, the association owes a debt of gratitude for her services. We regret that Mrs. Orr has left the state.

National Library Week plans are moving ahead under the capable leadership of H. William O'Shea, who is serving as the Executive Director for 1966. Mrs. Dan K. Moore, the State's First Lady, is serving as State Chairman for National Library Week, (April 17-23).

The association has had a number of invitations from hotels and city officials for the 1967 conference to be held in their cities. The Executive Board expects to discuss this matter at its next meeting May 7 and hopes to take definite action on this important matter. Information is being obtained from several cities regarding available space and facilities to accommodate our increased membership. We had to refuse several exhibitors for whom we could not provide space during the conference in Winston-Salem. We hope that we can provide adequately for all of the scheduled meetings and for all potential exhibitors at our 1967 conference.

The strength of our organization is in our membership. If we are to succeed in our objectives and move forward with our plans, every member must give his support and indicate a willingness to participate actively in the overall program of the association. If any of you have any suggestions for improving our association, or if you feel that there is any area which needs special attention, I would appreciate your writing to me.

Sincerely yours,

Paul S. Ballance
President