

## A.L.A. NEWS

Plans are under way for a campaign to extend library service effectively in the post-war years. In October, the American Library Association proposed to Congress and to the Surplus Property Administration that army camp libraries be turned over to the states to start rural libraries when the camps are closed. For North Carolina, a state low in books per capita, this is an opportunity not to be overlooked. Camp libraries have been used with profit by the men in the armed forces, who will return to civilian life with a better reading skill and taste which should be met by more and better books. A library must meet demobilization with definite plans for more attention to its service as an adult education center. The individual's need for easy access to the tools of learning must be filled by the community and the library is the logical instrument for such service.

The American Library Association now has a Division of Public Libraries comparable to the long-established Association of College and Reference Libraries. The Council voted favorably, for the second time, on October 13 on the petition of nearly 1200 members. An organization meeting was held October 15 with Carl Vitz as convener and temporary chairman.

Provisional officers were elected to serve until the first annual meeting with Amy Winslow, Cuyahoga County Library, Cleveland, as President.

Interested librarians may designate this Division, in paying their 1945

A.L.A. dues, as the one to which they wish 20 per cent of their dues to be paid. At the same time they may indicate membership in one of the following sections: Adult Education, Branch Librarians, Business and Technology, Lending, Large Public Libraries, Order and Book Selection, Service Librarians (Army and Navy), and Small Public Libraries. Other sections will undoubtedly be organized later, for example, medium-sized public libraries.

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