

# NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

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## SOUTHEASTERN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEETING

OCTOBER 23-26, 1946

By HALLIE SYKES BACELLI

The 12th biennial Conference of the Southeastern Library Association was held at George Vanderbilt Hotel, Asheville, N. C., October 23-26, 1946. More than 500 Librarians and Friends of Libraries from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia attended.

Outstanding speakers for the General Sessions were: Hudson Strode, Teacher of Creative Writing, University of Alabama, and author of books on Finland, *Story of Bermuda* and *South By Thunderbird*, who spoke on "A Traveler's Impression of the Scandinavian Countries Today"; Dr. Tommie Dora Barker, Dean of Emory Library School, who summarized activities of "Libraries in the Southeastern States, 1942-1946"; Dr. Louis R. Wilson, University of North Carolina, who by proxy told of the "Southeastern States Cooperative Survey of Libraries"; Paul Howard, Washington Public Relations Representative of A.L.A., who stressed "Libraries Must Learn to Live Together"; Hoyt Galvin, Director of Mecklenburg County and Charlotte (N. C.) City Library, who demonstrated various audio-visual machines and spoke on "Audio-Visual Opportunities and Obligations of Libraries"; and Mary U. Rothrock, President of A.L.A., whose subject was "Libraries and the South Today."

Dinner and luncheon speakers included: TRUSTEES LUNCHEON: William T. Polk, Greensboro (N. C.) Library Board Member and Editor, *Greensboro Daily News*, who spoke on "What's In A Library"; SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S SECTIONS: Glen Blough, specialist in science with the U. S. Department of Education, who spoke of his adventures in writing *Monkey With A Notion*, and adventures with teachers of science; and GENERAL DINNER MEETING: Mrs. Christine N. Govan, author of many children's books, most popular of which is *Those Plummer Children*, who spoke humorously of her family life and writing under the subject of "My Life in an Ivory Tower." Various State Library Association members and Library School Alumni had reunion breakfasts and luncheons.

Sectional meeting programs included: COUNTY LIBRARIANS: Business meeting and joint meeting with the Public Library Section; HOSPITAL LIBRARIANS: Organization meeting and talks by Anna L. Howard, Della Shapleigh, and Mary Frances Slinger; address by Dr. H. F. Corson; talk, "Organization and Servicing of a Small Medical Library," by Mildred Jordan; REFERENCE SECTION: Talks, "Present State of Reference Work in the South," by Mrs. Brainard Cheney; "Reference Work in Public Libraries," by Alma Hill Jami-son; and "Reference Work in College and University Libraries," by Georgia H. Faison; CATALOG SECTION: Talks, "Reorganizing the Library Collection in the College of William and Mary," by Margaret Galphin; "Modernizing the Catalogs of Two Alabama Libraries," by Clyde H. Cantrell, and "Centralized Cataloging—a State Aid in Georgia," by Virginia Drewry; PUBLIC LIBRARY SECTION: "Great Books Discussion on 'The Wealth of Nations'" led by Gordon G. Dupee and John T. Barden; ARMY LIBRARIANS SECTION: Recent developments in Army Library Service and Civil Service, outlined by three Service Command Librarians; COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SECTION: Talks, "Library Program of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools," by W. Stanley Hoole; "Training for College and University Library Work," by William Jesse; and "A.C.R.L. and Its Relation to A.L.A.," by A. F. Kuhlman; SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S SECTIONS: Talk, "All Good Books for Boys and Girls Have Social Significance," by Helen Ferris, and floor discussions of types and subject matter of books which need to be written for children. Miss Nora Beust, Specialist in Children's Literature, U. S. Department of Education, held well-attended meetings each morning with lively discussions of "Books for Children and Young People."

A welcoming reception was given by the Friends of the Library of Asheville. Tours of Biltmore Estate and other local points of interest were arranged.

Sessions were scheduled to allow time for Board Meetings, Committee Meetings, sight-seeing, shopping, renewing friendships and browsing through the book exhibits.

Approximately 30 exhibits prepared by publishers, book binders, and library supply houses were on display in the Asheville City Auditorium. Outstanding among the exhibits was the Combined Book Exhibit which gave Librarians an opportunity to examine a well-balanced selection of the pick of the recent library titles from leading publishers. This exhibit, in two sections, children and adult selections, was arranged by the Dewey Decimal Classification and printed check-lists were provided to save note-taking for purchase information. As a special feature of the book dinner, numbers were drawn for gifts from the exhibitors, some 30 books, globes, maps and other articles.

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Officers for the biennial ending with the 12th conference were: President, Ola M. Wyeth, Savannah (Ga.) Public Library; Vice-President, F. K. W. Drury, Nashville (Tenn.) Public Library; Secretary-Treasurer, Alfred Rawlinson, Centre College Library, Danville, Kentucky. Presidents of the nine State Library Associations served as members of the Executive Committee. The local committees were headed by Margaret H. Ligon and Annie Westall.

Officers for the next biennial: President, William H. Jesse, Director of Libraries, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee; Vice-President, Miss Edna J. Grauman, Head of Reference Department, Louisville Free Public Library, Louisville, Kentucky; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Sarah Jones, Assistant Director, Textbook and Library Division, Georgia State Department of Education, Atlanta, Georgia.

NOTE: An article by Louis R. Wilson, University of North Carolina, "Southeastern Library Association's First Quarter Century" appeared in the *Southern Packet*, October 1946, to give a review of the "Accomplishments of the Southeastern Library Association . . . a conference small enough for close contacts and free discussion, and giving opportunity to consider library problems in the light of Southern conditions, social and economic, and taking into account the stage of library development in the South" . . .

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