

# North Carolina Libraries

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Wendell W. Smiley, Editor

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## **The Scholarship-Loan Fund of The North Carolina Library Association**

Miss Mariana Long reports that the Scholarship-Loan Fund of the North Carolina Library Association has grown to \$275. Librarians and friends of the late Maud Whitson of Asheville have given a memorial to her for this fund. The Greensboro Library Club has voted \$100 from its scholarship fund and 60 cents from each member's dues to be contributed annually. Other individuals have sent in contributions. This fund is one which is being raised by efforts of individual members in the association, and each member is asked not only to contribute but also to look for ways and means within their community to help with

this project. In order to handle these funds as well as other funds of the association, the Executive Board voted that the association be incorporated. When this has been accomplished, members of the association may be freer to go beyond its membership to solicit help towards increasing the scholarship-loan fund. It is hoped by this fall to have a sufficient amount on hand to ask for applications for its use in encouraging and aiding worthy candidates to enter or continue library school training.

The last issue of the ACRL Recruiting Bulletin stressed throughout the importance of the individual's contacts and the practicing example of each working librarian. "It should be reiterated that personal contact is the most important single recruiting device." It suggests that most librarians have been deficient in following up aggressively the interest revealed by likely prospects or by stirring up that interest where it may already be latent. The Scholarship-Loan Fund is in existence for use in North Carolina and is something you can talk about to young people interested in library work. There are other ways also of helping these young people, but a little financial help is often just enough encouragement to make the difference in the field of work chosen.

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## North Carolina Literary Firsts

*By Richard Walser*

While the "firsts" of any literature are always significant, they are frequently difficult to establish. The following paragraphs will show why any "first" must be qualified to indicate just what sort of "first" it is. A librarian will be fortunate indeed to find any of these books on his shelves; and if he can establish a title which will antedate any one of them, it will be an exciting discovery.

### Poetry

The first book of poetry written in North Carolina was *The Court of Fancy* (Philadelphia, 1762). This poem of twenty-four pages was composed in Wilmington by Thomas Godfrey, a native Pennsylvanian, who acknowledged his indebtedness to Chaucer's *House of Fame* and to the poetry of Alexander Pope.

Though many poems by native North Carolinians appeared during the latter part of the eighteenth century as handbills and in newspapers and periodicals, few of them were published in pamphlet or book form. In 1790 Sibley and Howard of Fayetteville printed *The Monitor; or a Poem on Dancing, addressed to the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Fayetteville Assembly*. No copy is extant, and there is no key to the author's identity. *The Rural*

*Philosopher*, a long didactic pastoral poem translated from the French of Abbe Delille by John Maunde, was published in Newbern in 1804 by Franklin and Garrow.

The first separate publication of a poem by a native North Carolinian, other than those poems issued as handbills, was *An Elegiac Poem on the Death of General Washington* (Philadelphia, 1800) by Charles Caldwell, a native of Caswell County, who was practicing medicine in Philadelphia. This pompous twelve-page lamentation, part of which had been previously circulated as a handbill, is an attractively printed pamphlet. There is a copy at Brown University.

## Drama

The first drama written by a resident North Carolinian was *The Prince of Parthia* (Philadelphia, 1765), famous as the first American play to be produced by professional actors. Thomas Godfrey evidently began it in Philadelphia, his native town, but finished the romantic tragedy during the summer and autumn of 1759 after moving to Wilmington. In even blank verse Godfrey invented a tale of love and murder in the ancient country of Parthia at the beginning of the Christian era.

The first play published in North Carolina was *Nolens Volens, or the Biter Bit* (Newbern, 1809) by Everard Hall, a Virginian living in North Carolina at the time the drama was written. With its setting in England, the play reminds one of the eighteenth century comedies of Sheridan and Goldsmith. It is a felicitous production, and even today would be lively on a stage. There is a copy at Harvard.

The first play by a native North Carolinian was Lemuel Sawyer's *Blackbeard, A Comedy, in Four Acts. Founded on Fact* (Washington, D. C., 1824). The playwright, a native of Camden County, laid the scene of his play in nearby Currituck County. The plot centers about two sharpers who trick the country tyros of their money in a scheme to locate one of the treasures of Blackbeard the Pirate. A subplot deals with a county election to the accompaniment of whiskey and bribes. The amateurish effort by a United States Congressman is hardly an acting piece. *The Wreck of Honor*, a tragedy by Sawyer appeared also during 1824.

## Fiction

The first novel published in North Carolina was *Letters of Adelaide de Sancerre to Count de Nance* (Newbern, 1801), a translation from the French of Mme. Marie Jeanne (de Heurles Laboras de Mezieres) Riccoboni (1713-1792). It was first published in Paris in 1766, and an English translation came out in London the following year. It is highly probable that the Newbern edition, however, was a fresh translation made by Francis X. Martin, a Frenchman who had settled in the sea port and who evidently hoped to add a bit of continental zest to

the drab orthodoxy of North Carolina life. Published by Martin, the novel was followed by six others. It is undistinguished literature. There is a copy in the private library of Bruce Cotten of Baltimore. *Historical Memoirs of Stephanie Louise de Bourbon-Conti* was published during the same year by Martin, presumably a little after *Adelaide de Sancerre*.

The first novel by a resident North Carolinian was *Matilda Berkely, or Family Anecdotes* (Raleigh, 1804), by Mrs. Winifred Marshall Gales. It was issued from the printery of her husband, Joseph Gales, who with his wife had come to North Carolina from England via Philadelphia. Though there is some evidence that this romantic novel of English life is a reprint of a former English edition, it is a prized collector's item. Mrs. Gales' earlier novel, *History of Lady Emma Melcombe*, was published in 1787 in a three-volume London edition.

The first novel with a partial North Carolina setting was the well-known *Horse-Shoe Robinson: A Tale of the Tory Ascendancy* (1835) by John Pendleton Kennedy, a native of Baltimore. This story of the Revolution moves in its action from Virginia to both the Carolinas.

The first novel by a resident North Carolinian with its setting almost entirely in North Carolina was *Eoneguski, or The Cherokee Chief* (Washington, D. C., 1839) by Senator Robert Strange, who gathered Cherokee history and legends while he was a superior court judge in western North Carolina. The principal character is based on an important chieftain, Yonaguska. Though Strange was born in Virginia, he settled in Fayetteville when he was nineteen. This exciting adventure tale, which has never been reprinted, is by any accounting the first North Carolina novel.

The first novel by a native North Carolinian was *Alamance, or The Great and Final Experiment* (New York, 1847) by Calvin Henderson Wiley, who at the time of its publication was only twenty-eight, a few years before he became famous as the first state superintendent of public instruction. It is a historical novel of the Revolution as it affected the settlers near Alamance Church in Guilford County. There is an excellent description of the Battle of Guilford Court House. Wiley wrote one other novel, *Roanoke* (serialized, New York, 1849), about the coastal country of North Carolina before and during the Revolution.

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## State Library Survey to be Published

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Library Association held in Raleigh on April 24, it was decided to subsidize the publication of the North Carolina Library Survey. Miss Marjorie Beal will serve as editor, and it is hoped to have the report ready for distribution by late summer or early fall.

It was also decided that the 1949 meeting of the Association will be held in Raleigh.

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## State Planning and Implementation Committee for Libraries

With National Plans completed for the development of superior library service throughout the United States, the Committee on Implementation of the National Plans (CINP) of the American Library Association is promoting the formation of State Planning and Implementation Committees (SPIC) in every state. National Committee Chairman Edward A. Chapman, explaining the functions of CINP, stated that the increase and improvement of all types of libraries and library services nationwide depends upon active State Planning and Implementation Committees in every state. In this way, implementation of federal, state and local library plans will be on the basis of a coordinated national movement.

The basic characteristics of the SPIC are representation of the interests of all types of libraries at the same time, and further the inclusion of all outside representation that can conceivably contribute to or affect library planning and plan execution. The effectiveness of these State committees is directly proportional to the extent of citizen participation secured. Specialists in community organization suggest that such groups as the SPIC should be given citizens leadership, with librarians in the role of consultants. The librarian is responsible for supplying information on current library operations, leaving the development of library service concepts to the citizen members of the Committee. They represent the consumers of library service who logically should have the last word as to what services the library should furnish.

The number of members on the SPIC cannot be too many so long as each represents an element necessary to library planning and plan execution. Generally indicated the membership of the State Committee will include citizen leadership of an overall character. As one used to getting things done and judging the practicality of operations, a leader in the business world is highly qualified for committee leadership.

Since participation in educational activities and the spreading of information are the library's most important functions, another segment of SPIC membership is representation of all children, young people and adult educational interests, and representation of all other purposeful state-wide organizations with educational objectives in the broadest sense. The Committee also should include experts in rural and urban sociology, in educational research, law, taxation, legislation and importantly in publicity and public relations. Such specialists are responsible for indicating community interests and needs, sources of appropriation for increased library service and how obtained, and for seeing that the work of the State Committee and local library findings receive widespread publicity. The

fourth segment of SPIC membership is the librarian-consultants assisting, but not dictating, the development of service concepts by the Committee, largely consisting of library-consumer representation by which librarians are guided.

In order to assume state leadership and successfully guide local action, the following elements of SPIC operation are fundamental: (1) preparation of a directory of all state organizations and offices with local outlying units; (2) the studying of the objectives and operations of these organizations and offices for developing specific programs of library participation in the work of their local units; (3) the surveying of library service statewide to determine how weakly or strongly the educational service function is being discharged by all libraries; (4) the setting up of a system of continuous communication with community leaders and librarians, statewide; (5) the maintenance of a continuous statewide publicity program reporting the work of SPIC and significant local library service findings and developments with particular attention to the news value of poor service findings; and (6) the organization of citizens on a statewide basis.

These six elements of action make up what may be termed the "ferment" phase of Committee operations. Concurrently the second and final phase matters of revision or enactment of library laws, determination of kind and amount of state support, the sources and extent of local library income, and the planning of legislative action, can be under continuous study by the appropriate members of SPIC. These foregoing six elements of SPIC operation also set the pattern for local action, upon the extent of which the success of SPIC and the generation of a dynamic statewide and nationwide movement in support of libraries directly depends.

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## The One Hundred Books

*Reprinted here, from the January, 1948 issue of the Kiwanis Magazine, are the books which two thousand well known Americans chose for their effectiveness in describing the unique flavors of America as brought out by its people and their struggles, attainments, and ideals.*

### Fiction

- *A Goodly Heritage*, by Mary Ellen Chase
- *A Lantern In Her Hand*, by Bess Streeter Aldrich
- *Alice Adams*, by Booth Tarkington
- *The American*, by Howard Fast
- *Arrowsmith*, by Sinclair Lewis

- *Arundel*, by Kenneth Roberts
- *Barren Ground*, by Ellen Glasgow
- *Cimarron*, by Edna Ferber
- *Collected Stories*, by Ring Lardner
- *The Covered Wagon*, by Emerson Hough
- *Death Comes For The Archbishop*, by Willa Cather
- *Drums Along The Mohawk*, by Walter Edmonds
- *Ethan Frome*, by Edith Wharton
- *The Four Million* by O. Henry
- *The Forest And The Fort*, by Hervey Allen
- *The Free Man*, by Conrad Richter
- *Freedom Road*, by Howard Fast
- *The Great Meadow*, by Elizabeth Madox Roberts
- *The Grapes Of Wrath*, by John Steinbeck
- *Giants In The Earth*, by Ole Rolvaag
- *The Hoosier Schoolmaster*, by Edward Eggleston
- *Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain
- *The Immortal Wife*, by Irving Stone
- *Journey In The Dark*, by Martin Flavin
- *Let The Hurricane Roar*, by Rose Wilder Lane
- *Last Of The Mohicans*, by James Fenimore Cooper
- *Look Homeward, Angel*, by Thomas Wolfe
- *The Late George Apley*, by John P. Marquand
- *The Man Without A Country*, by Edward Everett Hale
- *My Antonia*, by Willa Cather
- *Moby Dick*, by Herman Melville

- *Northwest Passage*, by Kenneth Roberts
- *The Octopus*, by Frank Norris
- *O Pioneers*, by Willa Cather
- *Old Creole Days*, by George W. Cable
- *The Ox Bow Incident*, by Walter Van Tilburg Clark
- *Rabble In Arms*, by Kenneth Roberts
- *Red Badge Of Courage*, by Stephen Crane
- *Ruggles Of Red Gap*, by Harry Leon Wilson
- *So Big*, by Edna Ferber
- *Tales Of The Gold Rush*, by Bret Harte
- *The Trees*, by Conrad Richter
- *U. S. A.*, by John Dos Passos
- *Valley Of Decision*, by Marcia Davenport
- *Vein Of Iron*, by Ellen Glasgow

## Poetry

- *Collected Poems*, by Robert Frost
- *Collected Poems*, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- *John Brown's Body*, by Stephen Vincent Benet
- *Leaves Of Grass*, by Walt Whitman
- *The People, Yes*, by Carl Sandburg

## Plays

- *Ah, Wilderness*, by Eugene O'Neill
- *Our Town*, by Thornton Wilder
- *Yellow Jack*, by Sidney C. Howard

## Biography-Autobiography

- *A Son Of The Middle Border*, by Hamlin Garland



- *Admiral Of The Ocean Sea*, by Samuel Eliot Morison
- *Andrew Jackson*, by Marquis James
- *The Americanization Of Edward Bok*
- *Autobiography Of William Allen White*
- *Autobiography Of Lincoln Steffens*
- *Autobiography Of Benjamin Franklin*
- *Benjamin Franklin*, by Carl Van Doren
- *Citizen Tom Paine*, by Howard Fast
- *Connecticut Yankee*, by Wilbur L. Cross
- *The Education Of Henry Adams*
- *George Washington*, by W. E. Woodward
- *George Washington Carver*, by Rackman Holt
- *Life With Father*, by Clarence Day
- *Long Remembered*, by MacKinlay Kantor
- *The Making Of An American*, by Jacob Riis
- *Native Son*, by Richard Wright
- *Paul Revere And The World He Lived In*, by Esther Forbes
- *The Prairie Years*, by Carl Sandburg
- *The Raven*, by Marquis James
- *Sherman, Fighting Prophet*, by Lloyd Lewis
- *Theodore Roosevelt*, by Henry F. Pringle
- *Thomas Jefferson*, by Claude G. Bowers
- *Up From Slavery*, by Booker T. Washington
- *We Who Built America*, by Carl F. Wittke
- *The World Of Washington Irving*, by Van Wyck Brooks
- *Yankee From Olympus*, by Catherine Drinker Bowen

## Essays-History-Miscellaneous

- *A Sub Treasury Of American Humor*, by E. B. and K. S. White
- *A Treasury Of American Folklore*, by B. A. Botkin
- *The American Language*, by H. L. Mencken
- *The Epic Of America*, by James Truslow Adams
- *Essays*, by Ralph Waldo Emerson
- *From Many Lands*, by Louis Adamic
- *The Ground We Stand On*, by John Dos Passos
- *Home Country*, by Ernie Pyle
- *Inside U. S. A.*, by John Gunther
- *Life On The Mississippi*, by Mark Twain
- *The Lincoln Reader*, by Paul M. Angle
- *Main Currents In American Thought*, by V. L. Parrington
- *Only Yesterday*, by Frederick Lewis Allen
- *The Oregon Trail*, by Francis Parkman
- *The Republic*, by Charles A. Beard
- *The Rise Of American Civilization*, by Charles A. and Mary Beard
- *Walden*, by Henry David Thoreau
- *The Way Our People Lived*, by W. E. Woodward
- *The Winning Of The West*, by Theodore Roosevelt
- *The Year Of Decision*, by Bernard De Voto

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## Cory to Succeed Milam as A. L. A. Executive Secretary

John Mackenzie Cory, associate librarian, University of California Library at Berkeley, has accepted the secretaryship of the American Library Association and will take office not later than September 1, 1948. Mr. Cory received his A.B. degree from the University of California, and his certificate from the School of Librarianship, University of California, and

he attended the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago. Formerly, Mr. Cory was an assistant, University of California Library, research assistant, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago; director of libraries University of Alabama; senior public library specialist, U.S. Office of Education; chief, Library Liaison Unit, U.S. Office of War Information, and a warrant officer, U.S. Air Force, Air Transport Command.

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## South Carolina Library Board Receives Doubled Appropriation

The Governor of South Carolina has just signed the General Appropriation Act which gives to the South Carolina Library Board \$75,000 as state aid funds. This represents 50 percent increase over the appropriation for the current year. The increased funds will be used to increase state aid to county libraries to \$1000 and to offer four Regional libraries grants of \$4000 each.

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## American Library Association Atlantic City Conference

Pearl Buck addressed librarians attending the A.L.A.'s 67th annual conference in Atlantic City, June 13-19, at the first general session on Monday, June 14. Dr. Robert D. Leigh discussed "Improvement of Library Service—The Four Year Goals" at the session on Thursday, June 17. The final program included a discussion of the Great Issues by Norman Cousins.

Joseph A. Brandt, president of Henry Holt and Company, spoke before the general session of A.C.R.L. on Friday, June 18. Benjamin E. Powell, incoming A.C.R.L. president, gave his inaugural address at this meeting. The A.C.R.L. building committee sponsored a clinic on college library buildings, Wednesday, June 16.

Benjamin A. Custer, Assistant Librarian in Charge of Processing at the Detroit Public Library was among the principal speakers at the meeting of the Cataloging and Classification Division, Friday, June 18. The committee also held a meeting on its public relations activities on Tuesday, June 15.

The theme "Toward Understanding" was developed by Dr. Brooks Emeny and Virginia Kirkus at the Thursday afternoon session of the Division of Libraries for Children and Young People. Dr. Emeny is President of the Foreign Policy Association while Miss Kirkus operates a bookshop subscribed to by over 700 librarians. Miss Kirkus is the author of two children's books *Fun in Bed for Children* and *Junior Fun in Bed*.

Librarians interested in building plans found the meetings of the Library Architecture and Building Planning Committee of interest. James E. Bryan spoke on the remodeling of public library buildings. On Thursday, June 17, a building question period with a panel of building consultants on hand was held.

Over 150 exhibits from the publishing, educational, and library fields were displayed at the 67th annual Conference of the American Library Association in Atlantic City, June 13 to 19, the Library Association disclosed. The Conference attracted over 10,000 librarians, authors, publishers, and educators.

Exhibitors included Brookings Institute, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, American Committee on Education, Association of American Railroads, Bituminous Coal Institute, American Oriental, East-West Association, Pan-American Airways, and the American Library Association, the latter contributing about 25 exhibits.

Featured professional exhibits were the audio-visual display, illustrating newest films and Projected Books—slide films projected on a ceiling so that bed-ridden patients can read comfortably; model library buildings, plans, and photographs; a display on Intellectual Freedom, showing books and magazines banned in various communities; the outstanding Religious Books of the Year; and a combined book exhibit, displaying most of the books published during the past year.

Two bookmobiles were on display, complete with all equipment, including shelves of books. Bookmobiles are becoming increasingly popular in rural areas, where persons have no other access to library service. One of the bookmobiles displayed is 34 feet long, weighing over 10 tons when loaded with books.

The A.L.A., oldest and largest library association in the world, had selected "The Challenge of Public Affairs," as the theme for its Conference.