

North Carolina Libraries

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Editorially Speaking

Delay in publishing this, the first number of Volume IX of North Carolina Libraries must not be construed as indicating a lack of activities in local library circles. The reverse would be more nearly true.

Many members of the North Carolina Library Association have been happily and busily engaged in new building operations, news of which will be forthcoming in subsequent issues.

Other members of the association have devoted much time and thought to that interesting and worth-while organization, the North Carolina High School Library Association, whose history and purpose is described herein.

A number of our members were instrumental in planning and carrying out two successful workshops which were conducted in North Carolina during the summer. Both sessions are covered in this issue, as is the Columbia University Workshop for Extension Librarians, at which our state was represented.

In the meantime a large number of North Carolina librarians took time out to attend the A. L. A. Conference at Cleveland, one feature of which was the presentation of the Lippincott Award to Halsey W. Wilson, whose life and work are well described in the new book, "The H. W. Wilson Company," published by University of Minnesota Press.

Your next issue is scheduled for November, and the Volume will be concluded with Number 3 in February and Number 4 in April—I hope.

Charles R. Brockmann

Editor

The North Carolina High School Library Association

By Mildred Herring and Vernelle Gilliam*

The North Carolina High School Library Association, made up of student library assistants in North Carolina High Schools, is now in its third year of existence. The Association, organized for the purpose of increasing "pupil interest and participation in school library work," of promoting "better understanding and co-operation between local and State High School Library Clubs," of attracting "high-type pupil library assistants," and of "arousing interest in the study of Librarianship as a Profession," is under the joint sponsorship of the North Carolina Library Association and the Librarians' Section of the North Carolina Education Association. The sponsorship of such an organization is an outgrowth of the work of the Committee for Librarianship of the North Carolina Library Association.

As a section of, and at the invitation of, the North Carolina Library Association, 95 student assistants from 20 high schools attended the organizational meeting of the North Carolina High School Library Association in Winston-Salem, October 17-18, 1947. Frank Driscoll, Winston-Salem, was elected President of the new Association. Library Clubs from 24 high schools, with 300 student members, show the interest manifested during the first year of organization. The present enrollment is 598, representing 35 North Carolina High Schools. The work of the organization has been led during the current school year, 1949-50, by President Gilbert Murphy, Greensboro Senior High School.

Senior high school and combination junior-senior high school students who are members of a local library club are eligible for membership in the North Carolina High School Library Association, upon payment of 25¢ annual dues.

Regular meetings of the Association are held once each year, meeting with the North Carolina Library Association in odd years and as a separate Association in even years. The state organization is divided into the six educational districts of the North Carolina Education Association. District meetings are held annually as a part of the Librarians' Section of each N.C.E.A. District.

Association officers are elected annually. At an annual meeting of the executive board, made up of an executive council and an advisory council, recommendations for the progress of the Association are made, and these are carried to the annual convention to be voted on by the entire group.

The executive council is made up of the officers of the Association and the chairman of the North Carolina High Library Association from each of the six educational districts of the

N.C.E.A. The chairman of the school library section of the North Carolina Education Association, the chairmen of the librarians' sections of the six districts of the N.C.E.A., one school librarian appointed by the chairman of the school and young people's division of the North Carolina Library Association, the librarian in the Association President's school, the librarian adviser to the President of the preceding year, and the North Carolina School Library Adviser constitute the advisory council.

**Librarians, Greensboro Senior High School, Greensboro, N. C.*

Public Library Workshop

By Gladys Johnson*

The Davidson County Library in Lexington, Antoinette Earle, librarian, was host to a Workshop for Public Librarians of North Carolina, May 17-19, 1950. The workshop was sponsored by the North Carolina Library Association Public Libraries Section and the North Carolina Library Commission and was planned by a special committee composed of Charlesanna Fox and Mrs. Barbara E. Heafner, Co-Chairmen, and Olivia Burwell, Nancy Gray, Marianne Martin, Marjorie Beal, and Antoinette Earle.

Registration for the workshop reached a total of 98. Of this number 70 were librarians and trustees from North Carolina, 7 from South Carolina, 3 from Georgia, 2 from Alabama, 1 from Virginia and 15 students from the University of North Carolina Library School. There were present 13 Negro librarians and 2 Negro trustees.

Miss Lucile Nix, Library Consultant In Charge of Rural Library Service, State Department of Education, Atlanta, Georgia, was the visiting consultant for the entire workshop, and Dr. Paul Wager, Professor of Political Science, University of North Carolina, was a special consultant for the first day.

Background information and data for the entire workshop was found in *Libraries in North Carolina* by Marjorie Beal, *Libraries of the Southeast* by L. R. Wilson and Marion Milczewski, and the published volumes of the Public Library Inquiry particularly *The Library's Public* by Bernard Berelson and *The Public Library in the Political Process* by Oliver Garceau.

The librarians who reviewed the books and presented them for discussion were Miss Evelyn Parks, Mrs. Douglas Davis and Mrs. Dorothy B. Thomas. Many others served as group discussion leaders, and the entire workshop membership entered freely into the discussions throughout the three-day program.

At the close of the program a business session of the Public Libraries Section of the North Carolina Library Association was called to receive and take action on recommendations which had grown out of workshop discussions and group thinking.

Antoinette Earle, Chairman of the Public Libraries Section presided and Nancy Gray was secretary pro tempore, and the following committees were appointed to study further some of the problems considered by the workshop:

Audio-Visual Aids Committee

- Mrs. Barbara E. Heafner, Chairman, Gastonia
- Hoyt R. Galvin, Charlotte
- Margaret Johnston, Waynesville
- Mae Kreeger, Winston-Salem
- Helen H. Thompson, Wadesboro
- Dorothy Wightman, Kenansville
- Charlesanna Fox, Asheboro

Co-operative Study Committee

- Annette H. Shinn, Chairman, Shelby
- Martha Bell, High Point
- Mrs. Edith Fagan Cannady, Oxford
- Mrs. Blanche H. Clement, Mocksville
- Mrs. Grace S. Dalton, Raleigh
- Mrs. Dorothy G. Moore, Rockingham
- Alice P. Bryan, Marion
- Edith M. Clark, Salisbury

Personnel Committee

- Irene Hester, Chairman, Greenville
- Mrs. Ellyn B. Beaty, Yadkinville
- Kathrine R. Fort, Laurinburg

- Elizabeth Gurley, High Point
- Ruth Hill, Lexington
- Mrs. Marion M. Johnson, Albemarle
- George R. Linder, Newton
- Marianne R. Martin, Leaksville
- Mrs. Mary G. Matthews, Thomasville
- Elizabeth Plexico, Concord

Policies Committee

- Mrs. Dorothy E. Shue, Chairman, Fayetteville
- Janie Allsbrook, Tarboro
- Paul S. Ballance, Greensboro
- Susan Borden, Goldsboro
- Sophronia Cooper, Oxford
- Jeannette Trotter, Winston-Salem

Regional Study Committee

- Charlesanna Fox, Chairman, Asheboro
- Mrs. Dorothy M. Avery, Southern Pines
- Mrs. Martha K. Barr, Rutherfordton
- Elizabeth Copeland, Washington
- Mrs. Douglas J. Davis, Roxboro
- Nancy Gray, Wilson
- Mrs. Helen H. Kitchens, Bryson City
- Mary Scott Gurley, New Bern
- Mrs. Carrie Askew, Sparta
- Mrs. Dorothy B. Thomas, Celo

State Aid Committee

- Olivia Burwell, Henderson
- Margaret H. Ligon, Asheville
- Evelyn L. Parks, Burlington
- Mrs. Elmina Hearne Surratt, Newsom
- Susan Borden, Goldsboro
- Elizabeth Copeland, Washington
- Mrs. Dorothy B. Thomas, Celo
- Mrs. Martha K Barr, Rutherfordton
- Clyde Smith, Raleigh
- Antoinette Earle, Chairman, Lexington

**Librarian, North Carolina Library Commission.*

Workshop for Untrained Negro Librarians

By Mildred Looney*

A workshop for untrained Negro Public librarians was held in the Richard B. Harrison Library, Raleigh, April 21-23, 1950, with forty librarians representing every section of the state present. Consultants for the workshop were Daniel Moore of the North Carolina College School of Library Science and members of the staffs of the Richard B. Harrison Library and the North Carolina Library Commission.

The purpose of this workshop was to give in-service training to untrained librarians in order that they might perform more effective programs in their libraries, and the three-day program developed the themes: making the library attractive, making the library useful, working with people, and employing technical processes.

Following a tour of the Harrison Library at the beginning of the opening session on the morning of April 21, Mrs. Mollie Huston Lee, librarian, spoke on making a library attractive and on presenting the library to the public through exhibits and other publicity. The afternoon session was devoted to discussions on the adult reader and his interests with Jessie Wilson, Harrison Library, as leader. Gladys Johnson, Library Commission, gave a talk based on the book, *The Mature Mind*, by H. A. Overstreet. Mr. Moore spoke to the group at

the evening session, using as his theme the importance of the library's collecting and making available to the public materials of local interest historically and otherwise.

The second day's discussions centered around work with children and bookmobile service. Following a talk by Mildred Looney, Library Commission, on children in the library and their books, Mrs. Laura Kearns of the Harrison Library presided at a demonstration of children's activities. This demonstration consisted of a program of magic followed by a presentation of some of the books on magic that were available in the library. The setting-up of county service and working on a bookmobile were the theme of the afternoon session with Mrs. Annie Robinson, Harrison Library, and Elizabeth House, Library Commission, as speakers.

At the final session on April 23, Helen Rex of the Library Commission discussed technical processes using displays and illustrations. Marjorie Beal, director of the Library Commission, gave a talk, "The Future—Our Responsibilities," in which she stressed the importance of the application of the things learned. Mrs. Lee closed the workshop with a summary of the discussions and study of the three days.

The formal programs were followed by informal conferences in which members of the workshop participated, and freedom was also provided for individual conferences, for examining books and for participating in some practical library routines and activities. Visits to other libraries and to the Library Commission were a part of the program, and a social meeting was held on the evening of the second day of the workshop.

It was the opinion of those observing this workshop that there was excellent enthusiasm and participation on the part of those attending. Mrs. Lee, who as supervisor of Negro service with the Library Commission has since visited several of the libraries whose librarians attended the workshop, reports that she has found this enthusiasm carrying over into actual practices.

**North Carolina Library Commission.*

Columbia University Workshop for Extension Librarians

By Gladys Johnson*

Dr. Robert D. Leigh, Director of the Public Library Inquiry, was in charge of the Workshop for Extension Librarians held at Columbia University July 24 to August 11, 1950. The group of twenty registrants came from all sections of the United States, including North Carolina which was represented by Gladys Johnson, Librarian, North Carolina Library Commission, and Mrs. Martha K. Barr, Librarian, Rutherford County Library.

During the workshop the final summary volume of the Public Library Inquiry, *Public Library in the United States*, by Robert D. Leigh, was published. Against the background of this volume and Dr. Leigh's three years of observing American public library service and analyzing its problems and possibilities, specific problems were presented by each member and were considered and discussed by the entire group.

The invited speakers for special sessions of the workshop were Dr. Charles F. Gosnell, New York State Librarian; Raymond Everett Williams, Watertown Regional Service Center, New York; Mrs. Carma Zimmerman, Washington State Librarian; Mrs. Mary Kenan Hadley, Librarian, Prince George's County Library, Maryland; Mrs. Lois Rainer Green, Director, State Public Library Service, Alabama.

When the report is completed, it may be borrowed from the North Carolina Library Commission, Raleigh, or from the Rutherford County Library, Rutherfordton.

**Librarian, North Carolina Library Commission.*

Frankly Speaking**

By Charles R. Brockmann

On September 20 I received a long distance telephone message from our President, Harlan C. Brown, in which he informed me that he had just returned to Raleigh after a vacation in Connecticut, which was interrupted and prolonged to attend the funeral of his mother in Minnesota. This sad event, following many months of planning a new library building, and other burdensome activities have prevented him from preparing his usual contribution to this issue of North Carolina Libraries.

Without his knowledge not to speak of consent, I am taking the liberty of quoting from two of his letters. The first is addressed to me as editor, dated June 2, 1950, and reads, in part, as follows:

"Dear Charlie:

"In our next issue I would like to make a complete report on the \$500 bond the Association has given Miss Beal. The Bond was delivered to her yesterday at 11:45 A. M. Miss Beal was thoroughly thrilled, and as far as I could tell it was a surprise to her. The picture came out yesterday in The Raleigh Times and this morning in The News and Observer. I believe that giving her the bond was the most fun I shall have in connection with my presidency."

The letter to Miss Beal, dated June 1, 1950, reads:

"Dear Miss Beal:

"Writing this letter to you is not only the most thrilling and enjoyable occasion which my presidency of N. C. L. A. affords me, but is also one of the most pleasant experiences which have come my way.

"I have been commissioned by the North Carolina Library Association to present you with this expression of our appreciation of you and your contributions to North Carolina's libraries.

"Your friends in North Carolina—librarians, trustees, and others—would like this token to be more than just a departure gift. We would like it to convey to you the feelings we are experiencing on losing you. To us who are fortunate in knowing you as an able administrator and warm friend, your departure is a great loss. This we would have you know.

"Finally, a suggestion is offered which is pleasing to your friends. You must not feel bound or restricted by it, but we believe it will be attractive to you. We hope that you will see fit to use our gift some time for a trip back to North Carolina.

"In closing your friends say au revoir and God bless you.

"Affectionately yours,

"Harlan C. Brown, President

"N. C. Library Association."

***Apologies to Mr. James F. Byrnes for using the title to his recent book.*

The Editor Recommends

An intimate story on a subject close to every librarian's heart is told in a new book published by the University of Minnesota Press, "The H. W. Wilson Company; Half a Century of Bibliographic Publishing," (\$3.00) by John Lawler. As every librarian knows, the great basic library services and indexes published by the Wilson company are indispensable working tools of the modern library.

But even to most librarians, the story behind such Wilson reference works as the Cumulative Book Index, the Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature and the Book Review Digest is little known.

The cards and pages of these catalogs leap to life as John Lawler tells in vivid narrative how they came to be, what they are, and what manner of people make them. In his book, the author takes the reader on a journey, first back to the 1880's when Halsey W. Wilson's

"bibliographic urge" was germinating in a small venture at the University of Minnesota, then through the anecdotal years of development of his unique idea, and finally into the vast operation that is the Wilson firm today.

Lawler, an experienced newspaperman, imparts revealing detail with a keen reporter's eye. Thus he describes how the indexes are made up, step by step, with specific examples, following single listings through the maze of processing. He explains how classifications and subject headings are evolved through careful deliberation. The basis and workings of the service charge plan are outlined clearly.

Officers of the North Carolina Library Association

President: Harlan C. Brown, Librarian, State College Library, Raleigh, N. C.

1st Vice-President: Charles R. Brockmann, Assistant Director, Public Library, Charlotte, N. C.

2nd Vice-President: Hortense Boomer, Librarian, High School, Elizabeth City

Secretary: Margaret McIntyre, Librarian, Junior High School, High Point, N. C.

Treasurer: Marianna Long, Law Library, Duke University, Durham, N. C.

Sectional Officers

College & University Librarians

- Mr. C. P. West, Chairman, Wake Forest College
- Miss Marjorie Hood, Secretary, Woman's College, Greensboro, N. C.

Catalogers

- Mrs. Oma U. Johnson, Chairman, Elon College
- Mrs. Mary D. Ring, Secretary-Treasurer, Charlotte, North Carolina

School and Children's Librarians

- Miss Gertrude Coward, Chairman, Elem. School Lib. Sup., Charlotte, N. C.
- Miss Annie G. Caldwell, Vice-Chairman, Reynolds High School, Winston-Salem
- Miss Lois Waller, Secretary, Oxford High School, Oxford, N. C.

Public Librarians

- Miss Antoinette Earle, Chairman, Davidson County Library, Lexington, N. C.
- Miss Tera Bailey, Secretary, Public Library, Charlotte, N. C.

Bookmobile Librarians

- Mr. George Linder, Chairman, Newton, N. C. (tri-county)
- Miss Helen Thompson, Secretary, Anson County Library, Wadesboro, N. C.

Trustees Section

- Mr. John Barry, Chairman, Durham, N. C.
- Mr. Allen Langston, Secretary, Raleigh, N. C.

Junior Members Round Table

- Miss Lucille Simcoe, Chairman, Duke University, Durham, N. C.
- Miss Jessica Graham, Vice-Chairman, Public Library, Charlotte, N. C.
- Mrs. Marion Johnson, Secretary, Stanly County Library, Albemarle, N. C.

Special Libraries

- Miss Katherine McDiarmid, Chairman, State College Library (Textile Librarian) Raleigh, N. C.

Don't Forget

Southeastern Library Association

Biennial Conference

Atlanta Biltmore Hotel

Atlanta, Georgia

October 11-14

All librarians and library workers in Southeast are invited.