

LIBRARY BUILDING ACTIVITIES
IN NORTH CAROLINA

With some of the restrictions on building lifted North Carolina libraries of all types have acquired more adequate quarters in new buildings, renovations and additions surpassing any like period in the state's history. Others have buildings under construction, and still others expect to build if the present emergency allows.

In the public library field those with new buildings are Scotland County, Benson, Biscoe and Swanquarter. The Scotland County Memorial Library, Laurinburg, honors the men and women of Scotland County who served in World War II. It has been a county-wide project, the building fund having been raised through the joint efforts of the American Legion and other civic organizations, and many of the furnishings given by clubs and individuals.

The Benson Library is housed in the municipal building completed in June, 1950 with new furnishings, many of which are gifts of citizens of the town. The Swanquarter Library is also a part of a new community center, a gift of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. George of Bradford, Pennsylvania, who are winter residents of Hyde County. The Douglas W. Brooks Library, Biscoe, is the gift of Mr. Brooks and his sisters, Mrs. Margaret B. Wynn, Greenville, Mississippi, and Mrs. R. J. Whitfield, Scarsdale, New York, owners of the Biscoe mill.

Additions to the Southern Pines Public Library and the Smithfield Public Library have given much needed book space as well as room

for other library activities. The new wing of the Southern Pines Library is a North Carolina wing given by the family of the late James Boyd, and is furnished in a style representative of the North Carolina days of which the author wrote. The hallway connecting the wing with the older part of the building is arranged for exhibits and the shelving of rare books.

The Smithfield Library doubled its space through an addition, and outside renovation and landscaping give this library an improved exterior to match the newly decorated and enlarged interior.

Among the libraries with buildings or additions now under construction or consideration are the Rowan Public Library, Salisbury, Warren County Memorial Library, Warrenton, H. Leslie Perry Memorial Library, Henderson, Cumberland County Public Library, Fayetteville, and the Winston-Salem Carnegie Library. The Rowan Public Library has been presented with a building lot and \$75,000 toward a new building by the family of the late Burton Craig of Winston-Salem, and the site for the new Winston-Salem Carnegie Library is a gift from Richard J. Reynolds of that city. Mrs. Charles B. Gary, former resident of Henderson, has given \$10,000 toward an addition to the H. Leslie Perry Memorial Library.

At Hickory the foundations were laid in the fall of 1950 for a new library building. The new building will be known as the Elbert Ivey Memorial Building and will house the Worth Elliott Carnegie Library.

It was planned by architects Clemmer and Horton of Hickory and the style is conservative contemporary. Work is going forward as rapidly as possible and the contractors hold out the hope that it will be finished by summer, 1951. The approximate cost is \$125,000. Besides the above building under construction, a new branch library for the colored residents of Hickory called the Ridgeview Public Library has just been completed and was formally opened to the public on January 31, 1951, with an afternoon of "Open House" at which several hundred persons, both white and colored, came to express their interest in the \$10,000 building. This project was sponsored for several years by the Altrusa Club of Hickory. The building is of red brick, Colonial in type, was privately planned and is most attractive.

New or renovated quarters have improved the facilities of three other public libraries. In Northampton County, a three-room, 119-year-old building was restored for the Northampton County Memorial Library. This restoration is a memorial to the citizens of the county who participated in World War II.

The Richard B. Harrison Library, Raleigh, did an excellent job of renovating and converting an old home into an attractive and functional library. The help of interested citizens through money, materials and labor has been instrumental in helping the town of Robersonville procure more adequate and redecorated quarters in the Hargrove Building of that town.

In the North Carolina College and University Library field the prog-

ress has been even more remarkable.

Duke University Library

The new building was completed in the spring of 1949, and is an addition to a building originally constructed in 1930. The style is collegiate gothic and the donor was Mrs. Mary Duke Biddle. About half of the addition is devoted to stacks and half to reading rooms, working and office space. The new stacks will house between 500,000 and 600,000 volumes and will bring the total capacity of the General Library building to about 950,000 volumes. The seating capacity of the building now stands at 900, about double the original capacity.

Guilford College Library

An addition to the Guilford College Library was completed in November, 1950. Without modifying the basic architecture, stack capacity has been doubled, a new periodical room, a special room for the Quaker Collection and records, two seminar rooms, two study rooms, new offices, work rooms and rest rooms are provided. The approximate cost was \$100,000. Architect: Albert C. Woodroof of Greensboro.

Greensboro College Library

Greensboro College students and faculty since January 3, 1951, have been served by a new library building—the James Addison Jones Library Building, memorializing the late James Addison Jones of Charlotte, who, with the J. A. Jones Construction Company, gave most of the cost of construction.

The new library is a three-story colonial structure with four tiers of stacks to accommodate approximate-

ly 75,000 volumes. The central lobby is flanked by large reading and reference rooms. The building also contains librarian's office, cataloging room, twelve carrels, audio-visual facilities, including projection, listening, recording and broadcasting rooms. The top floor provides studios, exhibition room, lockers and other equipment for the Art Department. Architectural services were provided by Taylor and Fisher, Baltimore. Construction was by the J. A. Jones Construction Company and approximate cost \$215,000.

Woman's College of University of North Carolina Library

One of the outstanding new library buildings of the South, this building was begun in October, 1948, and the work completed March, 1950. The library was moved in June and occupied during the 1950 summer session. The total cost of the new library was \$1,232,118. This sum includes all of the furniture, the cost of moving old furniture, and installation, as well as the cost of moving books. This sum amounted to approximately \$12.40 per square foot of the total gross area or \$1.11 per cubic foot.

The architectural design of the building is Modified Georgian faced with brick and trimmed with white Georgia marble. The center portion is four stories and the north and south areas three stories. There is a basement area separate from the library part of the building which is taken up by heating and other utilities as well as a machine room. The architects were Northrup and O'Brien of Winston-Salem. The stacks and furniture were supervised and installed by the Library Bureau

Division of Remington Rand Company. Further details on this impressive building may be found in the December 15, 1948 issue of Library Journal, and an article on the furniture and interior design which appeared in the September-October, 1950 issue of the "Pioneer," Remington Rand house organ.

University of North Carolina Library Addition

Late in 1949 construction work began on the \$1,615,000 addition to the Main Library Building of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The addition will match the cubic content of the original building, treble its stack capacity, double reader space and increase carrels from 162 to 550, as well as provide quarters for special collections and other exceptional facilities for research. Total capacity of the enlarged building will be 1,300,000 volumes. Some reconstruction of the old (1929 Classic) building, and the air conditioning of the entire stack and other inside rooms are included in the contract, let by the state from its special building appropriation. Architects were H. Raymond Weeks, Inc., of Durham; Arthur C. Nash, Washington, adviser; Alfred M. Githens of New York, consultant; J. R. Bailey, Orange, Virginia, consultant.

State College Library

A new library building for State College of University of North Carolina, Raleigh, has been definitely authorized to cost, with equipment, something like \$1,500,000. Architects are Northrup and O'Brien of Winston-Salem. The plans are now
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in the hands of the North Carolina Budget Bureau where final review is being made before advertising for bids. Harlan Brown, President of North Carolina Library Association and Librarian State College, has been responsible for much of the planning for the new building.
