

**GRANVILLE COUNTY SCHOOLS BOOK SYMPOSIUM**

The Book Symposium held by the Granville County Schools on September 17 and 18, in the Educational Building of the Oxford Methodist Church, has created a new emphasis on children's books. Over 1,000 selected books for elementary libraries and for classroom use were on display for children and teachers to examine. The exhibit was planned through the cooperation of Mrs. Myrtle Bowers of the Newhouse Sales Association.

Transportation for the children was provided by the Parent-Teacher Associations of the various schools. Children from the six schools in the county visited the symposium on a schedule beginning at nine a.m. and lasting until two p.m. Each group was given an opportunity to browse; the children made lists of the books they would like to have in their libraries and classrooms. As the children looked over the collection, they found books on information about the world, stories of animals and children, of people who live in the other parts of the world, of families who lived long ago, of famous and real people who have influenced our pattern of living, and books of humor, folklore, poetry and music. In the afternoon teachers from the city and county schools visited the exhibit and had an opportunity to examine news books for children.

One important feature of the symposium was the night session on Monday, September 17, known as "Book Night for Parents and School Patrons." Nearly two hundred parents and teachers attended the evening session. Parents exclaimed over books and were invited to list books that they would like to have in their school libraries. They were given lists of good books for children. Miss Jane Wilson, Supervisor of Elementary School Libraries, Durham City Schools, compiled these lists for various ages and grade levels. At eight o'clock Miss Wilson spoke to an interested audience on *Books, Children, and Men*.

Following Miss Wilson's speech, Mr. David N. Hix, Superintendent of the Granville County Schools, spoke of the progress made in library facilities in the various schools during the past two-and-a-half years. Each school now has, or will have, a central elementary library by the end of the 1951-1952 school term. After honored guests were recognized, the presidents of the county Parent-Teacher Associations were hostesses for an informal reception in one of the church parlors.

The Book Symposium has had positive results. Parents saw good books and the prices of them; they saw the arresting interest which new and attractive books have for their boys and girls. In their school communities, they are asking questions about school libraries and pledging their efforts to the end that their children and teachers have more books. Children attending the symposium felt that they had a partnership with the teachers in the selection of books for their school. The Book Symposium has helped parents, teachers and children to organize themselves as a team to work with the Granville County School Administration in an all-out effort to improve their school library facilities.

—Mary Hall, County Supervisor,  
Granville County Schools, Oxford

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On August 1, Miss Cora Paul Bomar became the third School Library Advisor of the North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction. Mrs. Mary P. Douglas was the first to hold this position; Mrs. Eloise Camp Melton was the second.

The North Carolina High School Library Association had a membership of over 950 last year. Membership dues for this year are due before December 1. Several of these high school students have indicated a definite interest in training for librarianship.