

North Carolina Libraries

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Publication Announcement

Material for the next issue of NCL will be edited on February 5th. If your library has not been mentioned it is because you have not sent the editor a postcard, letter or lengthy article. We urge you to send word of your achievements, your growth, or if you are too modest, ask your neighbors or friends to tell the editor. We hope for this next issue to have a lengthy article on new buildings and plans. Please send any pictures, descriptions, or material on University and College Libraries to the editor or to Mr. Charles Adams, Woman's College Library, Greensboro, and Public Library material to the Library Commission, Raleigh.

(Issue number four will be planned in April. Materials will be needed by April 10. This issue is being planned as a special School Library issue. Editor hopes to receive many unsolicited articles for these "overall view" articles on North Carolina Libraries. (Length of article may vary from ten words to 2500. Two typed pages double-spaced with elite type, will print one page in NCL; pictures should be glossy prints of any size.)

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Special Library: First Baptist Church

A church library which is making public and school library programs take notice is that of First Baptist Church of Greensboro—a project which is leading Southern churches in the field and which demonstrates a great new potential.

In its short span of five years, First Baptist Church Library has set up a religious reference shelf more complete than any in the city—a city with four major colleges and a public institution as "competition."

It is drawing pastors and church workers from other congregations for religious reference work, and pioneering in a field which lays open to the public the great works of ecclesiastical history, books of faith and hope, and a vast collection of commentary on the Scriptures.

The church library movement started in Southern Baptist Convention around 25 years ago. However, First Baptist Church has gone ahead of the denomination in fulfilling the convention's fondest hopes.

When the First Baptist congregation moved November 30 into the new \$1,250,000 church, the library had earned its place. This "literary arm" of the Word was placed on the main floor, near the sanctuary, a room with 800 square feet of floor space on what a mechanic would call the "busiest intersection." It was given four big "display windows."

The library did not grow like Topsy—it came from hard work of a skilled librarian and book merchant, Alice Straughan, whose services were given, aided by volunteers who received denominational training in library work at Ridgecrest, the Baptist Assembly.

Opened December 7, 1947, the library began on donations of \$100 from Moseley Bible Class, \$150 by miscellaneous groups after the first impetus was given, and 400 books, which were culled from an old circulating library and catalogued. The Dewey decimal system was installed. The library attracted 97 persons the first month, to a room 10 by 12 feet off a Sunday school room, open on Sundays and Wednesday nights.

In September, 1948, the budget committee granted \$100 a month allowance. Plans include increasing this to \$200 monthly in next year's budget.

The program is enthusiastically received. "I do not feel that a program of religious education in a church is 100 per cent complete without a library," stated S. C. Alley, educational director. "It is important that those who teach and work in a program of religious education read and study the right kind of books. Our church library serves as a source of supply for those who need reference books, program materials, and books for inspirational and recreational reading."

Dr. Claud B. Bowen, pastor, is a strong backer of the library program.

Today, the library has space for 6,800 books of which 4,600 have been acquired. The circulation is between 800 and 1,000 monthly. The organization and equipment is based on standard library theory and methods. There are separate children's and adult areas, and a reference area, plus a pastor's study.

The facility is open on a varied schedule according to programs in the church building.

The books now on the shelf include about 50 per cent of a religious or allied nature (with 20 per cent religious reference books and 30 per cent other religious books); 25 per cent children's books, and 25 per cent general material including biography and fiction.

Miss Straughan draws chiefly on her own experience in purchasing books for the church library. She has the advantage of advance reviews and notices, studies Sunday school materials, fills requests by church study groups, and follows some denominational lists in purchasing. She has the assistance of several school librarians and public librarians, members of the church, who give their professional service and guidance.

The emphasis placed on the library in the new church building serves as indication that new records will be made by this church library, and that this leadership will be strongly felt throughout the denomination. It points to a trend which some day may find church libraries mentioned in the same classification with public and school libraries.

—*Mary Sykes, Member (layman)
First Baptist Church Library Committee
Greensboro*

Handbook Is Published

NORTH CAROLINA AUTHORS: A SELECTIVE HANDBOOK has been published. Copies may be purchased for \$1.50, paper; \$3.00, cloth from the Library Extension Department, University of North Carolina Library, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Why Can't They Read?

If you were ill would you want your doctor to prescribe quinine? It is a medicine with wonderful curative powers, but you would not want to be given quinine unless it's what you needed. So with the reading ills of our age. For years library books have been prescribed for poor readers; studies have been conducted to show the successful progress made by participating pupils. And yet the writer makes bold to liken the plan of prescribing library books for poor readers in general to the attempt to cure all diseases with one medicine.

Librarians are interested in and concerned about reading inability; and rightly so. But as a librarian, the writer became curious about why children failed to learn to read and about what could be done to help them. Leaving to others the fun of helping eager children find the right books, she became involved in helping children learn to read. Forsaking a career

as a school librarian, she made special studies in the teaching of remedial reading, and became a special teacher of reading in Greensboro Public Schools.

The principal causes of reading failure are discussed here, with implications for librarians.

Causes of failure in reading fall into four general classes: mental, social and emotional, physical, and educational. These seldom appear singly, but rather in combination.

Heading the list of causes of failure is the lack of mental maturity and reading readiness at the time reading instruction is begun. North Carolina accepts a child for the first grade if he is six or will be six by October first. This chronological age, however, does not assure the child's readiness for reading activities. Research finds that, in general, a mental age of at least six years and six months is desirable for beginning reading. A child whose intelligence quotient is one hundred will reach the mental age of six-six by September if he was born before April of that year. I.Q.'s from ninety to one hundred-ten are in the normal range. An average child who reaches his sixth birthday near the opening of school will profit more from several months of reading readiness than from formal reading. With delayed instruction he will read just as well, likely better, by the end of the third grade, and with less attendant nervous strain.

Not only should a child's mental age be high enough to give a good prediction of success in beginning reading, but his physical development and his social and experimental background should be adequate.

Some children, at six, particularly boys, are not physically mature enough for school lessons, and their eyes are not ready for print.

A child must be able to work and play happily with a group; to express his ideas for others' understanding; and to have had experiences, either actual or vicarious, that will enable him to interpret symbols. A reading class is a social activity: children work in a group, follow directions, discuss. In the beginning stages, only words already in the child's speaking vocabulary should be met in symbols; a child with a limited background is handicapped from the start.

The inclination is to connect reading readiness with six-year olds, but if the dull normal child should have reading readiness activities until he is, perhaps eight and the low grade moron until he is twelve, each might then be able to profit from reading instruction. There are many shades of difference between the older low-learner and the young, normal child but, in general, both groups react best to short, simple material with a familiar background.

The child who has reading before he is ready for it and fails is apt to become a social problem and either tends to withdraw or to become antagonistic. A block is formed against

reading; this greatly increases the difficulty to teach him when he is mentally mature enough for instruction. Conversely, the socially or emotionally maladjusted child sometimes fails in reading.

Until a poor reader can read on about a third-grade level, there are few books he can manage alone, except textbooks. Reading is taught first by sight. While a stock of approximately two hundred words is being acquired, the child should have auditory discrimination exercises; these lead to the use of phonics, based on the words recognized to identify an unknown word. For instance, in the sentence, *A boy came to our room*, if *room* is the only unknown, it may be filled in by sense and by relating the initial sound of the known words, *run* and *ride*. An average child learns to use this skill with the help of the teacher long before he applies it voluntarily; the same may be said of subsequent skills of phonetic and structural analysis. The misnamed "easy books" section in an average children's library is not filled with books which beginning readers can read by himself. He needs a controlled vocabulary almost entirely of words he has met previously and a minimum of others to be fitted in through context.

At the readiness stage and thereafter, failure in reading may be caused by defects of vision, hearing, speech, and general health; lack of physical and visual maturation was mentioned above in the discussion of readiness for reading. The librarian is concerned mainly with vision. She should know that the Snellen chart, commonly used to screen school children's visual acuity, tests one eye at a time at far point, while reading is done at near point with binocular vision. The librarian, with the teacher, should observe evidences of eye strain and note excessive blinking or covering of one eye; proper steps should be taken to have the child sent to an eye-doctor. If he finds no default but evidences of eye strain continue, ask that the child have another examination preferably without drops. Recommending wide reading is not the treatment that a poor reader suffering from a visual handicap needs.

Reading is a skill that is learned. Children fail in reading because they have not been taught by a method or in a way in which they could learn. These children need definite instruction step by step, skill upon skill, and not wide, unguided reading.

Reading involves word-recognition, comprehension, interpretation. Reading may be done for the purpose of getting the general idea or details; it may be skimming or closely studying. A pupil may be a good fiction reader and have poor study skills. Speed and the adjustment of rate to the purpose of reading are important. To help a child improve in reading, a careful diagnosis of his aptitudes, abilities, and weaknesses should be made and from the result a plan formulated to attack the phase upon which work is needed.

Quinine is a useful tonic. Perhaps a dose of it won't harm you if you take it for a cold but more than likely it won't cure your ailment. If a child needs to learn the "sight words" reading a library book will probably not help him to distinguish between *then* and *when*. A reader who has good comprehension but lacks speed because of word-by-word reading is going to plow through his library book practicing his bad habits.

How Librarians Can Help with the Reading Problem

The librarian will seldom have the opportunity or the needed training to give reading instruction. She can, however help develop readiness for reading in pre-school and immature children by making simple books easily available to them. She can help the child who, possibly because of his reading failure, has become a social problem, by finding a way to make friends with him and to let him derive satisfaction from the library. She can put on her shelves books that may look useful rather than beautiful; she can stop being afraid of having books of the textbook type on primary reading levels and have the assurance that she is providing material that will be beneficial and pleasing to beginning and poor readers.

Children's rooms in public libraries help develop reading readiness by allowing pre-school children to participate in story hours. Visiting the public library is an enriching experience. Borrowing books for home use is helpful. School libraries could do much in preparing their future patrons by encouraging older sisters and brothers to borrow books for the younger ones at home and by permitting pre-school children to come themselves when a public library is not accessible. Too, the immature school children who are not ready for reading and, so often, have not had books before coming to school, should certainly be allowed to take Mother Goose and other appropriate books home.

Tenggren's *Come to the Zoo* and *Come to the Farm* should initiate a new era in attractive trade books within the basic sight vocabulary; so far, however, they are unique. A wide, generous supply of all attractive readers from preprimers through second readers not owned in sets by local schools is recommended for libraries who want to attract and help poor readers. Such appealing books as the *American Adventure Series* and the first two titles of the *Aviation Series*, listed in the *Library Book Catalogue* issued by the North Carolina School Book Depository, January 1, 1952, and Scott Foresman's *The Boxcar Children*, by G. C. Warner and following titles should not be overlooked. Libraries without primary textbooks are setting up a barrier between themselves on one hand and beginning and poor readers on the other.

Because of her wide knowledge of books the librarian rather than the average teacher can encourage the highest form of reading, interpretation by stimulating discussion with small groups or individuals: "What did you think would happen when—?" "Wouldn't you have loved being with—?" "Have you known anyone like—?"

Interest is a valuable ally in the work of improving reading ability. That is the reason why the library's extensive collection is important to remedial reading. It is indispensable in the case of a child who can read but has not read enough to develop his vocabulary and rate. It is with this type of problem, particularly, that the librarian may take over some of the work of the reading teacher.

The basic rule in remedial reading instruction is that the pupil must meet success. For a non-reader or near non-reader books even thin picture-books, are "too full of words" to be used. The child's dictated sentences or word-cards are preferable for beginning work. Too, books may have unpleasant associations for him.

Reading is important. Efficient reading is more needed today than ever before. Yet the fact should be recognized and kept in mind that there are some who will not profit from reading instruction and others who can be expected to achieve on a low level only. These unfortunate ones must be accepted and made to feel that they have a place in society—and in the library. Yes, Reading is important!

—Miss Sidney Horne
Special Teacher of Reading
Greensboro Public Schools
(Formerly a school librarian in Greensboro and Chapel Hill)

N. C. L. A. Legislative Committee Report

The Legislative Committee has outlined the legislation to be supported by the North Carolina Library Association during the 1953 session of the Legislature as follows:

1. Legislative Council—By action of the Executive Board since the Association does not meet until October 1953, the Association has accepted the four items on the 1953 program of the Council which sponsors social legislation important to the state as a whole. The four items are (a) Improvement of school attendance and enforcement of the compulsory school attendance law; (b) Provision for Minimum Wage Standards; (c) Clarification of legal procedure relating to personal guardianship of a minor; (d) Inclusion of children 16 years of age in the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

2. Public Libraries Section—The State Aid to Public Libraries request for the biennium 1953-1955 has been prepared by the North Carolina Library Commission, and incorporates recommendations made by the Development Committee of the Public Libraries Section in its Report covering a two-year study of Public library needs. A request of \$620,000 for each year of the biennium was made to the Advisory Budget Commission in September. The

increase is based primarily on an urgent need for personnel, but other needs are recognized. The amount requested is \$250,000 more than is being received in the current biennium and is \$20,000 more than the request made to the last Legislature. A member of the Development Committee with a member of the Library Commission staff have met with most of the Public Library Boards in the state to discuss with them the Committee's report on personnel, income and service and the request to the Legislature.

3. School and Children's Librarians Section—Two items of legislation concerning personnel are part of the legislative planning of the section: recognition of the fifth year Library Science degree as a Master's degree in this State as it is in all other Southeastern states, and allotment of librarians or teacher-librarians to schools in addition to classroom teachers. Since these items are involved with the total budget of the Department of Public Instruction, the section will present proposals for legislation to the Department. The N. C. L. A. at the 1949 meeting in Durham approved a resolution favoring the recognition of the fifth year Library Science degree as a Master's degree by the Department of Public Instruction.

—Charlesanna Fox, *Chairman*
Librarian, Randolph County Public Library
Asheboro

Suggestions for officers for the next biennium will be welcomed by the committee. The nominating committee for NCLA is composed of the following: Miss Evelyn Mullen, North Carolina Library Commission, Raleigh, Chairman; Miss Mary Robert Seawell, Woman's College, Greensboro; Mr. Paul Ballance, Winston-Salem Public Library; Miss Emily Loftin, Durham High School Library, Durham; Miss Helen Rosser, Main Post Librarian, Fort Bragg; Mrs. Dorothy Thomas, Mitchell-Avery-Yancey County Public Library, Celo.

Correction

"Proceedings" of the School and Children's Librarians State-Wide Conference held in Chapel Hill on September 20th may be purchased for \$1.00 from the N. C. L. A. treasurer, Miss Marianna Long, Iredell County Public Library, Statesville, and not from the Library Commission or the Office of the State School Library Adviser.

Library Services Bill

At the adjournment of Congress, the Library Service Bill was on the Senate Calendar (S. 1452) and ready for floor action. The Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare had voted favorably on it in the fall of 1951. Favorable hearings on the bill (H.R. 5195) had been held in the House by a sub-committee which reported it to the Education and Labor Committee where it was pending at adjournment.

The same bill will be introduced in the 83rd Congress which meets early in 1953.

Briefly, the purpose of the bill is to promote the further development of public library resources in rural areas now without adequate service. It authorizes \$7,500,000 to be spent each year for a five-year period. The money would be allocated to states on a matching basis, each state to receive \$40,000 a year, plus additional funds based on rural population of the state as compared to the rural population of the United States. North Carolina should be eligible to receive a maximum of \$303,300 each year. These additional funds would be matched by the state on the basis of the per capita income of the state as compared to the national per capita income. The entire sum would be administered in North Carolina by the North Carolina Library Commission and could be used for bookmobile service, for advisory personnel to help local communities develop library programs, for the purchase of books for the Commission to lend throughout the state, for direct grants to individual libraries for books, or for other methods of providing effective service. It could not be used for the purchase of land or buildings.

Further information about the provisions of the Library Service Bill may be secured by writing to the American Library Association Washington Office, Congressional Hotel, Washington 3, D. C.

Friends of Libraries in North Carolina should assure themselves that their representatives in Washington are familiar with the provisions of this bill and the contribution it would make toward bringing books to North Carolinians. When Congress convenes in January a complete reorganization will take place because of the change in administration. This means that we shall have time to see or write to our representatives and to organize citizen assistance to keep these representatives informed. Much more citizen support can be enlisted if the provisions of this bill are brought to their attention. Information about it can be disseminated through meetings, newspapers, and by personal interviews. Support from citizens in the form of resolutions from groups, and letters and visits from individuals will have more influence with our senators and congressmen than advice from librarians. It is important, however, that librarians stimulate citizen interest in the bill and its potentialities.

It appears to be the kind of legislation that requires no pressure, only an explanation of its provisions.

B. E. Powell, Chairman, Federal Relations Committee, North Carolina Library Association, Librarian, Duke University, Durham. Other members of the committee are: Neal Austin, High Point Public Library, High Point; Evelyn J. Bishop, Johnston County Public Library, Smithfield; Harlan C. Brown, North Carolina State College Library, Raleigh; Elizabeth House, Secretary and Director, North Carolina Library Commission, Raleigh; Margaret Johnston, Haywood County Public Library, Waynesville.

Dr. Leon Carnovsky of the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, was in Greensboro December 1-6, making a survey of the Greensboro Public Library and the Carnegie Negro Library. His report will be included in the survey of Greensboro city government now being made by the Public Administration Service. On December 5 he talked to the School of Library Science, U. N. C. on French libraries. Dr. Carnovsky returned in September from a year in Europe, on a Fulbright Scholarship, observing public libraries in Belgium, France, Holland, and Switzerland.

Straughan's Sponsor Book Week Visitations

For many years the owners of Straughan's Book Shop, Greensboro, have brought outstanding authors to help the neighboring schools and libraries celebrate Book Week. This year was no exception.

Mrs. Elizabeth Gray Vining who was selected as the private tutor to the Crown Prince of Japan in 1946, was one guest of Straughan's. Her sister, Violet Gray, was a second guest. And Richard Chase of Abington, Virginia was the third guest.

The High School Library Club was in charge of Book Week assembly at Greensboro Senior High School and had Mrs. Vining as the speaker for the occasion. The students felt that they were unusually fortunate in having such an outstanding speaker.

Mrs. Vining spoke also to Guilford College students during an assembly program and to the public at an 8 p.m. meeting in the Guilford College Auditorium; to the Dudley High School for Negroes in Greensboro; and in High Point.

In the afternoon during her stay in Greensboro Mrs. Vining was in Straughan's Book Shop where she greeted her numerous friends and autographed copies of her latest book "Windows for the Crown Prince."

Miss Violet Gray who spent two years in Japan visiting her sister, spoke at the Book Week dinner meeting of the Greensboro Library Club. Seventy-two Greensboro, Guilford County and High Point Librarians and their guests attended the meeting.

Miss Gray, introduced by Miss Dorothy Gilbert of Guilford College, described the classes she took in flower arranging and emphasized that learning the craft was a cultural bridge between American men and women working in Japan and the Japanese.

As a background for the talk, the decoration committee had arranged twelve hand-painted Japanese flower prints, three hand-illustrated Japanese folk books, "pen-pal" letters, and several books on flower arrangements. The prints, books and letters were sent to pupils of Central School, Greensboro, by Japanese children in exchange for the first "Treasure Chest" sent to Japan in 1947 honoring Mrs. Vining. Mrs. Ben L. Smith, National flower arrangement judge, arranged the table flowers of chrysanthemums, heather, and assorted flowers in shades of yellow and blue. Miss Mattie, Miss Mable, and Miss Alice Straughan were special guests.

Richard Chase, storyteller, author and recreation leader, led the group in a recreational game "the lion hunt" and told of examples of preserving folk traditions through school productions of mummers' plays.

During the week, Mr. Chase visited ten Guilford County schools, two Greensboro schools, and the Polio Hospital. He spent a half-day in Thomasville schools, a day in Sanford, and two days of the following week in Fort Bragg and Fayetteville. He told a story on the Public Library TV Tele-Story Time, entertained a group at the First Methodist Church, and spent a Saturday morning at Straughan's Book Shop autographing his books.

—*Mildred C. Herring, Senior High School*

Olivia Burwell, Public Library

Hallie Bacelli, Guilford County Schools

Greensboro

Jane B. Wilson was guest speaker at the Bull's Head Bookshop Tea, at U. N. C. Library on December 3. Her subject was "Children's Christmas Books."

The Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County has recently issued a 23 page mimeographed booklet "A Short History of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County," by Martha Watkins Flournoy.

Philippine Islands Librarian Visits N. C.

Mrs. Constancia de Jesus, librarian from the Philippine Islands, was a November visitor to North Carolina. Mrs. de Jesus was a Fulbright fellow for the year 1951-52 and completed the course requirements for a Master's degree from the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago. She now has a UNESCO grant to visit libraries and observe American library practices.

On her return to the Philippines Mrs. de Jesus will organize extension library service there. Service to rural areas in Louisiana, Wisconsin, and North Carolina was observed to provide her with practical ideas which might be adapted to the extension of library service in the Philippine Islands.

From November 16 to 26, 1952 the Philippine visitor attended a meeting of the North Carolina Library Commission Board; accompanied Miss Evelyn Mullen on a field trip; saw the library at the Woman's Prison in Raleigh; inspected a new demonstration "Pioneer" bookmobile, and followed another bookmobile on part of a day's schedule; attended a Family Life Conference; and visited the following public libraries: Olivia Raney and Richard B. Harrison Libraries, Raleigh; Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County; Fayetteville Public Library; Hoke County Library, Raeford; and the May Memorial Library, Burlington.

The Thanksgiving week-end was spent in Chapel Hill with Miss Margaret Allman whom Mrs. de Jesus knew in Manila and Miss Sara Reed and Miss Margaret Kalp whom she met at the University of Chicago.

*—Elaine von Oesen
Field Librarian
North Carolina Library Commission
Raleigh*

Film Preview Project

The Film Council of America, by a special arrangement with the North Carolina Library Commission and the UNC Bureau of Visual Education, is providing 100 films for previewing in 10 public libraries in the state. This cooperative project covers the period from January to June 1953. Libraries to participate in the project were selected on the basis of the first ten applications received at the Library Commission before the deadline for filing applications on December 14, 1952.

In the project, preview films are sent to participating libraries in packs of ten. The subject categories represented in the packages are: Political Education, International Relations, Economic Education, Humanities, Health and Safety, Marriage and the Family, Child Development, Biography, History, Travel, Children's Films, Religion and Ethics, Contemporary National Scene.

There are two chief advantages to be derived from the Preview Project: (1) It will afford an opportunity for community groups and club leaders to see good films on topics which are important to all members of the community and enable them to plan ahead to secure suitable films for community use. The project will also (2) enable public librarians to see a variety of films and to recommend titles to be purchased by the Adult Film Project and made available for general use in the state.

The Film Preview Project for the state was discussed and formally accepted by the Public Library Section Audio-Visual Committee of the North Carolina Library Association in its meeting in Concord on December 6. The project was adopted as an integral part of the Committee's Adult Film Project which was initiated early in 1952 and plans were made by the Committee to expand adult film service in the public libraries of North Carolina in 1953.

—Gladys Johnson

American Heritage Project

The American Heritage Project in North Carolina is off to a good start. Two discussion groups began their meetings in October, and eight others began their series of meetings in November and December. During January, the final 13 groups will begin their meetings. Most encouraging of all is the fact that there are evidences that the idea of adult discussion groups has found favor in some public libraries which are not officially operating as parts of the American Heritage Project. In Rockingham, Mrs. Dorothy Moore, librarian of the Rockingham-Richmond County Library, conducts a series of book review programs on subjects of current interest; and groups of adults in Asheboro and in Bryson City meet informally to discuss such books as Johnson's *This American People*.

Fifteen of the American Heritage Discussion Groups have reached decisions about the type of material to be used: five have chosen to use books alone and ten expect to use a combination of books and films.

Statistical information about the kinds of people participating in the American Heritage Groups is being collected as each group is organized. These data will be compiled into a profile of the American Heritage Project in North Carolina.

—Gladys Johnson, Director
American Heritage Project in N. C.
N. C. Library Commission, Raleigh

North Carolina Libraries will publish an interpretation of the profile and information as to where copies may be obtained, in a future issue.—Eds.

SELA Conference

There were about 80 Tar Heels among the approximately 1,000 librarians from nine Southeastern states for the three-day meeting of the Southeastern Library Association in Atlanta, Georgia, October 30-November 1. The usual section meetings were held at which time interested and pertinent topics were discussed. The principal speakers for the first general session were Dr. Robert B. Downs, President of the American Library Association who spoke on "Popular Misconceptions about Libraries," and Mr. Clarence Decker, Assistant Director for the Far East Mutual Security Agency and President of the University of Kansas City, used as his topic "Passport to Asia." A panel discussion on "Audio-Visual Ways and Means" and a forum on "Staff Participation in Administration" composed the major part of the other two general sessions. Proceedings will be published in the next issue of the SELA Bulletin.

New Officers

The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. J. Henley Crosland, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia; Vice-President, Nancy J. Day, Department of Education, Columbia, South Carolina; Treasurer, Miss Roy Land, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.

—N. C. Library Commission "Newsletter," November, 1952

Public Library In-Service Workshops

The last of a series of three In-Service Training Workshops sponsored by the Public Libraries Section, NCLA and the North Carolina Library Commission was held in October. Sections of Part III were well attended in Waynesville, Greensboro and Fayetteville. The topic discussed in classes conducted by Mrs. Elmina Surratt of Rockwell was "Public Relations and the Library in the Community." A "problem census" was taken and the problems discussed by a panel and the members of the classes. Miss Evelyn Mullen, Field Librarian, North Carolina Library Commission was director for the entire series. A full report is being compiled and will be ready in the spring.

Public Library Statistics

The *Statistics of North Carolina Libraries* for 1951-52 published by the North Carolina Library Commission has recently been issued. The section on public library statistics has a new format which seems to be a great improvement. Counties are listed in one alphabet instead of in separate divisions according to population. All public libraries in a county are listed under that county regardless of affiliation with, or independence of, the county library, and it is now possible to ascertain statistics for various units of county libraries.

Summer Employment

ATTENTION LIBRARIANS—School librarians who would like summer employment in public libraries in North Carolina are asked to file their names, dates available, preference as to special type of work and geographical area with Miss Elizabeth House, Secretary and Director, North Carolina Library Commission, Raleigh.

ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS—As an aid to recruiting librarians would you post on bulletin boards, insert in college newspapers, or in any other way publicize the fact that the North Carolina Library Commission will help to place college students for summer work in public libraries. It will enable the students to earn summer salaries and at the same time let them try out a field in which there are many vacancies.

Tar Heel Librarians

Mr. R. A. Morrow is the new part-time librarian of the Union County Public Library, Monroe ... Thomas H. McIntosh has been employed as general assistant in the May Memorial Library, Burlington ... Mr. W. T. Hurst is in charge of the new library in Pittsboro as part of the Chatham County Public Library system ... Mrs. Sadie Faison resigned her position as librarian of the Barker-Moore Library in Edenton in October 1952; she is opening a ready-to-wear shop.

Jessie Griffin became librarian of Campbell College, Buie's Creek, on November 1. Miss Griffin, a graduate of Catawba College and the Library School of the University of North Carolina, was formerly head of cataloging at the library of the Air University, Maxwell Field, Alabama ... Effective December 1, Mary Jean Henson succeeded Mrs. Helen Kittrell as librarian of the Fontana Regional Library, Bryson City. Mrs. Kittrell has accepted a position as librarian of a five county regional library with headquarters in Clinton, Tennessee ... Mrs. L. L. Gibbs, librarian of the Tyrrell County Library, Columbia, has resigned her position as of January 1, 1953. She will be succeeded by Mrs. Ruth Reynolds ... Mrs. Katherine P. Bowerman of Gastonia began work October 1 as assistant in the catalog department of the North Carolina Library Commission. Mrs. Bowerman is a graduate of Meredith College and

her husband, James, is a teaching-fellow in geological engineering at State College ... Mrs. Elizabeth Ayscue, former librarian of Onslow County Public Library, Jacksonville, is now employed as librarian of Chatham and Lee County Libraries.

Beatrice Holbrook, formerly of Albemarle, is now librarian of Hugh Morson High School, Raleigh ... Vivian Moose, first assistant catalog librarian of Woman's College, U. N. C. was elected chairman of the Catalog Section of SELA at the 1952 meeting in Atlanta ... Margaret Mason, Reserve librarian of Woman's College, U. N. C., was married in August to James B. Clements, Jr. of Greensboro ... Virginia Trumper, head serials librarian of Woman's College, U. N. C., was appointed in September to the Editorial Board of *Serial Slants*, the quarterly publication of the A. L. A. Serials Round Table ...

William R. Pullen, documents librarian, U. N. C. was appointed chairman of the Committee on Methods of Exchange of Session Laws and Legislative Journals of the College and University Section of SELA. He is also the new president of the U. N. C. Library Staff Association ... The baby parade at U. N. C. continues: Latest addition to the "sub-professional-sub-nursery school" group is Sally Louise Littleton, daughter of I. T. and Dorothy. Mr. Littleton is the circulation librarian at U. N. C. ... George F. Bentley, assistant to the Librarian, was recently elected to the Board of Trustees of the Peter Garvin Memorial Library which will be housed in the new elementary school, Glenwood, now under construction opposite Glen Lennox on the Raleigh Highway, just east of Chapel Hill. The new school will serve the rapidly expanding residential areas to the east and south of the village and will be opened by Fall 1953 ... Mary Lou Lucy of the Circulation Department, Sara Reed and Dr. Louis R. Wilson of the Library School faculty have articles in the October, 1952 issue of *College and Research Libraries*. Miss Lucy's article is entitled, "Inter-library Loans in a University Library"; Miss Reed's "Studies in Progress," which was written in collaboration with Carlyle J. Farey, assistant librarian of Duke University; Dr. Wilson's "Should Libraries Impose Fees on Visiting Scholars?" ...

A Checklist of North Carolina Publications

Librarians in the field of state documents are continually faced with the problem of ascertaining what has been published. Official North Carolina publications are generally distributed by the issuing agencies rather than through a single distribution center. Consequently, the systems and policies determining the distribution of this material are as varied as the number of agencies. Many of the publications are inexpensive or free upon request and would be valuable additions to a library if only the librarian had some bibliographic tool to show what has been issued.

The Library of Congress' *MONTHLY CHECKLIST OF STATE PUBLICATIONS* lists only those items from the states and territories received by the Exchange and Gift Division. Therefore, although it is an indispensable tool in the documents-field it is not a complete list of state publications. It is difficult enough for a person within a state to keep abreast of the publications of the various agencies of that state, so we can hardly expect the Library of Congress to list all state publications. Some states—there were nineteen in April, 1951—have met the problem by issuing checklists of their official publications.

In 1940 the Documents Department of the University of North Carolina Library attempted to meet the problem in this state by issuing, in mimeographed form, the *MONTHLY CHECKLIST OF OFFICIAL NORTH CAROLINA PUBLICATIONS*. This list was compiled from the printing folders in the files of the State Division of Purchase and Contracts in Raleigh. All these folders were kept together and the list therefore was easily compiled at one central point. But, in 1947 the Division of Purchase and Contracts adopted a new filing system in which the printing folders were dispersed throughout its files. Since the checklist could no longer be compiled from these folders, it was discontinued with the last issue of 1946.

Since the discontinuance of this publication, a great need for such a bibliographic tool has been felt. Therefore, in November the Documents Department of the University of North Carolina Library issued the first of a bi-monthly *CHECKLIST OF OFFICIAL NORTH CAROLINA PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY*. Since this library is making every effort to obtain all state publications for its North Carolina Collection, this list should be almost as complete as its predecessor.

Any library wishing to receive this checklist should address a request to: Documents Librarian, University of North Carolina Library, Chapel Hill.

—*William R. Pullen, Documents Librarian
University of North Carolina Library
Chapel Hill*

New Staff Members at UNC

- Myrtle Ebert (B.A. in L.S.—Peabody; M.A.—Columbia), Chief Librarian, Division of Health Affairs.
- Mary Lou Lucy (B.S.L.S.—Peabody; nearing completion for M.L.S.—Columbia), First Assistant, Circulation Department, replacing Mrs. Ruth Prince who now lives in Tennessee.
- Beatrice Montgomery (B.A. in L.S.—Emory), Assistant in the Catalogue Department.

- Mrs. Virginia Waldron Porter (B.S.L.S.—North Carolina), Assistant in the Order Department.
- Mary Cargill (B.S.L.S.—Drexel), First Assistant in the Serials Department.
- Mrs. Mina Smith has been, has had library course work at Columbia and experience at Woman's College Library—Attendant in the Serials Department.
- Mary W. Oliver (B.S.L.S.—Drexel), Assistant in the Law Library.
- Mrs. Treva Burke Harrell (B.S.L.S.—North Carolina), Librarian of the Sociology-Anthropology-City Planning Library.

North Carolina High School Library Association News

Officers for 1952-53 Northwestern District NCHSLA are: President, Ann Marshall, Reynolds High School, Winston-Salem; Vice-President, Martha Ellen Harrison, Reidsville High School; Secretary, Catherine Hodgin, Thomasville High School; Assistant Secretary, Jimmy Mills, Allen Jay High School, Guilford County; Treasurer, Dee Devereux, Allen Jay High School.

Northwestern District meeting was held in Burlington at Walter M. Williams High School on October 24. Manly Wade Wellman, author of "Wild Dogs of Drowning Creek" and "Sleuth Patrol" was the guest speaker. His talk was directed toward library work and writing. From the group of around 140, four pupils had serious intentions of becoming writers, and eleven of becoming librarians.

On Saturday, October 25th, 25 members of the Library Club of Pleasant Garden School, Guilford County, took a chartered bus trip to Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone. Mary Ruth Yow, a graduate of Pleasant Garden now attending Appalachian, met the group at the college library and gave the pupils some information about librarian courses. Refreshments were served. The group divided to tour the campus and library and to eat supper in the college cafeteria. The club stayed for a football game between Appalachian and East Tennessee. The trip was greatly enjoyed by all.

Pen Notes: Reviews

Old Pines and Other Stories

Any reader who enjoys the craft of fiction as James Boyd was wont to practice it during his Carolina sojourn, will find *Old Pines and Other Stories* a rewarding book. It was published recently in a limited edition, by the University of North Carolina Press. (Price \$3.00). After reading, one can easily believe, and hope, that reprinting will be necessary. Before the author's death in 1944, his *Drums, Marching On* and *Bitter Creek*, to mention only a few titles had succeeded in establishing him firmly as a historical and American novelist of first magnitude.

Old Pines, which is suitable reading for senior high school students and adults, contains ten stories, each memorable and distinctive in its own right. The mores of small-town Southern life, of which Mr. Boyd obviously had intimate knowledge, serve as the stones with which the story houses are constructed. The characters are drawn with vigor and understanding, each being presented as three-dimensional figures. Not one is flat or distorted; all are real. Poignancy is obtained by meager accent on style. The reader finds each story unhampered by wordiness.

Particular attention is called to the story "Bloodhounds" which, except for a single opening sentence is written as conversation entirely. The brevity of seven pages makes this form of story-telling appear not so difficult as it actually is, but does not lessen the reader's emotional response. This book will stand comparison with the best of regional short story collections.

—George F. Bentley

Queen Anne's American Kings

This delightful little book, with its most felicitous title, is an account of the visit to London in 1710 of four Iroquois sachems. Written by Richmond P. Bond, Professor of English at the University of North Carolina, as "the end of a diversion undertaken for personal amusement and relief from the chores of Academe," it manages to be at once scholarly and entertaining. The reader who is interested in early American history will find in this brief excursion into eighteenth century colonial policy an illuminating view of the period when the tribes of the Five Nations stood as a buffer between the English settlers and the French in Canada. The student of English literature will be gratified to learn that Addison, Steele and Defoe commented on the visit and that Jonathan Swift "intended to have written a book on that subject." And the general reader will enjoy the colorful picture of life in London in the days of Good Queen Anne.

The four Kings were brought to England to impress the British people and their rulers with the importance of Indian affairs, and, in turn, to be impressed by the magnificence and power of the Mother Country. They were received by the Queen, dined by the Archbishop of Canterbury and by William Penn, painted by outstanding artists of the time, and entertained by a round of plays and assorted divertissements. What the four Kings from the Mohawk Valley thought of it all can never be known, but apparently they conducted themselves throughout with quiet dignity. According to a contemporary writer, they were "Men of good Presence, and those who have convers'd with them say, That they have an exquisite Sense, and a quick Apprehension." All in all, says the author, "As special envoys in this the first official embassy of American sachems they had fulfilled their mission—to gain and give good will and to consolidate the faith that moves ships and persuades war from peace."

—*Mary Cutler Hopkins*

The President's Corner

DEAR FOLKS:

With the New Year comes new responsibilities, and new opportunities for each of us, for the Association, and for the Executive Board, especially comes the furthering of plans for the last year of the biennium and for the 1953 Conference.

The Executive Board is happy to announce that Dr. Luther H. Evans, Librarian of Congress, will be the speaker at the first general session Thursday night, October 22nd, 1953. And while we are talking Conference you may like to know that Miss Minnie Kallam, Wake Forest College Library, and Mr. William Pullen, University of North Carolina Library are co-chairmen for Exhibits and Exhibitors.

Southeastern, always an excellent meeting, appeared to have surpassed itself. This additional success may have been due to the great number of representatives from North Carolina! With such a large attendance from this state it was possible for some of us to attend each of the section and group meetings, and through the Executive Board appropriate action is being taken relative to the several matters of importance still under discussion: state representation on the SELA Executive Board and the low standards set by the Southern Association for college and university libraries. A message of appreciation is being sent Miss Mabel Willoughby who served as editor for the very useful membership directory of SELA members.

It is also gratifying to know that a goodly number of the NCLA attended the Eighteenth Annual Conference of the North Carolina Negro Library Association when it met in November at Greensboro. Among those who spoke were Mrs. Mary D. Grant, Mr. Charles M. Adams, Miss Gladys Johnson, and your president.

The Association was also asked to send representatives to the North Carolina English Teachers Association and to the Virginia Library Association. Since it was impossible to send official representation, greetings were wired to each during its time of convention.

Before Southeastern, the Executive Board met with chairmen and representatives of each section and Committee of NCLA for briefing in pre-conference plans. The proposed Constitution was also presented to this group of leaders and additional changes were made and further suggestions were incorporated for your approval at a later date.

Although we here in North Carolina are not anxious to have our Junior Members leave the state it is only fair to mention (since Daniel Hagelin asked us) the free placement service that is being maintained by and for the Junior Members Round Table of ALA. Any employing librarian may send advertisement to C. S. Hagelin.

How about taking time in the New Year to thank a few people? Madge Blalock is editing the Commission's NEWSLETTER and it gets better and better! Elaine von Oesen, Cora Paul Bomar, and Madge are editing the proceedings of the School and Children's Librarians Conference held in Chapel Hill. And let's take time out to welcome new members! We are pleased that they also want to work.

Since the Library of Congress and other agencies and institutions are collecting *NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES* we are hoping to make plans for a new project that will include indexing for our publication.

Let me wish for you a pleasant and prosperous New Year with some fun and some work and great success in your various undertakings.

Cordially,

Jane B. Wilson, President

North Carolina Library Association Officers

- **President:** Miss Jane B. Wilson, 822 Third Street, Durham
- **1st Vice-President:** Miss Mildred Herring, Senior High School, Greensboro

- **2nd Vice-President:** Miss Margaret Johnston, Haywood County Public Library, Waynesville
- **Secretary:** Mr. George Bentley, Assistant to the Librarian, University of North Carolina Libraries, Chapel Hill
- **Treasurer:** Miss Marianna Long, Iredell County Public Library, Statesville
- **Director:** Mr. Carlton West, Librarian, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest
- **Director:** Mr. Olan V. Cook, Assistant Librarian, University of North Carolina Libraries, Chapel Hill
- **Past President:** Mr. Harlan C. Brown, Librarian, Hill Library, State College, Raleigh

Representatives from the North Carolina Library Association

A.L.A. Council: The President; Alternate: Miss Antoinette Earle, Librarian, Davidson County, Lexington

N. C. Legislative Council: The President; Miss Charlesanna Fox, Librarian, Randolph County Public Library, Asheboro; Miss Evelyn Mullen, North Carolina Library Commission, Raleigh; Miss Marianna Long, Iredell County Public Library, Statesville

N. C. Library Commission Board: Mrs. Ford S. Worthy, Washington High School, Washington, N. C.; Mr. Spencer Murphy, Salisbury Post, Salisbury

Public Library Certification Board: The President; Mrs. Elmina Hearne Surratt, Rockwell

Committee Appointments

Constitution: Mrs. Alice Hicks, Woman's College, Duke University, Durham, Chairman; Dr. Susan G. Akers, Chapel Hill; Mrs. Mary P. Douglas, Raleigh; Miss Margaret Ligon, Asheville

Education for Librarianship: Mr. Wendell Smiley, Librarian, East Carolina College, Greenville, Chairman; Miss Eunice Query, Boone; Miss Margaret Kalp, Chapel Hill

Federal Relations: Dr. Benjamin E. Powell, Librarian, Duke University, Durham, Chairman; Miss Evelyn J. Bishop, Smithfield; Mr. Neal Austin, High Point; Mr. Harlan C. Brown, Raleigh; Miss Margaret Johnston, Waynesville; Miss Elizabeth House, Raleigh

Legislative: Miss Charlesanna Fox, Librarian, Randolph County Public Library, Asheboro, Chairman; Miss Antoinette Earle, Lexington; Miss Marianna Long, Statesville; Miss Evelyn Mullen, Raleigh; Mrs. Hallie S. Bacelli, Greensboro

Membership: Miss Annie Graham Caldwell, Supervisor of Libraries, Reynolds High School, Winston-Salem, Chairman; Mrs. George Scheer, Chapel Hill; Mrs. Alice P. Bryan, Marion; Miss Marianna Long, Durham

Nominating: Miss Evelyn Mullen, North Carolina Library Commission, Chairman; Miss Mary Robert Seawell, Woman's College, Greensboro; Mr. Paul Ballance, Winston-Salem; Miss Emily Loftin, Durham; Miss Helen Rosser, Fort Bragg; Mrs. Dorothy Thomas, Celo

Publicity: Mr. Neal Austin, Librarian, High Point Public Library, High Point, Chairman; (Members to be appointed)

Recruiting: Mrs. Mary D. Grant, Director of Libraries, Greensboro City Schools, 501 Asheboro St., Greensboro, Chairman; Miss Elizabeth Walker, Greenville; Miss Vernelle Gilliam, Salisbury; Miss Elizabeth Copeland, Washington, N. C.; Miss Martha Crowell, Concord

Scholarship Loan Fund: Miss Margaret Ligon, Librarian, Pack Memorial Public Library, Asheville, Chairman; Miss Georgia Faison, Chapel Hill; Miss Esther Evans, Duke University, Durham

Study Committee for North Carolina Libraries: Mr. Carleton West, Librarian, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, Chairman; Mr. Thomas Simkins, Duke University; Dr. Louis R. Wilson, Chapel Hill; Mr. Spencer Murphy, Salisbury; Miss Elizabeth House, Raleigh; Miss Marianna Long, Durham; Mr. O. V. Cook, Chapel Hill; Miss Elaine von Oesen, Chapel Hill; Mrs. Hallie Bacelli, Greensboro; Mr. Charles Rush, Chapel Hill; Mrs. Harlan Brown, Raleigh; Mr. Neal Austin, High Point

Sectional Officers

Trustees: Chairman: Mr. W. Clary Holt, Burlington. Secretary: Mrs. George S. Sherrod, Greensboro

College and University: Chairman: William L. Eury, Librarian, Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone. Secretary: Miss Florence Blakely, Reference Department, Duke University, Durham

Public Libraries: Chairman: Miss Charlesanna Fox, Librarian, Randolph County Library, Asheboro. Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Alice Bryan, Librarian, McDowell Public Library, Marion. Secretary: Miss Katherine Fort, Librarian, Scotland County Library, Laurinburg

School and Children's: Chairman: Miss Margaret McIntyre, Librarian, Junior High School, High Point. Secretary: Miss Beatrice Holbrook, Hugh Morson High School, Raleigh

Special Libraries: Chairman: Mr. T. H. Spence, Jr., Historical Foundation, Montreat

Bookmobiles: Chairman: Mrs. Dorothy B. Thomas, Librarian, Avery, Mitchell, and Yancey Counties, Celo. Secretary: Miss Phyllis Snyder, Librarian, Nantahala Regional Library, Murphy

Catalogers: Chairman: Mrs. Mary Duncan Ring, Supervisor, School Libraries, Mecklenburg County, Charlotte. Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Sophronia Cooper, Granville County Public Library, Oxford

Junior Members Round Table: Chairman: Miss Florence Blakely, Reference Dept., Duke University, Durham. Vice-Chairman: Miss Elizabeth Monteith, Librarian, Chantilly School, Charlotte. Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Stella Townsend, Assistant Director, Greensboro Public School Libraries

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