

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 8 p. m. meeting in the Guilford College Auditorium; to the Dudley High School for Negroes in Greensboro; and in High Point.

In the afternoons 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."



MRS. ELIZABETH JANET GRAY VINING

Mrs. Vining is guest speaker at Dudley High School, Greensboro. (Photo by Stan Easty).

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 decorations 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

*Mr. Chase spends a week with rural Guilford County Schools, telling stories, teaching folklore traditions and dances of our North Carolina Heritage—the English Tradition. Children are from Brightwood School, Guilford County.
(Photo by Stan Easty).*



Mr. Chase and pupils of Rena Bullock Negro School, Guilford County, in a moment of enjoyment with a hand-puppet monkey. (Photo by Stan Easty).

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

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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."

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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.