

North Carolina Libraries

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For the Summer Issue of North Carolina Libraries, Winston Broadfoot, Flowers Collection, Duke University, will be the Guest Editor.

President Reporting

Elizabeth H. Hughey, State Librarian

March 8, 1961

Dear NCLA Member:

The good news today came from our friend Joe Ruzicka who writes:

“Our Firm is pleased to announce a grant in the amount of \$500.00 to be used as a scholarship to legal residents of North Carolina for original or continued study in Library Science. The scholarship is to be administered by the North Carolina Library Association through its Scholarship and Loan Fund Committee. Applicants must hold an undergraduate degree and show need for financial assistance as well as a genuine interest in professional library work.”

Our deep appreciation goes to Joseph Ruzicka, Inc. for this second scholarship. The first was awarded in 1959 to Mrs. Elizabeth Bias, who studied at the University of North Carolina. The Scholarship Loan Fund Committee has been alerted and news releases have gone to wire services and members of the NCLA Council on Librarianship and Committee on Library Education. Application blanks for this scholarship should be addressed to Mrs. Willie G. Boone, 2918 University Drive, Durham.

On the subject of scholarships, it seems appropriate in this Public Library Issue to note that five \$2,000 “scholarship grants for graduate study in library science leading to a Master’s Degree in Library Science” are being offered by the State Library under its Library Services Act State Plan. These are available to qualifying candidates who will “spend at least two years following graduation working in a North Carolina library which serves rural areas.” Inquiries shall be addressed to the North Carolina State Library, Box 2889, Raleigh.

“The aim of the North Carolina Library Association is good library service for all the people of North Carolina.” This is a direct quote from the Goals brochure developed by the special committee on goals. Copies of these have been distributed by the Legislative Committee and the National Library Week Committee. By this time they should be in the hands of Association members, library trustees, and presidents of organizations listed in the Directory of North Carolina Organizations, 1960–61 and the press.

If each person has used his extra copies to tell the library story to other citizens, many thousands are now more aware of the status and importance of libraries in today’s world. Can you use more copies? They are available from Box 2889, Raleigh. While people are thinking, talking, and working for a better educational program in North Carolina, attention must be focused on the vital role of the library for all people—those in school and those out of school who never stop learning.

National Library Week offers another opportunity to tell the library story. At the state-wide NLW Committee meeting in Raleigh on March 3, Governor Terry Sanford gave the group added inspiration by presenting in person his positive statement proclaiming National Library Week in North Carolina, April 16–22. His statement will appear elsewhere in this issue of North Carolina Libraries.

We have the good fortune to be in a State on the move forward and with that comes a great challenge to keep pace with more and better library service to help North Carolinians to “a richer, fuller life.”

Sincerely yours,
Elizabeth H. Hughey, President

Trends In Public Library Service To Individuals and Groups

By Charlesanna Fox, Librarian, Randolph Public Library; Dorothy Shue, Librarian, Cumberland County Public Library; and Patrick Penland, Library Consultant for Adult Services, North Carolina State Library, 1958–60

[Photograph: Overhead view of students seated at reading tables in the Public Library, Charlotte, with books and papers spread across the tables. Caption reads: "Students in the Public Library, Charlotte." The caption note beneath reads: "The Public Library, in its service to youth and adults, has never before been so seriously challenged as now to keep some balance between the services and resources made sufficiently available to every segment of the population."]

I.

FROM satisfaction with service to individuals only

TO awareness of the fact that the individual's needs may be expressed either alone or within a group; and that groups have corporate interests over and above individual interests.

The spotlight on the individual today reveals the many interests and needs he has which he shares with other people. Both he and the librarian are becoming more aware of these interests. Each individual is a member of a family, a community, of many groups. Within these he discovers a need for information which will benefit himself and the group to which he belongs.

Groups, too, are making demands upon libraries for those services which answer their needs.

II.

FROM emphasis on service to children

TO emphasis on service to ALL ages.

Librarians are learning that all ages insist on their share of service. Population changes cannot be ignored. Cooperation with the Committees for the White House Conferences on Children and Youth and on Aging has disclosed great gaps in services for the two age extremes. The group in the middle ages, bearing the burden of care, also has needs that are often acute. For school children, public librarians and school librarians are making cooperative efforts to establish policies of service which will make best use of each kind of library.

For a new emphasis on ages of adult library users, many librarians are attempting to define areas of service for adults as they progress through life from young adulthood to the serene years of age.

[Photograph: A man seated at a desk reading, surrounded by shelving filled with reference volumes. Caption reads: "Business Man in the May Memorial Library, Burlington."]

III.

FROM a leaning toward recreational reading

TO recognition of the importance of reference and informational services.

Public libraries are moving from a tendency to provide an overbalance of recreational reading toward a recognition of themselves as informational centers for communities. This trend has been marked since World War II, when people themselves became more keenly aware of their need for informational services. Thus, the library's recognition of its proper role, together with the public's desire for knowledge and information, has given high priority to non-fiction and reference materials in the library's acquisition policy. Public libraries everywhere are recording a surge in non-fiction circulation as well as a demand for more technical, scientific and scholarly materials.

IV.

FROM use of books alone

TO use of every media of communication.

The world of books will remain the center of the library world, but within the Electronics Age a wide selection of other materials has become available. To join the printed word in book, periodical, pamphlet, catalog, index, etc., there have come the film, filmstrip, slide, tape, microfilm, painting, photograph, recording, photostat, kinescope, television.... What a change the non-book materials have brought to the library! They have earned a place in the communication of ideas; with imagination individuals and groups are using them in many significant ways.

V.

FROM library service within the library only

TO service throughout the community.

Librarians are less and less assuming that their duties are bounded by the library walls, but are looking up from their desks and out at the community, and are perceiving the need for library service in community life. Hence, they are going out into the community, making contacts with groups and individuals, bringing the library to them. They are holding program institutes and workshops, sponsoring and co-sponsoring discussion groups, film forums and other activities. To reach individuals not connected with groups they are using the various communication media: newspaper, radio and television. Library talks and publicity are not confined to book reviews, but are concerned with making people aware of educational needs and of the library as a resource to fill these needs.

[Photograph: Group of people seated around a large table in a library meeting room, engaged in discussion. Caption reads: "Discussion Group, May Memorial Library, Burlington, 1953."]

VI.

FROM sketchy knowledge of the community

TO systematic study of the library's relationship to the community.

Librarians have always striven for at least a cursory knowledge of the communities they serve. With the realization that their chief responsibility is to serve the community as a center of reliable information and to help people educate themselves continuously, however, librarians now recognize their need to know more precisely what the educational needs of their communities are. There is a trend toward making a systematic study of the community to find out needs, interests and resources. This trend has been given impetus and importance by the A.L.A.-sponsored Library-Community Project, which was conducted in eight states. This Project initiated and carried on intensive library and community studies, using various methods and activities, with continuing evaluation of each to find out the most successful and productive ways of community study. North Carolina was one of the eight states selected for the Project and the Cumberland County Public Library served as the pilot library. Other libraries are already beginning studies patterned on the Project, or are using modified methods adapted from the Project.

VII.

FROM isolated efforts toward community service

TO cooperation with other agencies and groups in promoting educational services.

No activity in community service takes the place of cooperation with other agencies and groups in promoting services which concern the whole community. Librarians are beginning to enjoy the experience of working with community councils, informal groups, adult education associations and other groups in short and long-range projects. They are learning to analyze their services in comparison with the services of other agencies to determine which services can best be provided by the public library, which by other agencies, and which by a community-wide group.

[Photograph: Women and men seated around a table in a meeting room. Caption reads: "Meeting of Library-Community Project's Citizens Community Study Committee in Cumberland County Public Library, Fayetteville, March 11, 1959. Present was Ruth Warncke, Director."]

VIII.

FROM ignoring community problems

TO assuming increasing responsibility in community adult education.

With the development of county-wide library service in North Carolina since 1940 there has come the community responsibilities attached to expansion of services. As public

service agencies public libraries share both in resources and problems of the community.

IX.

FROM dependence on a limited staff

TO involving more people in the library's program.

Public librarians discovered long ago that necessarily limited staffs could render only limited service to the community. With the acceptance of the library as a vital part of community life, this problem became acute, for librarians were increasingly aware of the need to relate the library more closely to the community. They saw the need to stimulate the public's awareness of the library as a resource and to increase the library's knowledge of the community. Lacking adequate staff for this purpose, librarians have come to rely to an increasingly greater extent on lay groups, such as Friends of the Library, Library Trustees, representatives of other agencies and volunteer workers. They share efforts in the areas of public relations, library tax votes, bond elections, and in keeping the library before the public.

X.

FROM individual libraries striving alone to meet standards of good library service

TO cooperation between libraries in the State in every practical area to provide better service to individuals and groups.

Where a library's trustees and staff once struggled alone to meet standards of good library service, they are now making strides in cooperation with other libraries to meet objectives of good service. In North Carolina this trend is exemplified in such cooperative projects as the interlibrary loan system, the processing center at the State Library, in-service training workshops, and the Adult Film Project. In counties of sparse population or where the valuation is low there are cooperative efforts between counties, so that resources in both personnel and materials are shared. In some cases well-established libraries are entering into agreements with neighboring smaller counties to provide library service. The overall trend in public library development today is toward larger units of service and cooperative projects between libraries, with the aim of providing more efficient, economical and far-reaching service.

[Photograph: Group of people seated around a large conference table covered with papers and documents. Caption reads: "Library-Community Project, Interpretation of Data Meeting, Chicago, July 29-31, 1959. From left to right: Ruth Warncke, Barbara Heafner, Elaine von Oesen, Sarah Hill Moore, Dorothy Shue, Patrick Penland, Elizabeth Hughey, and Dorothy Kittel."]

The Public Libraries Section: Its Purposes, Accomplishments and Future

By Paul Ballance, Director of Public Library of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County

The North Carolina Library Association was organized in May 1904. The first meeting was held in Charlotte November 11 and 12 of the same year. There is no evidence that the librarians divided into any groups during the first several meetings. The Public Libraries Section seems to have had its beginning in 1913 during the eighth meeting of the Association held in Washington, North Carolina, when the membership arbitrarily divided into two groups, the public librarians and the college librarians, to discuss common problems. However, it was during the ninth meeting in Raleigh in 1915 that reference was made for the first time to the Public Libraries Section and its specific meeting.

Some of the librarians who played an important part in the early development of the North Carolina Library Association were public librarians, and tribute should be paid to some of these early pioneers who were: Mrs. Annie Smith Ross, Miss Anne Pierce and Miss Mary B. Palmer, Charlotte; Miss Bettie Caldwell and Miss Nellie Rowe, Greensboro; Miss Pamela Bynum and Miss Mary Prather, Winston-Salem; Mrs. A. F. Griggs, Durham, and Mrs. Nell G. Battle, Rocky Mount. The early secretaries of the North Carolina Library Commission who were instrumental in the development of public libraries were Miss Palmer, Mrs. Griggs, Miss Minnie W. Leatherman, and Miss Marjorie Beal.

The activities of the Public Libraries Section during the early years were primarily concerned with the presentation of papers at the annual and biennial meetings. These papers and discussions dealt with the daily problems of the public librarians and ways to improve the service of public libraries. Some of the topics discussed at these meetings were akin to the problems which still face librarians today: library service for Negroes, Sunday afternoon opening, regulating literature from sects in the form of propaganda, the fumigation of books, how to attract business men to use the library, and missing or stolen books.

The public librarians' group has been referred to by various names. In its first arbitrary separation into a group of the North Carolina Library Association, it was designated as the Public Libraries Section. Some years later the group was referred to as the Public Library Section, and at still another time as the Public Librarians Section. The Section officer was referred to during the early meetings as the leader. Miss Lily Moore of the Davidson County Library appears to be the first person actually named as Chairman at the meeting in 1933, and Miss Margaret Gilbert was the Secretary. There is no indication as to how the officers were elected or named to their positions.

Meeting jointly with the School Libraries Section during the eighth biennial meeting in 1937, the Public Libraries Section reported that the first State Aid bill had been defeated. At the 1939 meeting there was renewed effort to stimulate further interest in State Aid legislation, and in July 1940 the Executive Board of the North Carolina Library Association requested the cooperation of all the sections to take the responsibility of promoting the State Aid bill for public libraries. The Public Libraries Section and the Association were greatly encouraged by the support given to the bill by Governor Broughton, as expressed in his inaugural address in January 1941. He said that he was in favor of strengthening the public libraries, and of extending library service to more

than a million and a half citizens of North Carolina largely in rural areas who were without public library facilities and many more who were inadequately served.

The initial State Aid appropriation was \$100,000 for each year of the biennium, 1941–43, and \$125,000 for each year of the second biennium, 1943–45. At a later date when committees of the Public Libraries Section were organized the State Aid Committee was among the early ones to be appointed.

The first evidence of committee appointments for performing specific duties was a committee appointed by the Section chairman in 1946. This committee was to study and prepare a manual on “Proposed personnel and working specifications for North Carolina public libraries in cities and counties with populations of 75,000 and less”. The results of this committee study were presented to the Section in April 1946, in the form of a mimeographed manual.

As one important result of a professional librarians’ workshop, sponsored jointly by the Public Libraries Section and the North Carolina Library Commission May 17–19, 1950, the following committees were initiated: Audio-Visual Aids Committee, Cooperative Study Committee, Personnel Committee (later expanded into three subcommittees—In-Service Training, Recruiting, and Manual), Policies Committee, Regional Study Committee, and State Aid Committee (later merged with the Development Committee).

Reports given at the biennial meeting of the Association in April 1951 showed that all committees had held one or more meetings and several projects had been started. At a Section planning meeting held in July 1951 two more committees were appointed: a Public Relations Committee and a Trustees Committee. The activities of the eight committees for the period 1951–53 are summarized:

By the cooperation of the Bureau of Visual Education of the University of North Carolina and the North Carolina Library Commission, The Audio-Visual Committee was enabled to implement its plans for the development of a state-wide public library film program. With \$500 from State Aid to initiate the project in 1951–52, qualifying libraries participated in a film circuit, a general pool of films was established, a screening session and a workshop held, and a handbook issued.

The Cooperative Study Committee, later the Adult Education Committee, planned an adult education workshop, prepared brief annotated booklists, participated in a Southeastern Adult Education Association project, studied educational television developments, cooperated in other adult education activities, and assisted in promoting the American Library Association’s American Heritage program, in which 26 libraries participated.

While studying state-wide development of public library service, the Development Committee provided information concerning public library service, and sponsored 82 meetings with Boards of Trustees, attended by 219 persons, including librarians, trustees, and interested citizens, in counties participating in State Aid.

The Legislative Committee, later a subcommittee of the Development Committee, worked jointly with the Development Committee during the legislative session and cooperated with the North Carolina Library Commission in making recommendations for the revision of public library laws.

The Personnel Committee was made up of three subcommittees. The In-Service Training Subcommittee planned and conducted three series of workshops for staff members, held at intervals from October 1951 through October 1952, planned a workshop for administrative librarians and additional workshops for staff members, and explored other methods of in-service training. The Manual Subcommittee completed its work when the PERSONNEL MANUAL was published in 1952. The Recruiting Subcommittee worked with the North Carolina Library Association Recruiting Committee in its recruitment program, and wrote letters to numerous librarians, asking each to recruit one person. Recruiting was declared to be an entire Association concern, and the Subcommittee was discontinued.

The Policies Committee prepared PATTERN FOR A STAFF MANUAL, intended as a sample for libraries desiring to develop manuals of their own, developed a policy for circulation statistics, and proposed items for suggestions in formulating "A Ten-Year Plan for North Carolina County and Regional Libraries".

The Public Relations Committee cooperated in the planning of the Trustees' Institute held in Chapel Hill in 1952. With a committee of the Trustees' Section, the Institute of Government, and the North Carolina Library Commission, the Trustees' Committee sponsored four institutes in 1953, and published a Trustees' Manual.

One of the original committees appointed in 1950, the Regional Study Committee, submitted its first progress report at the 1951 biennial meeting, and later grew into the present Development Committee.

Since prior to the 1953 meeting of the Section in Asheville, there was no constitution and by-laws, and no provision for the collection of Section dues, a committee was appointed at this meeting to work out a simple constitution and by-laws and set dues for the members. Expenses incurred at the conference in Asheville had to be met by "passing the hat".

New and reappointed committees in March, 1954 were: Adult Education, Audio-Visual, Building, Development, Personnel, Policies, Public Relations, and Trustees. Until the end of the 1953–55 biennium these committees worked separately or cooperated in joint projects. The report of the committee appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws was accepted by the Section and the Executive Board of N.C.L.A. In April 1955 a workshop was held in Winston-Salem with the theme "Which Way Tomorrow?" The North Carolina Library Commission and all of the Section committees had a part in the planning and conducting of this workshop, which was attended by approximately 100 librarians and trustees.

For the two-year period 1955–57 the Public Libraries Section was primarily interested in the advantageous use of Federal funds and in the study of the new "Public Library Service" (A.L.A., 1956). From its early days the Public Libraries Section had worked closely with, and been ably supported by, the North Carolina Library Commission. Legislation passed in 1955 merged the North Carolina Library Commission and the North Carolina State Library July 1, 1956, into one stronger, coordinated agency, the North Carolina State Library, which has carried on the work of the two agencies, with expanded services. Also in July 1956, the Development Committee of the Public Libraries Section had a meeting with the staff of the North Carolina State Library in

Greensboro, to discuss plans for the wisest use of the funds which would be made available by the passage of the Library Services bill. Discussion centered around working out a state-wide plan and the outstanding needs of the public libraries in North Carolina. Emphasis was placed on an overall five-year plan which could be maintained with State and local funds when Federal fund payments ceased. It was generally agreed that the greatest need for more funds was to be found in the areas of books, personnel, and technical services.

In September 1956 a two-day joint meeting of the Adult Services Committee and the Development Committee was held at the State Library to discuss the goals hoped to be achieved with the utilization of Federal aid and to outline a plan for presentation to the State Library. Some of the goals agreed upon were personnel and trustee development, increased book collections, emphasis on adult services, encouragement of larger systems and cooperative programs, promotion of public library services, and the expansion of existing cooperative programs, such as the interlibrary loan collections and the adult film project.

[Photograph: A group of librarians and trustees seated in a room during a meeting. Caption reads: "District Meeting to Consider Plans for Federal Aid, Fayetteville, March 1957."]

"Cooperation Is the Key" was the theme and "Public Library Service" the basis for discussion of a workshop for librarians and trustees held at Charlotte February 28 and March 1, 1957, sponsored by the North Carolina State Library, the School of Library Science of the University of North Carolina, and the Public Libraries Section, represented by the Development Committee and the Adult Services Committee.

The Audio-Visual Committee held a number of film preview sessions during the 1955–57 period, and had a meeting in June 1957 to determine the future course of the Committee's activity, agreeing that its activities should be extended to include audio-visual materials other than films.

Interlibrary loan resources and services in North Carolina public libraries were the subjects of a two-day conference August 15–16, 1957 in Winston-Salem. Since the first interlibrary loan conference, held in Greensboro in September 1950, special subject collections had been developed in 14 public libraries throughout the State. Additional subject collections were now proposed, and methods agreed upon for facilitating both lending and borrowing, including the general use by all libraries of the standard American Library Association printed interlibrary loan request forms. A committee of three, appointed "to prepare a list of serials, with inclusive dates, held by North Carolina libraries, university and public", later became the Resources Committee of the Public Libraries Section, which compiled a list of periodical holdings in some North Carolina public libraries. The State Librarian was appointed chairman of a committee of five "to study possible methods of coordinating, making available, and duplicating bibliographic information ... on adult nonfiction holdings in North Carolina public libraries and the State Library". Developing into the North Carolina Library Association's Cooperative Committee on Library Resources, this Committee has been responsible for the expansion of the union catalog at the University of North Carolina to include significant holdings in additional college and public libraries of the State, and the establishment of

an initial network of TWX (Teletypewriter Exchange) between some libraries in North Carolina.

During the Section meeting of the 1957 biennial conference of the North Carolina Library Association the membership, divided into small groups, discussed the proposed committees and plans of the Section, and indicated their individual choices for committee assignment. The following committees were instituted: Adult Services, Audio-Visual, Development, In-Service Training, Personnel, and Resources.

The Executive Committee of the Section met in January 1958 and January 1959 in Asheboro, setting goals for the biennium, completing committee assignments, hearing progress reports, and planning together. Major 1957–59 activities of the committees are noted below:

The Adult Services Committee held two study sessions. Its Interlibrary Loan Subcommittee issued a report, "Interlibrary Service Procedures In North Carolina", and another subcommittee studied and evaluated the Home Demonstration Clubs' reading program.

The Audio-Visual Committee conducted eight film previewing sessions for the Film Project, and purchased 112 films, issued a new edition of the "Handbook Of The North Carolina Adult Film Project", September 1958, and held a workshop May 7–8, 1959, evaluating the films purchased and the mechanics of the Project.

The Development Committee issued a legislative brochure describing public libraries' need for increased State Aid, and prepared the first draft of a policy study, stating suggested policies for public libraries. The Committee also compiled and analyzed the major sources of financial support for public libraries in North Carolina in a financial resources study.

In cooperation with the State Library, the In-Service Training Committee conducted four workshops over the State, attended by 200 staff members in September–October 1958. The Personnel Manual Committee completed the revision of the 1952 "Personnel Manual" in the summer of 1959, and the new Manual was published by the Institute of Government. Completing its assignment also was the Resources Committee, which compiled the "Union List Of Periodicals", held by seventeen North Carolina public libraries.

During the 1959 biennial meeting the goals of the Section were reviewed by the chairman, and reports of activities were given by the committee chairmen. The State Librarian congratulated the group on its accomplishments during the two-year period and told the librarians that they needed to "congregate, coordinate, and cooperate" in order to further library services.

The present pattern of the Public Libraries Section's activities is developed through annual planning meetings of the Executive Board, the chairmen and co-chairmen of all committees, together with representatives of the State Library. Between annual meetings, the Executive Board of the Section meets as needed. The assigned work of each committee is carried out by reams of correspondence and innumerable committee meetings. New ideas ferment in these meetings of librarians from all types of public libraries, and the friction of conflicting opinions serves to sharpen thinking and stimulate

professional growth. The result has been the development of a sense of teamwork in a great enterprise and a knitting together of the fabric of library service throughout the State.

Certainly the past ten years have been a period of great development in public libraries in North Carolina. We have every encouragement that libraries will receive more local support in the next decade. Federal Aid through the Library Services bill was passed in 1960, for the full amount of \$7,500,000 and was extended for a five-year period. This Act gives assurance that some of the projects which were begun with Federal funds will be continued and further developed. It is reasonable to expect that, with the trend for more and better educational facilities, and higher standards toward educational progress, libraries must take their place in this expanded educational program.

The Public Libraries Section should and must exert every effort to promote and extend better library service to the citizens of North Carolina. The Section should strive unceasingly to see that public library service is made state-wide and that every county renders library service to all of its citizens.

The few elected officers of the Public Libraries Section cannot do the job of promoting and providing better public library service alone. Everyone who works in a public library or is interested in public libraries must accept the responsibility of sharing the task. Since the activities of the Section are largely carried on through its committees, Section membership and committee participation is strongly urged. Every North Carolina citizen who treasures public libraries is vitally needed as a working member of the North Carolina Library Association and the Public Libraries Section.

Officers, Public Libraries Section, North Carolina Library Association, 1937–1961

- **1937–1939 Chairman:** Louise Sink; Secretary: Mrs. Elmina Surratt
- **1939–1941 Chairman:** Marianne Martin; Secretary: Edith Clark
- **1941–1943 Chairman:** Nancy Gray; Secretary: Jeannette Mace
- **1943–1945 Chairman:** Irene Hester; Secretary: Elizabeth House
- **1946–1947 Chairman:** Margaret Johnston; Secretary: Edith Clark
- **1947–1949 Chairman:** Olivia Burwell; Secretary: Louise Rowe
- **1949–1951 Chairman:** Antoinette Earle; Secretary: Tera Bailey
- **1951–1953 Chairman:** Charlesanna Fox; Vice-Chairman: Alice Bryan; Secretary: Kathrine Fort
- **1953–1955 Chairman:** George Linder; Vice-Chairman: Jeanette Trotter; Secretary: Phyllis Snyder
- **1955–1957 Chairman:** Neal Austin; Chairman-Elect: Mae Tucker; Secretary: Betty Will McReynolds
- **1957–1959 Chairman:** Mae Tucker; Chairman-Elect: Evelyn Bishop; Secretary: Jane McDaniel

- **1959–1961 Chairman:** Paul Ballance; Chairman-Elect: Mrs. Dorothy Shue; Secretary: Mrs. Dorothy Thomas

[Photograph: Interior view of a bookmobile, showing shelves of books lining the walls and a young patron and staff member examining books. Caption reads: "Interior of the Public Library of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County Bookmobile, Mr. Ted Carmichael, Staff Member."]

Is Bookmobile Service Outdated?

By Dorothy Thomas, Librarian, Mitchell-Avery-Yancey County

Twenty years ago the bookmobile looked like the answer to prayer as a method of providing library service in rural areas. Cities, too, plagued with rapidly shifting populations and the high cost of branches, sighed with relief and invested in huge book vans to serve as peripatetic branches. For a while the number of bookmobiles owned by libraries increased spectacularly, and the size and grandeur of individual bookmobiles followed suit. More and more libraries seized on this method of reaching hitherto unserved areas or of demonstrating the wonders of library service to library-less regions.

Along with the satisfactions of bookmobile service came the problems and the realization that there were limits to what could be accomplished by this method. Librarians were not content with towering circulation statistics or appealing human interest stories; they attempted to overcome the limitations, cope with the changing circumstances, and evaluate realistically the accomplishments of bookmobile service.

[Photograph: A woman seated on the floor of a bookmobile, examining books on low shelves. Extensive shelving with books is visible throughout the vehicle.]

The net result seems to be that the bookmobile is here to stay, but that the type of service given by bookmobiles needs to be examined and may well need to be re-directed.

As one of the states that has used bookmobile service extensively, North Carolina might well take a good hard look at bookmobile service today to see what has been accomplished, how useful the program is at present, and whether or not it will continue to fit into the accepted goals of library service as they are defined for tomorrow's world.

Nothing is static—not even library purposes. The last two decades have seen striking changes in purposes and patterns of library service programs. There has been a steadily shifting emphasis from the recreational and literary use of books to the practical and informational uses. Service to children became swamped in service to schools, and then began to emerge as service to pre-school children, to individual readers engaged in non-curricular reading and research. Adult readers' advisory service and reference service have expanded into program-planners' institutes, film forums, and adult

education programs. The neat and narrow structure of the town or county library has been growing into the cooperative or regional system of libraries.

Not alone has the library program shifted in the last twenty years, but so has the world in which the library operates. Consolidated schools replace the neighborhood schools of both town and country. The super-market and the shopping-center are fast replacing the small grocery and the ordinary department store. Country-dweller and city-dweller alike are hypnotized by the same radio and television programs, and buy the same Ivy League shirts. Improved roads and a population on wheels have almost obliterated distances for all but the most isolated rural communities.

The cultural and economic patterns have changed, too, and only a fraction of rural residents are full-time farmers. Truck-driving, mill work, wholesale and retail distribution, clerical and professional jobs account for the major part of the family income in a large percentage of rural households. With the working wife and mother a commonplace in both city and country, the family pattern has changed. Child-rearing is apt to be the function of an older, perhaps a disabled or retired member of the household.

Does bookmobile service still have relevance in view of the changing patterns of living conditions and library programs? Most librarians agree that where concentration of population and wealth warrants the establishment of branch or community libraries, such units of service (with adequate hours of opening, staff, book stock, and connections with larger libraries) may be expected to replace bookmobile service in that area. However, where population is fluctuating or thinly scattered over wide areas, bookmobile service bids fair to be a permanent part of the library program.

Bookmobile service itself has not been static. It has developed into several distinct patterns, depending partly on the changing scene, but depending even more on the librarian's concept of bookmobile service and the resulting importance or unimportance of the service as part of the library's total program.

Probably the simplest and least effective use of bookmobiles has been to give mere delivery service of packaged collections of books, interspersed with token stops at distribution points where caretakers select without thought or discrimination a stated number of books.

In other areas, service to schools has become the main purpose of the bookmobile schedule, with a few adult stops squeezed in at the beginning or the end of the day's trip. This type of service has felt the pressure of the changing community pattern. School consolidation and the improvement of central school libraries has made it unnecessary to devote such a large proportion of the budget of staff, materials, and scheduled time to school services.

Still another pattern of bookmobile service has been developed where the library administrator has considered the program relatively unimportant—a sop to the rural areas and a nod to the state requirement of county-wide service. The main qualifications for bookmobile staff have been mechanical and clerical skill. Under such conditions, the main function of the bookmobile has been to supply casual, recreational reading to any who cared to avail themselves of it. Serious use of books, or even interest in specific titles, is systematically discouraged in such cases by making it

impossible to obtain any book except the ones that happen to be on the truck, or at most, titles that are in the “bookmobile collection.” The book collection for the bookmobile, in turn, reflects this down-grading of patrons and makes it unlikely that the bookmobile service can meet real educational need. Here, too, social changes are influencing this type of bookmobile service. “Escape readers” find soap-operas and quiz programs more appealing than books, and the former devotees of the western find that television takes them “that-a-way” with less effort than reading formerly required.

Where good service has developed with bookmobiles, the credit usually should go to the library administrator’s attitude toward the service and the quality of personnel put in charge of the bookmobile program. Funds and equipment and professional training seem to be far less important than the basic attitude toward the service.

Where bookmobile service has been considered a part of the total library program, personnel and materials reflect the purposes of the library. Staff, whether professional or not, have a sense of the varied needs of their patrons and a healthy respect for them as first-class citizens. The bookmobile collection of materials is a sampling of the wide range of the main library’s materials. Serious requests are met exactly as such requests are handled in any part of the library system, with recourse to interlibrary loans when necessary. The staff is expected to give readers advisory service and almost automatically to accumulate book-selection information. The bookmobile staff serves as eyes and ears for the library and conducts an informal public relations and community survey program.

Bookmobile service properly carried out has served to inform readers of the services of the library and has helped to relate borrowers to those services. In such cases, there has been increased use of the facilities of the main library, and both bookmobile and main library users have tended to borrow for purposeful rather than just casual reading.

Social changes, of necessity, have had their effect even on this type of bookmobile service. Working mothers and fathers may not be at home to meet the bookmobile, and may prefer to drive to the library at an hour that suits their work schedule. Bookmobile clientele, except in the summer, tend to be more and more homemakers in the old-fashioned sense, along with the oldest, the youngest, and the shut-ins. Shop and office-workers are apt to find that bookmobile hours are inconvenient. These changes have automatically transferred some borrowers to the main library, and more convenient hours of opening have helped this trend.

What have bookmobiles accomplished? In sheer bulk of circulation figures they have often doubled and tripled the outreach of the main library. As an advertisement of library wares, they have been phenomenally successful in some areas. In their dramatic focusing of attention on the hunger of the individual for books, they will probably never be equalled in effectiveness. They have put the tools of self-education within reach of many persons who were almost unaware of such tools. Only a small percentage actually use these tools effectively, but a sociologist testing and recording over a period of years could readily measure the accomplishment in changing the cultural patterns of individuals and communities.

Bookmobile service is not outdated—except where it is content to provide third-rate reading for presumably third-rate citizens. Where good branch service can be

established, the bookmobile is being replaced by branches or community libraries, but for many rural areas the bookmobile still meets the need for library service better than any other method yet in general use.

The bookmobile cannot give complete library service, nor can it expect to serve satisfactorily and directly every resident in a given area. It must aim to serve the less mobile portions of a thinly-scattered rural population, and it must aim to give them first-rate service. This it can never do so long as it tries to operate as an independent and unrelated unit. It must be an integral and vital part of the total program offered by the library or system of libraries serving the area.

National Library Week

By Governor Terry Sanford

Read at a meeting of the North Carolina State Committee for National Library Week held in Raleigh on Friday, March 3, 1961.

April 16–22, 1961

In recognition of our responsibility to encourage and implement a greater appreciation and more wide-spread use of the library facilities available to the public throughout North Carolina, this State will enthusiastically join the other States of the Nation in the observance of National Library Week during the period, April 16–22.

Libraries are monuments to man's eternal quest for knowledge, tangible evidence of his insatiable desire to penetrate all the physical and spiritual mysteries that have confronted him down through the ages.

A century and a half ago, the great American poet and essayist, Ralph Waldo Emerson, said that a small chosen library contains a company of the wisest and wittiest men that could be picked out of all civil countries in a thousand years, who have set in best order the results of their learning and wisdom—and that their thought, which they would not uncover to their bosom friend, is written out in transparent words for strangers of another age. This great heritage from the past, which Emerson recognized, is even more imposing today; made richer by the passage of the most exciting 100 years in the history of civilization.

The world in which we live today demands a continuing rededication to the enduring intellectual and spiritual values essential to the progress of a free people and a free society. This faith in freedom can be derived from a better understanding and appreciation of the cultural heritage that is revealed by the outstanding writers of the past and the present.

The people of this state are fortunate in having available to them growing collections of books in our school libraries, public libraries, college and university libraries and special libraries—and all are valuable sources of inspiration and enlightenment, representing the accumulated experience of all mankind.

In acknowledgement of the fact that our freedom to read imposes a responsibility on all of us to make the most beneficial use of our library facilities, I am pleased to designate the week of April 16–22, 1961, as NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK IN NORTH CAROLINA and urge that all our people unite in this effort to build a better-read, better-informed State and Nation, to stimulate interest in libraries of all kinds to the end that we realize the full potential of our national purpose.

Staff Development: Programs of In-Service Training in North Carolina

By Elaine von Oesen, Extension Services Librarian, North Carolina State Library, and Barbara Heafner, Librarian, Gaston County Public Library

Public libraries in North Carolina were mainly established in the twentieth century. There were few professional librarians and most employees learned on the job from experience. Some of them came from training classes in the nation's larger libraries or the newly-organized formal library schools. Dr. Louis R. Wilson of the University initiated courses for librarians in 1904. In 1910 Dr. Wilson was joined by Miss Minnie W. Leatherman, Secretary of the Library Commission. The courses included "general lectures" on organization and management of libraries, use of the catalog, bibliographies and general reference books, preparation of lists and the selection and ordering of books and periodicals; "technical lectures" on receiving and accessioning books, classification, cataloging, inventory, charging systems, binding, mending and the use of U. S. Government publications; and "Practice in the Library" to illustrate points brought out in the lectures. This was the regular six weeks' course.

For those who could not come the full time, it was suggested that they come "for the last two weeks, as the work for that portion of the term will be in the nature of a library institute." All lectures the last two weeks were to be adapted to the needs of the small library.¹

Summer courses given in Chapel Hill became more and more advanced and terminated with the 28th series in the summer of 1931. The new School of Library Science of the University was opened in September of 1931 with a grant from the Carnegie Corporation. At the North Carolina College for Women in Greensboro, which was accredited as a Junior Undergraduate Library School, courses were also given. Later other colleges in the State initiated formal library courses.

The supply of professional librarians has never been large enough to meet the demand and many library jobs can be performed by nonprofessionals. Both kinds of librarians require in-service training. The trends of library schools toward theory and away from practice has made on-the-job training for new professionals also a necessity.

On-the-job training in North Carolina is done by individual libraries and by cooperative effort. In order to ascertain local practice, a questionnaire was sent out. The questionnaire, sent to five regional libraries, fifty-nine county libraries and two city

libraries, was returned by all five regional, thirty-six county, and both city libraries. The returns of one regional and four county libraries were too incomplete to tabulate.

Replies indicate that orientation to the library generally is given to new staff members through a conference with the librarian or a department head and usually includes information about library policies and personnel regulations. Orientation to the job in most cases is achieved by an oral explanation of the new person's duties and an introduction to fellow workers. About half of the county and regional libraries rotate staff members in various departments to give an over-all view.

Only thirteen of the thirty-nine respondents have staff manuals. Two more are in the process of making them. Most existing manuals are less than five years old and are revised as the need arises. All thirteen manuals contain procedures and rules and regulations, eleven include policies, five contain library history and only one has information about the community.

Most libraries try to provide opportunities to staff members for growth. Only large libraries have staff associations, but many of the smaller ones achieve the same comradeship without a formal organization. Staff meetings are held in most libraries; however, the frequency of scheduled meetings varies from weekly to semi-annually, while fourteen libraries have "some" staff meetings or meet at "irregular" intervals. Twenty-three librarians give an opportunity for discussion of pre-announced subjects at staff meetings.

Among methods cited to achieve esprit de corps, the most frequent was good intramural communications. Whether at staff meetings, during coffee breaks, or on the job, librarians found that the discussion of plans, problems, programs of service and board action with staff members achieved the desired team attitude with the resulting cooperative effort. Praise for good work, individual encouragement and attention were also stressed.

In most public libraries, employees are encouraged to attend professional conferences, institutes and workshops. In three-fourths of the libraries, expenses are paid by the library within budget limitations. In twenty-seven of the thirty-nine libraries, encouragement is given the staff to seek further formal education.

On-the-job instruction of subprofessional staff suggests, as is generally known, that many professional activities in public libraries are carried on by other than professional librarians. Over thirty of the respondents reported instruction to this group included specific reference books, interlibrary loan procedures, and film information and booking. Twenty-seven give instruction in book selection for patrons, and twenty-three give instruction on community resources outside the library. Most libraries also give instruction in such clerical tasks as typing catalog cards, processing procedures and the operation of equipment.

To supplement the training on the job, North Carolina libraries cooperate to increase their own competence and that of their staff members.

On May 17–19, 1950, an historic event in North Carolina public library development took place in Lexington, North Carolina. The first of a series of workshops, sponsored by the Public Libraries Section of the North Carolina Library Association and the staff of

the North Carolina Library Commission, had as its theme "To the Next Crossroad." The workshop covered an amazing number of subjects and served as a springboard to many projects to make the State's public libraries more effective. "Since Lexington" became a recurring phrase. Two resolutions which were passed at a meeting of the Public Libraries Section held in the last session of the workshop are especially pertinent to the subject of staff development. They are that:

1. A committee be appointed to study recruitment, in-service training and retirement and make recommendations to the North Carolina Library Association.
2. A committee be appointed to work with the North Carolina Library Commission in planning workshops for untrained library personnel.²

A direct outgrowth of the Lexington Workshop was a series of training institutes for library employees without formal library science courses. These sessions were conducted in a three-part series in the fall of 1951 and the spring and fall of 1952. Each part of the series was repeated in the three natural areas of the State: coastal plain, piedmont and mountain. The first series of "workshops" (held in Asheville, October 1–3; Burlington, October 8–10; Greenville, October 15–17, 1951), presented the public library as the community's information center and emphasized reference work. The second series (in Asheville, March 31–April 2; Salisbury, April 7–9; Wilson, April 21–23, 1952) centered on reading guidance for youth and adults. Part three of the series (in Waynesville, October 6–8; Greensboro, October 13–15; Fayetteville, October 20–22, 1952) had the topic "Public Relations and the Community in the Library".³ As another example of cooperative effort by the Public Libraries Section and the North Carolina Library Commission, the series was an unqualified success. Evelyn Day Mullen, Field Librarian of the Library Commission, served as director. She reported:

"I was enthusiastic about the plan before I was asked to serve as Director and my enthusiasm continued to increase throughout the sessions. There was no question of the interest of both the Association and the Commission, each of which gave me unstinting support throughout the project. But the most exciting part of the whole thing was the enthusiastic response of librarians and library staff members throughout the State. The membership of the Workshop was the most responsive group with which I ever worked. It was due to this responsiveness that one of the great values of the Workshop was achieved, that of a renewed fellowship among all those of us participating in public library service in the State and the understanding that everyone of us had something to contribute to our public library development."⁴

In January 1955, the public librarians of the State and the staff of the Library Commission planned a second professional workshop. This was held in Winston-Salem, April 27–29, 1955 with the theme, "Which Way Tomorrow?" Representatives of industry, the press, radio and television spoke on public relations and programming. Mrs. Florence Craig of Cuyahoga County Library, Cleveland, Ohio, spoke on adult services in libraries and served as consultant. Miss Helen Harris, Lawson McGhee Library,

Knoxville, Tennessee, was also a consultant and talked to the group about the responsibilities of an administrator.⁵

February 28 and March 1, 1957, librarians and trustees met in Charlotte to discuss the new public library standards, "Public Library Service: A Guide to Evaluation with Minimum Standards", published by the American Library Association in 1956. The sponsorship for this workshop was enlarged. Two committees of the Public Libraries Section, the Adult Services Committee and the Development Committee were joined by the North Carolina State Library (created July 1956 by merger of the Library Commission and the former State Library) and the School of Library Science of the University of North Carolina. At one session librarians evaluated their own libraries on the basis of the new standards. The group concluded that cooperation is the key to public library development in North Carolina.⁶

After that, it was again the turn of the nonprofessional public library employee. The "1958 In-Service Training Workshops" were held in Fayetteville, September 23–25; in Wilson, September 30–October 2; in Thomasville, October 7–9; and in Lenoir, October 14–16. Again the In-Service Training Committee of the Public Libraries Section, North Carolina Library Association and the Extension Services Division of the North Carolina State Library were the sponsors and planners.

[Photograph: Six women seated in a circle in a meeting room, several holding papers, engaged in discussion. Caption reads: "Workshop on Public Library Standards attended by professional librarians and trustees, Charlotte, February 28–March 1, 1957."]

The program was based on results of questionnaires sent out the previous year to determine subjects of interest to prospective participants. After a review of public library development in the State and discussion of the new standards, instruction in Service to Adults and Service to Children was given. A talk by a North Carolina author or publisher climaxed each of the four sessions. Again the "students" were enthusiastic and appreciative.

In the fall of 1960, four new In-Service Training Sessions were conducted. They were held in Charlotte, October 25–27; in Winston-Salem, November 1–3; in Wilson, November 9–11; and in Fayetteville, November 15–17. The first day was highlighted by a discussion of the library in today's world and a talk on public relations and communications. Following the pattern set in 1958, the second day was largely instructional. The beginners group studied basic library tools and the advanced group studied reference books in various subject fields. The third day featured a symposium of speakers and demonstrations of various techniques in presenting books to groups and individuals.

Planners, instructors and participants have been enthusiastic about both workshops and institutes. There is little doubt that the pattern will be continued.

[Photograph: Group of librarians seated around a table with papers in a training session. Caption reads: "In-Service Training Workshop, Wilson, November 9–11, 1960."]

References

1. North Carolina Library Bulletin, I, 1909–1914, pp. 6–7.

2. "To the Next Crossroad": Public Librarians' Workshop, Lexington, N. C., May 17–19, 1950, p. 22. Mimeographed.
 3. Syllabus, In-Service Training Workshops, 1951–1952. North Carolina Library Association, North Carolina Library Commission, 1954. Mimeographed.
 4. *Ibid.*, pp. iv–v.
 5. "Which Way Tomorrow?" Public Library Workshop, Winston-Salem, N. C., April 27–29, 1955. Sponsored by the Public Libraries Section, North Carolina Library Association, and the North Carolina Library Commission. Mimeographed.
 6. "Public Library Service: A Guide to Evaluation with Minimum Standards." American Library Association, 1956.
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Cooperative Practices Among Public Libraries in North Carolina

By Frances Gish, Public Library Consultant, North Carolina State Library; Evelyn Parks, Librarian, May Memorial Library (Alamance County); and Phyllis Snyder, Public Library Consultant, North Carolina State Library

The greatest strength of the public library services in North Carolina lies in the fact that there has been a history of sharing in the field of resources and ideas. Beginning with the establishment and development of the North Carolina Library Commission which was later to become a part of the State Library, the feeling and the thinking has been directed to the idea of cooperation to the strengthening of the whole library system. As the number and varieties of library service areas have grown, this spirit has blossomed until it is indeed a library system. Among the first evidences of cooperation was the custom of lending and borrowing books between libraries. This came about without any formal contracting or planning but entirely within the spirit which has long been in existence and was done without any exchange of money or any desire except mutual helpfulness.

The advent of State Aid to public libraries made it seem even more natural for resources to be shared since all hands could dip into a common barrel to help provide books. The first formal arrangement for the development of special collections of material in specific subject fields by public libraries began in 1950 and there is now a total of seventeen such collections. Funds with which to start these collections were made available from State Aid. The last special collection was added in the fall of 1960. Although these materials are peculiar to the needs of the areas in which these libraries are located, they are available on interlibrary loan to any library which requests them. The librarians in these spots have become experts in their own rights and serve in the capacity of advising on the purchase of materials in these fields by other libraries.

Special Subject Collections in North Carolina Public Libraries

- Architecture, Pack Memorial Public Library, Asheville

- Art, Olivia Raney Library, Raleigh
- Automation, May Memorial Library, Burlington
- Business and Industry, Greensboro Public Library, Greensboro
- Drama and the Theatre, Wilson County Public Library, Wilson
- Family Life and the Home, Durham Public Library, Durham
- Furniture, Design and Manufacture, High Point Public Library, High Point
- Gardening and Landscape Gardening, Rowan Public Library, Salisbury
- Human Relations: Citizenship and Government, Cumberland Public Library, Fayetteville
- Minerals and Mineral Industries, Mitchell-Avery-Yancey County Libraries, Bakersville
- Music, Randolph Public Library, Asheboro
- Natural History (Biology, Botany and Zoology), Sheppard Memorial Library, Greenville
- The Negro, Richard B. Harrison Library, Raleigh
- Recreation, Kinston Public Library, Kinston
- Textiles: Knitting, Yarn Manufacturing and Machinery, Gaston County Public Library, Gastonia
- Textiles: Weaving and Design, Chemistry and Dyeing, Synthetics, Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, Charlotte
- Vocational and Industrial Manuals, Public Library of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County, Winston-Salem

Through the union catalog of the Interlibrary Loan Center at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, the resources of university and college libraries together with public library holdings, it is possible to locate rapidly and readily thousands of books from all over the State for interlibrary loan. The State Library serves as a clearing house for all public library requests and, by TWX machine installed in 1959, can make locating of special titles a simple process.

As an outgrowth of discussions among public librarians in the State, a film program began in 1952, with the use of State Aid funds and the cooperation of the Bureau of Visual Education of the University of North Carolina. More than forty libraries in the State now participate in this Adult Film Project from the selection of the films to be purchased to the setting up of procedures for the use of them. In the eight years of operation films have been added, worn out and discarded so that now there are 859 in the collection. The report of the 1959–60 fiscal year shows that 5,845 films were borrowed by public libraries for a vast audience of 305,589. Two films were used for television showing and the stations using them have estimated an audience of 207,300.

[Photograph: Large group of librarians and trustees seated in rows in a meeting room, some facing a presentation area at left. Caption reads: "Film Preview Session, Thomasville, February 9–10, 1961."]

The continuous round of workshops, institutes and the closely-knit, working groups within the Public Libraries Section of the North Carolina Library Association, made up of public librarians, as well as the allied North Carolina Association of Library Trustees, have provided in-service training on many levels for all in the public libraries. The teamwork of librarians and trustees in these Sections has resulted in a number of useful publications, listed elsewhere in this issue. Public librarians and the North Carolina Association of Library Trustees also assisted the Institute of Government in preparing the "Guidebook For Trustees Of North Carolina Public Libraries", 1959.

As an outgrowth of a workshop on standards for public libraries in 1957, the Western North Carolina public librarians formed a regional group which meets quarterly in the different libraries in the area to consider common problems. Librarians of the South Piedmont area organized a Council which meets annually to discuss cooperative programs. Several constructive ideas, later developed and carried out effectively by the Section of the Association, originated with this group. Cooperative in-service training is being considered by the Piedmont Public Library Council.

The Processing Center, established by the State Library in the spring of 1960 for the ordering, cataloging and processing of books, was a response to the need of many smaller libraries to be relieved of these tasks. Books are selected by participating libraries and orders made on multiple order forms which are sent to the Processing Center at the State Library. Orders are consolidated at the Center and placed with jobbers who offer the best service and discounts. Pre-cataloging is done largely from Library of Congress proof sheets. Books are processed, given plastic jackets, and mailed with their catalog cards to participating libraries. Libraries which serve populations 100 per cent rural may apply for Federal grants to cover the full cost of the service. County and regional libraries which are only partially rural may apply for the percentage of the cost equal to the percentage of their rural population. (Towns with populations of 10,000 or more are considered urban under terms of the Library Services Act.) The purpose of the Processing Center is to release librarians and their staffs for enriched and expanded services to their patrons. In January 1961, 46 county and regional libraries serving a total of 56 counties are participating in the Center.

[Photograph: A woman working at a desk surrounded by books and papers in an office setting. Caption reads: "Mrs. Marion Johnson, Director, State Library Processing Center, at her desk, 1960."]

North Carolina public libraries have always offered reference service to persons living beyond their legal borders. It has usually been the custom to circulate books free of charge to nonresidents who are employed, attend school, or own property within the library's jurisdiction. An informal study of public library practices in North Carolina reveals that many public libraries lend books freely to persons who live in neighboring North Carolina counties. This practice has led some North Carolina librarians to wonder if a time might come when a library card which is good in one's home county might be honored in any county or regional library in North Carolina. There are some mechanics which would need to be considered and worked out. The board of each county or regional library would have to decide whether it approves participation in such a program. There are arguments pro and con. Some of the arguments against lending books to persons living outside the library's legal boundaries include the following: the

local governmental officials might not approve; more populous counties with advanced library programs would get most of the requests for service to patrons beyond their borders; there might be no incentive for counties with poorly-supported libraries to raise their support if residents can get good library service free of charge in a neighboring county. Arguments for the program follow: in many counties the number of nonresidents served would about equal the number of their own residents using the library facilities of a neighboring county; nonresidents are frequently in the county to shop and an added attraction to draw them to the shopping center might well be worth the cost of the library service offered them; a taste of good library service might well act as a stimulus for a person to demand more adequate service nearer home in his own county and community; specialized types of service might be developed with larger libraries emphasizing reference, the smaller giving reading guidance; and the fact that both State and Federal Aid are granted to county and regional libraries.

[Photograph: A library worker packing processed books at a shelving area. Caption reads: "Shipping Clerk Packing Processed Books, State Library Processing Center."]

Many public libraries have in the last few years entered into formal contracts for the sharing of personnel, materials and services. To make it possible to share persons with special skills and to make a more intensive use of materials and other resources, these cooperative projects have been initiated, stimulated by the availability of Federal funds which have been used to encourage cooperative endeavor and larger units of service. The fact that local funds have not been necessary during the first year for this cooperation has enabled libraries to venture in these experiments, and the demonstration of the practical results of the projects has led to their continuation through local support. At the present time, the following administrative units have contracted to share personnel, materials, and/or services: Lee County Library has contracted with the May Memorial Library for cataloging and processing of books and for consultant services. Chatham County Library has contracted with May Memorial Library for professional supervision, for processing and bookmobile service. Hoke County Library has contracted with Cumberland County Public Library for the loan of collections of adult books which are exchanged at regular intervals. Greene County Library has contracted with the Kinston Public Library for the exchange service in addition to cataloging and processing service and professional supervision. Lincoln is similarly contracted with Gaston for full professional services. Harnett County Library has contracted with Johnston County Library for the cataloging and processing of books and for professional supervision. Currituck and Dare Counties have inaugurated a book cooperative of adult books which are owned and used jointly by the two counties. They also share the professional services of their head librarian. Moore and Richmond Counties have a similar book cooperative and share the professional services of their head librarian.

Some of these cooperative arrangements have led to regional organization. Stokes and Surry Counties originally shared only a head librarian. In 1959 they joined with Alleghany County to form the Northwestern Region. Staff training sessions held in this region are attended by Yadkin County. Avery, Mitchell, and Yancey Counties had three separate library programs and were united only by a director employed jointly. With a Federal Aid grant, they launched a cooperative program which has involved sharing

personnel and collections of these and the Spruce Pine town library in a tri-county program.

The newly organized Rocky River Library Co-op will be the first cooperative effort frankly planned as a transitional step toward regional organization. Anson, Stanly, and Union Counties formed the Rocky River Library Co-op with a first-year goal of employing an extension librarian to survey bookmobile and branch service and make recommendations for development. A book pool will provide supplementary books for the expanded program and give experience with joint collections. The second year the cooperating counties plan to centralize bookkeeping and operational procedures.

Whenever and wherever librarians have found areas in which they need help, there has been a channel through which they could work toward a solution. The spirit of cooperation has resulted in numerous arrangements which are formal and informal in their approach; they are experimental or permanent, but they are all directed at the one ambition of all libraries to get the best service possible to the people who are their patrons. In the very variety of cooperative arrangements there has been strength. Fears of possible loss of identity by the individual library and of adverse reaction to the use of tax funds to support services outside the political boundaries have had a chance to be brought into the full light of day and may prove to be not impossible barriers. In the sharing of personnel, books and equipment; in the common pools of films; in the cooperative ordering, cataloging, and processing of books, libraries are taking a long stride. They can see how cooperation has enriched their own resources while it has given an opportunity to share what they have with other libraries.

Publications of the Public Libraries Section

[Photograph: A display of publications fanned out on a surface, showing covers and titles of various manuals and reports produced by the Public Libraries Section. Caption reads: "Publications of the Public Libraries Section."]

- Handbook Of The Adult Film Project. Joint project of the Public Libraries Section, University of North Carolina Extension Division, and the North Carolina Library Commission (later North Carolina State Library) 1952, and annual supplements. Revised editions 1955, 1958, and annual supplements. First Cumulative Supplement, 1960.
- In-Service Training Workshops, Syllabus, 1951–52. Sponsored by the In-Service Training Subcommittee and Personnel Committee of the Public Libraries Section and the North Carolina Library Commission, 1954.
- Interlibrary Service Procedures In North Carolina. Prepared by the Interlibrary Loan Subcommittee of the Adult Services Committee of the Public Libraries Section, June, 1959.
- North Carolina Public Library Personnel Manual. Compiled by the Manual Subcommittee of the Personnel Committee of the Public Libraries Section, 1952.

- North Carolina Public Library Personnel Manual, Revised. Prepared by the Personnel Manual Committee of the Public Libraries Section, and published by the Institute of Government, Chapel Hill, 1959.
- Pattern For A Staff Manual. Prepared by the Policies Committee of the Public Libraries Section, 1953.
- Suggested Personnel And Working Specifications For North Carolina Public Libraries In Cities And Counties With Populations Of 75,000 And Less. Compiled by the Committee on Personnel and Specifications, 1946.
- Suggested Policies For Public Libraries. Prepared by the Development Committee of the Public Libraries Section, North Carolina State Library, 1960.
- To The Next Crossroad. Manual of the Public Librarians' Workshop, Lexington, N. C., May 17–19, 1950. Sponsored by the Public Libraries Section and the North Carolina Library Commission, 1950.
- Union List Of Periodicals In Selected North Carolina Libraries. Prepared and published by the Resources Committee of the Public Libraries Section, Winston-Salem, N. C., 1959.
- Which Way Tomorrow? Manual of the Public Library Workshop, Winston-Salem, April 27–29, 1955. Sponsored by the Public Libraries Section and the North Carolina Library Commission, 1955.

New North Carolina Books

By William S. Powell, Librarian, North Carolina Collection, UNC

Mabel Wolfe Wheaton with LeGette Blythe, *Thomas Wolfe and His Family*. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1961. 336 pp. \$4.95.

Reading this book is like reading someone's personal diary. Some of the things Mrs. Wheaton has recorded, one suspects, would have been left unrecorded except for her devotion to her brother, Thomas Wolfe, and her desire to picture their family as it really was and not as Wolfe's followers have imagined from reading his novels. Even to one who is not a Wolfe "fan" the book will make interesting reading; it is a first-hand account of life in North Carolina for more than half a century. To Wolfe enthusiasts, however, every page will be a revelation.

LeGette Blythe, who prepared this book from Mrs. Wheaton's recorded reminiscences and from conversations which the two had, was a student in Chapel Hill at the same time as Wolfe.

V. V. McNitt, *Chain of Error and the Mecklenburg Declarations of Independence*. Palmer, Mass.: Hampden Hills Press, 1960. 134 pp. \$4.50. (Distributed by Heritage Printers, Inc., 510 West Fourth Street, Charlotte 2, N. C.)

Mr. McNitt subtitles his book "A New Study of Manuscripts: Their Use, Abuse, and Neglect," and his main theme hinges on whether Dr. Charles Phillips of the University of North Carolina deliberately altered the text of the "Davie copy" of the reputed Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. The Davie Copy was "discovered" in 1917 by Dr. J. G. de Roulhac Hamilton. The book is a study of the evidence concerning the Mecklenburg Declaration and as such it will find interested readers in North Carolina. It is not, however, likely to sway many of those who do not already believe in the authenticity of the May 20th claim.

Oliver H. Orr, Jr., *Charles Brantley Aycock*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1961. 394 pp. \$7.50.

Dr. Orr's study of the life of North Carolina's "Educational Governor" comes at a good time in the history of the State. While the legend of Aycock has been circulated for perhaps fifty years (April 2, next year, will mark the fiftieth anniversary of his death), Aycock the man has been less well known to Tar Heels. By diligent research and by seeking out living persons who knew him, the author has brought together the facts which tell the story of Aycock's life. In spite of the scarcity of sources throwing light on Aycock's early life, enough information has been found to enable us to have glimpses of him as a youth and young man. The facts of his later life are more fully documented. The climax of the book comes with the account of Aycock's "campaign for education" following his election as governor in 1901. The slow start he made and the final success of his efforts as shown in increased numbers of schools in operation, increased enrollment, extended school terms, improved physical equipment, and an increase in the number of teachers are vividly portrayed.

Charles A. McCoy, *Polk and the Presidency*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1960. 238 pp. \$4.50.

Professor McCoy has not written a biography of North Carolina-born President Polk. He has, instead, written a thought-provoking study of Polk's influence on the office of the President of the United States. He discusses Polk as head of state, as director of department affairs, as director of the budget, as chief of foreign affairs, as commander-in-chief during the war with Mexico, as a fighter for a legislative program, and as head of his party. Much of this will sound very modern and it is, in fact, a good introduction to the present-day political scene.

Milton Lomas, *Andrew Johnson: President on Trial*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Cudahy, 1960. 376 pp. \$6.00.

There have been many biographies of Andrew Johnson, but this detailed study of a brief period in his life focuses only on his years as president following the death of Lincoln. North Carolina-born Johnson attempted to carry out Lincoln's moderate policy of "reconstruction" which would admit the Southern states to the Union as rapidly as

possible. His struggle with the Radicals of the Republican party and his eventual impeachment are related here in a readable style yet with much revealing detail.

The Senate's failure to find Johnson guilty as charged in the articles of impeachment meant that the office of President lost none of its prestige and, in fact, it contributed greatly to the strengthening of the office.

Ernest S. Dodge, *Northwest by Sea*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1961. 348 pp. \$6.50.

Ordinarily it would not be suspected that a book devoted to the various attempts to find a Northwest Passage from Europe to the Far East would have any North Carolina connection. But two of the active participants in these searches lived in North Carolina: Arthur Dobbs, who was governor of the colony from 1754 to 1765, and Theodore Swaine Drage, a Church of England missionary in Salisbury and elsewhere in the Carolinas from 1769 until his death about 1779, are discussed at length. In addition, there are passing references to Sir Thomas Cavendish, Sir Walter Raleigh, and others who were associated in one way or another with this area during an earlier period.

The general subject of this book is one which should be of wide interest to a number of readers, and its chronological tables, extensive bibliography, and adequate index will make it a good reference tool for librarians. The period of time covered by this study is from the early fifteenth century when Portuguese sailors began to venture into the Atlantic until September 14, 1960, when the nuclear-power submarine, U.S.S. "Seadragon," completed a voyage through the Northwest Passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Katharine E. Wilkie, *Daniel Boone, Taming the Wilds*. Champaign, Illinois: The Garrard Press, 1960. 72 pp. \$2.25.

Written simply for primary-grade children, this story of Boone's part in opening up the West of his day is filled with exciting episodes which will delight children. Attractive illustrations by E. Harper Johnson are obviously based on good research. Their detail will serve to answer many questions about life on the frontier.

Guy Owen, *Season of Fear*. New York: Random House, 1960. 337 pp. \$3.95.

A native of Clarkton, in Bladen County, and a graduate of the University of North Carolina, Guy Owen is now a member of the faculty of Stetson University. This is his first novel, and it is an interest-holding account of the life, the struggles, the passions, and the religion of Clay Hampton. The setting could be almost anywhere along one of East Carolina's rivers, but it is undoubtedly in the Cape Fear Country. Hamp's love of the land and his reactions to the people around him can put that love into words and describe the reactions so realistically that they become our own.

Harnett T. Kane, *Gone Are the Days, An Illustrated History of the Old South*. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1960. 344 pp. \$12.50.

This is primarily a picture book of Southern history from the early Spanish explorations of the region through the Civil War. Many of the illustrations are from contemporary sources, but the reproductions often are of poor quality. A swift-moving text is interspersed among the pictures. Captions under some of the pictures are transposed and the list of "Picture Credits" is so confused as to make it impossible to be certain of the sources. Frequently wrong pages are cited or the location of a picture on the page is incorrect. Credit for six pictures is given the "Hugh Lefler Collection, University of North Carolina Library," but no such collection is known to exist in Chapel Hill.

Nevertheless, there is much of North Carolina here, and it is possible to spend many pleasant hours idly looking at the pictures.

Henry Thomas, *The Wright Brothers*. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1960. 126 pp. \$2.50.

This volume in Putnam's "Lives to Remember" series is written for the 10 to 14 year old by a former university professor. While the facts are correct, it is not stilted or pedantic. The ambition and the long dream of the Wright Brothers that they might some day fly is told in a believable style. There is, of course, much about Kitty Hawk, and the story is brought down to 1948 when the Kitty Hawk plane was returned to America from England where Orville had sent it twenty years before.

Hugh T. Lefler, editor, *A History of the United States from the Age of Exploration to 1865*. New York: Meridian Books, Inc., 1960. 410 pp. \$1.55, paper.

With his rare ability to select interesting and revealing documents, Professor Hugh T. Lefler has again compiled a sourcebook which will be enjoyed by both students and general readers. Broad section headings suggest an arrangement by chronology and by subject, but within each section (or chapter) a series of documents is tied very neatly together by the editor's comments to make a readable whole. Many of the quoted documents are rarely mentioned in sourcebooks of this type, but all of them fit exactly to the point. The necessary old sources are here, of course, but their flavor is changed by the company they are keeping. Sources are always cited and the editor is to be commended for referring the reader to the more common and thus more readily available books containing the full document rather than to manuscript or contemporary printed sources.

This is the first in a series of "Meridian Documents of American History" being issued under the watchful eye of General Editor George F. Scheer, another Tar Heel.

Louis R. Wilson, *Harry Woodburn Chase*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1960. 55 pp. \$2.00.

This is a tribute to President Chase of the University of North Carolina (1919–1930) who was afterwards president of the University of Illinois and Chancellor of New York University. A New Englander who adapted himself to life in Chapel Hill, Chase was a man with rare insight into the problems of higher education and a genius at administration. During his tenure the physical growth of the campus was notable. The reorganization of certain functions of the University and the creation of new departments and institutes gave North Carolina's university much of its nation-wide fame which it still enjoys today. Dr. Wilson has written of President Chase's contributions here and in Illinois and New York with obvious devotion. In many respects (though we never knew Chase) they have much in common, and Dr. Wilson is perhaps better able to interpret Chase to us today than anyone else who knew him.

William M. Hardy, *Year of the Rose*. New York: Dodd, Mead & Company, 1960. 243 pp. \$3.50.

If the dust jacket is to be trusted, this is a novel with a purpose. We read there that author Hardy is "fascinated with the idea that many people have of college professors—stuffy men, set apart from worldly realities, frailties and desires. When a professor becomes involved in scandal, the world is doubly shocked. My hero in *Year of the Rose* is, I hope, a man like other men—with the same strength and, surely the same weakness." Here, then, we have a story designed to show that professors are human. Much of the description of the campus suggests the University of North Carolina and while identification of the hero eludes us, we think we can very nearly identify some of his associates. The apartment of Roberta Heller, the graduate student with whom Professor David Shelby falls in love, is surely just off East Franklin Street in Chapel Hill.

William Francis Guess, *South Carolina, Annals of Pride and Protest*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1960. 337 pp. \$5.95.

As the third title to be published in the *Regions of America* series, "South Carolina, *Annals of Pride and Protest*" lives up to the high standard set by the volume on Virginia. (Unfortunately we have not read "Yankee Kingdom" which treats of Vermont and New Hampshire.) The author, a native South Carolinian, is a professor of English at Maryland State Teachers College and he obviously can practice what he teaches. His book is an affectionate, yet at times critical, glimpse of South Carolina at various times during the state's history. Much of what he has written is, of course, based on good sound historical research, but it is flavored throughout by the author's own observations and knowledge from his own close association with South Carolina and South Carolinians.

Julia Montgomery Street, *Drovers' Gold*. New York: Dodd, Mead & Company, 1961. 158 pp. \$3.00.

Mrs. Street's story of young Duncan MacGregor and his experiences as a stock-driver along the Buncombe Turnpike in the mountains of North Carolina in the early 1880's will

appeal to young people with an interest in the past as revealed in a good story. Young Duncan's search for Mr. Alamander's hidden gold and his experiences with a haunted house add to the excitement of the tale.

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[Photograph: Group of librarians seated around a table in a meeting room working with papers and materials. Caption reads: "Group at In-Service Training Workshop, Charlotte, October 25–27, 1960."]

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