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South Carolina Library Bulletin v. 2 n. 4 12/1946

Abstract

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SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARY BULLETIN

Vol. 2, No. 4

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
AND THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LIBRARY BOARD

December, 1946

State Aid for 1947-1948

The South Carolina State Library Board has requested an appropriation of \$50,000 for the year 1947-48. This is an increase of \$25,000 over the previous year's appropriation, but it is still too small in view of the great need in South Carolina for county library development. If the appropriation is granted it will enable the Board to continue its present services to libraries in the state and to:

1. Increase the allotment of direct state aid to county libraries from \$325.00 to \$500.00.
2. Encourage the development of regional libraries—the voluntary combination of two or more counties for more efficient library service — by granting a substantial bonus to such county combinations.
3. Provide the services of a trained library field worker on the staff of the Board to give direct on the spot service to small libraries.
4. Increase the book stock of the Board so that more deposit collections will be available to communities with small libraries or no libraries at all.
5. Provide a small bookmobile for use in service to communities in delivering and collecting book deposits.

Public library progress in South Carolina is encouraging, but it is slow. There are still 831,792 citizens of this state who have no library service at all, and many others must patronize libraries operating on budgets inadequate to supply the variety of materials needed by the borrower. 16 counties are still without county libraries. No county in the state, not even the wealthier ones, can provide adequate library service unless some form of state aid is forthcoming. Since 1943, the amount of state aid has been increased annually, but it has never been large enough to give the kind of assistance that South Carolina counties need in establishing and maintaining free library service. State aid has proved two things (1) that counties are ready to go forward once they have the assurance of state funds to supplement local appropriations and (2) that South Carolinians are eager to read good books when they are within reach.

The increased appropriation has been requested but it has not yet been granted. The State Legislature meets on the 14th of January and will consider budget requests. Librarians of every type of library should call on the members of their county delegations in the interest of the granting of the requested appropriation to the State Board. All interested citizens should be urged to express themselves in favor of the appropriation to the county delegation.

School Library Program

Nancy Jane Day, Supervisor, School Library Division,
State Department of Education

A school library program is always concerned with extending and developing library service and opportunities. This is especially true in South Carolina at this time. During 1945-46, only 39% of our schools had libraries and many of these were inadequate both as to collections and personnel.

We have, in our schools as a whole, 2 books per pupil; in our elementary grades, 1 book per pupil. State financial aid seems necessary if we are to build up these collections at this time. We are asking for a state appropriation to match local funds for the purchase of library materials. School district funds spent last year for school libraries amounted to only 31c per pupil; in the elementary schools only 13c per pupil. Let your County Delegation know that you think an appropriation necessary for matching local funds in building up our school collections.

All of our schools need financial aid, but the high schools have fared better than the elementary schools. Yet we have 353,897 of our 448,244 school population in the elementary schools. State library standards for elementary schools comparable to those for high schools should help bring about a more equitable distribution of funds and call attention to the needs of the elementary schools.

There is a shortage of trained librarians in our schools as elsewhere. Moreover, in South Carolina, librarians are counted on teacher enrollment which means that in a district without additional funds the librarian usually carries a full or part time teaching schedule. It would seem desirable for the State to aid in providing librarians for the schools instead of counting them on teacher enrollment.

The State Department is already giving advisory services, but state financial aid now seems necessary in extending and developing our school library services.

The TVLC Survey

The South Carolina Library Association has voted to accept the invitation of the Tennessee Valley Library Council to join the seven Valley States (Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia) in a self-survey of library facilities and needs.

The Tennessee Valley Library Council is composed of representatives of university, public and school library interests at the state level, the presidents of the library associations of these seven states, representatives of the Tennessee Valley Authority, The American Library Association and the United States Office of Education, about

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40-50 persons in all. Several meetings of the Council have been held during the past five years at which matters of concern to libraries in the region were discussed. From the first it has been apparent that there is a dearth of accurate information about library facilities and the little that is known indicates serious deficiencies in support, in buildings, in personnel and in books.

The Tennessee Valley Authority has contracted with the Council to conduct the study in order:

1. To secure a reasonably accurate picture of library facilities and needs in the region; and
2. To plan and initiate coordinated programs of action which will lead to the improvement of conditions throughout the area.

The TVA will provide funds for a two-year period for a central office, the Director's salary and a travel allowance. The library associations of the nine participating states have agreed to be responsible for collecting and reporting data in their respective states and to that end have each set up a state survey committee. The study is being coordinated under an overall executive committee of which Dr. Louis R. Wilson is chairman and there is also an advisory committee of seven, representing the states.

The first meeting of the state survey committees was held October 25 in Asheville, N. C. during the meeting of the Southeastern Library Association. The South Carolina Library Association was represented at this meeting by Miss Nancy Day, Mr. W. P. Kellam, Miss Ellen Perry and Miss Estellene Walker.

A director for the survey has not yet been appointed. The development of a general survey outline waits upon his appointment.

SCLA Regional Meetings

Regional meetings of the South Carolina Library Association were held on November 23rd in Columbia and Greenville and on December 7th in Charleston and Darlington. One hundred twenty-five members of the association attended the four meetings. The programs were timely and were planned to keep librarians in the state informed of library developments in the state during the past year and of plans for future activity on the part of public and school libraries. Programs included a dis-

cussion of the TVLC survey, the state-level school library program, the work of the State Library Board and its plans for statewide county library development. Mrs. Ida E. Wylie, chairman of the S. C. Federal Relations Committee, addressed the Columbia meeting on the present status of the Federal Library Demonstration bill. In Greenville Miss Ethel Davis, English Exchange teacher in the Greenville city schools, described the library system of England. The feature of the Darlington meeting was the showing of the film **LIBRARIES ON WHEELS**. The Charleston meeting had the greatest attendance with fifty-five librarians and trustees meeting for luncheon and discussion. The program was followed by a tea at the home of Captain and Mrs. Koopman on the Citadel campus.

The consensus from the four meetings seems to be that the two greatest problems facing school and public library development is the need for larger state appropriations for state aid to both school and county libraries and the necessity of a recruiting program for librarianship.

Spartanburg Survey

A report titled **LET THE PEOPLE READ**; a Proposal for the Establishment of a City-County Public Library for the Citizens of Spartanburg, South Carolina, by W. Stanley Hoole has been issued by the Spartanburg County Foundation. The report is a result of a survey by Dr. Hoole, Director of Libraries at the University of Alabama, made at the request of the Board of Trustees of the Kennedy Library and financed by the Spartanburg County Foundation.

The survey gives as a background for its recommendations, a picture of the City and County in terms of geography, population, and wealth and shows the County to be prosperous and progressive in comparison with other counties in the State. It concludes that while other educational and cultural agencies and institutions have shown progress, the needs for adequate library service have not been met.

Dr. Hoole has studied the Kennedy Library as regards income, staff, building, bookstock, periodical and newspaper holdings, and circulation and shows the Library to rate very low when checked with A.L.A. standards. It lags far behind South Carolina libraries in counties of comparable size and wealth and behind many of the smaller and less wealthy counties in community service and in development of services. The report concludes that "Spartanburg, a modern city of motor cars and airplanes, has driven off and left the Kennedy Library tied to a hitching-post".

Dr. Hoole's recommendations in brief are:

1. That Spartanburg City and County levy and collect a tax guaranteeing a minimum of \$32,000 (1-mill) annually toward the support of a public library to be known as the Spartanburg City-County Public Library.
2. That additional funds be secured totaling \$100,000 for addition to the Kennedy building, renovation, furniture and fixtures, book and periodical binding arrearsages, and bookmobile.
3. That a Library Staff of not less than seven members be employed.
4. That the budget, once the reorganization is perfected, based on a \$32,000 annual income, be allocated

approximately as follows: salaries 50%; books, periodicals and binding 45%; operating and miscellaneous 5%.

5. That a careful study be made to determine the best routes for distribution of materials and the location of permanent branches, stations, and depositories.

6. That the establishment of an adequate number of branches in the City of Spartanburg and its suburban areas be considered.

7. That administration and direction of the system be vested in an appointed Chief Librarian; and

8. That control of the system be the responsibility of a single executive body, including the Chief Librarian, composed of an equal number of representatives from the City and the County.

Action is being taken by the Board of Trustees to improve conditions pointed out by Dr. Hoole. An effort is being made to secure an increased appropriation upon which of necessity the reorganization depends. Many improvements have been made and others are in progress under the direction of Miss Nancy Blair, Librarian since October, 1946.

Dr. Hoole is to be commended for his sound and thoroughly practical report. The progressive citizens of Spartanburg who recognized the need and made the survey possible have set an excellent example that might well be followed by others in the State.

Southeastern Library Association Meeting

The Southeastern Library Association held its twelfth biennial conference October 25-26, 1946 in Asheville, N. C. It was evidenced by the number in attendance that librarians of the Southeastern States were ready for a good convention, and they were not disappointed. The program was an interesting and instructive one, and the exhibits were attractive. Librarians from all sections of South Carolina attended.

Outstanding speakers for the evening sessions included Mr. Hudson Strode and Mrs. Christine M. Govan, authors, and Miss Mary U. Rothrock, President of the A.L.A. General and section meetings were planned to cover developments in the library field in the Southeast since the last meeting in 1942. The following sections of the Association held meetings: Reference, Hospital, County and Public, Trustees, Catalog, College and University, and School and Children's.

The Great Books program on Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*, held at the joint meeting of the County and Public sections, was one of the high lights of the convention. Twenty members of the Association took part in the discussion led by Mr. John T. Barden and Mr. Gordon G. Dupee of the University of Chicago. South Carolina librarians participating were: Miss Ellen Perry, Greenville Public Library; Miss Emily Sanders, Charleston Free Library, and Mr. W. P. Kellam, University of South Carolina. Several South Carolinians who heard the program have expressed their interest in securing the services of the discussion leaders to train a group of South Carolina librarians to lead such discussions.

Mr. William Jesse of the University of Tennessee Library was elected president of the Association.

SCLA Business Meeting

Members of the SCLA attending the Southeastern Library Association in Asheville, met for breakfast and a business session on Friday morning, October 25, on the roof garden of the Battery Park Hotel. Miss Mary Cox, president, presided. During the business meeting officers were elected for the year 1947. They are Mrs. Frances Lander Spain, president; Miss Emily Sanders, vice-president; Miss Nancy Day, secretary and Mrs. Ella Sue Smith, treasurer. New officers will take up their duties January 1, 1947.

The Association voted to accept the invitation of the Tennessee Valley Library Council to take part in the survey of library facilities in the Southeastern states. Other business included a vote to continue financing two issues annually of the South Carolina Library Bulletin.

County and Regional Section

Mary Cox, Correspondent

New Branch Library for Charleston

The North Charleston Branch of the Charleston County Free Library was opened to the public on November 18. The library is located in a wing of the Park Circle building and was offered to the Charleston County Free Library for use as a branch by the Cooper River Park and Playground Commission.

Miss Margaret Mosimann, reference librarian on the Staff of the Charleston County Library, has been in charge of the organization and cataloging for the branch and will serve as librarian during the initial months of its opening.

An appropriation for the establishment and operation of the branch library serving the North Charleston area was included in the current Charleston County Supply Bill. The appropriation was secured through the efforts of the Cooper River Park and Playground Commission, the North Charleston Rotary Club and Mr. William L. Califf, a member of the Board of Trustees of the County Free Library.

The branch library is for the use of any resident of the city and county of Charleston and is especially intended to serve those living in the county north of the city of Charleston.

Charleston Book Discussion Programs

Miss Emily Sanders, Librarian, reports that the Book Discussion Program held at the Charleston Free Library on December 9 was on Schlesinger's *The Age of Jackson*. The book for the January 13th meeting is to be *Main Springs of Civilization*, by Huntington.

College and University Libraries

Mrs. Frances Lander Spain, Correspondent

College librarians are unanimous in reporting large enrollments, hard work, and in many cases, small staffs. Perhaps some recruiting for the profession can be done.

Wofford College

Miss Mary Sydnor Dupre, Librarian, Wofford College, reports that they are to have an enlargement of the Library. Two wings are to be added at a cost of \$30,000. The money has already been donated.

University of South Carolina Library

The General Education Board has given \$36,000 to the University Library on the condition that the University

match that sum with \$30,000. The money is to be used in reclassifying the part of the book collection now classified according to the Cutter system. Mr. W. P. Kellam, Librarian, has announced that the project was started in September. The work was to be done over a three year period, but it may run longer because of difficulties in securing staff members to do it.

State A. and M. College Library

The Library Science Department of the State Agricultural and Mechanical College at Orangeburg is now under the direction of Miss Emily Copeland. Miss Copeland has an M.L.S. from Columbia University. With the cooperation of Mrs. Athelma R. Nix, Librarian of the College, and her staff, Miss Copeland is supervising the acquisition and processing of a laboratory collection for a high school library.

Medical College Library

During the summer Miss Annabelle W. Furman, Librarian of the Medical College Library, sent letters to county librarians in the State offering to supply inter-library loans for any South Carolina physicians making requests through the county library. A set of rules and regulations, based on replies received, has been made and published in the Medical College Bulletin.

Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary Library

John K. Linn, Librarian, Lutheran Seminary Library in Columbia, has announced a gift of \$1,700 to the Library by Mrs. F. A. Adden of Orangeburg. Mrs. Adden has previously given liberally toward the furnishing and equipment of the Library rooms.

Film to Loan

Library on Wheels a 13 minute sound film on rural library service is now available for loan from the State Library Board.

Library on Wheels tells the story of the regional library in the Fraser Valley, British Columbia, of how bookmobile operations over a 750-mile circuit bring modern library service to 50,000 people in small towns and on farms, and to 70 schools. Per capita assessment for this library service is 35c. The film drives home the point that the pooling of resources in any large area is the answer to the need for books. Final sequences show librarians taking courses at colleges and universities in preparation for library service.

This film is a welcome aid to those interested in promoting rural library service. It can be used in county and regional library campaigns, at Friends of the Library, club and group meetings, school assemblies, etc.

The film should be requested well in advance of the showing date, as requests are heavy.

Library Planning Conference

The third Southern Library Planning Conference on Training for School Librarianship was held November 13-19 at Nashville, Tennessee. This conference was sponsored by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and George Peabody College for Teachers under a grant from the General Education Board.

At the conference, revised Southern Association tentative standards for training school librarians and outlines of content for courses in a minimum 18 semester hour

program for training school librarians were worked out. A bibliography for school library materials suggested for institutions training school librarians was also included.

South Carolina was represented by Dr. Frances Lander Spain, Librarian and Head of the Library Science Department, Winthrop College and Miss Nancy Jane Day, Supervisor, School Library Division, State Department of Education. Dr. Spain is a member of the Library Committee of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

Personals

MRS. GRACE R. BAILEY, Librarian of the Darlington Public Library, is improving from a serious illness in Greensboro, N. C.

MISS CORNELIA GRAHAM, Librarian, Clemson College Library, announces the following additions to their staff: MRS. JOHN M. MINTZ (Simmons College) Assistant to the Cataloger; J. MITCHELL REAMES (University of N. C.) Assistant Librarian in charge of Reference and Periodicals; MISS SARAH R. SHIRLEY (University of N. C.) Assistant Librarian in charge of Government Documents; MRS. ANGELINA HALL WAY (Emory University) Assistant Librarian in charge of Circulation.

MRS. MAE S. JOHNSON, Librarian, Benedict College Library, has announced that MRS. CLOTIEL S. DAVIS (Atlanta University) has joined their staff as cataloger. MRS. E. L. GANDY is assisting in the circulation department.

MISS SARAH EARLE resigned her position as cataloger at the Furman University Library effective September 1, 1946.

MISS ANNABELLE W. FURMAN, Librarian, Medical College Library, attended the meeting of the Medical Library Association at Yale in March.

MISS CHARLOTTE BARDEN has joined the staff of the Medical College Library as assistant replacing MISS SARA SANDERS, resigned. MISS TRENHOLM GRIMBALL is secretary to the Librarian.

MRS. BERNICE MIDDLETON (Atlanta University) is working part-time in the Library of the State Agricultural and Mechanical College at Orangeburg. MISS ETTA J. ROWE (Atlanta University) is the new assistant at the circulation desk.

MISS SUSIE NORWOOD McKEOWN is cataloger, Winthrop College Library, and MISS RUTH DACUS is circulation assistant.

MR. HERBERT HUCKS will join the staff of the Wofford College Library in January as associate librarian, after completing his library course at Emory.

MISS ELIZABETH HEYWARD LABRUCE of Charleston has left for Frankfurt, Germany, where she will serve as an army librarian.

Posters

The South Carolina State Library Board has a limited number of 33 x 38 inch posters in color, "County and Regional Libraries Serve All the People", which will be sent upon request to South Carolina libraries or to groups interested in organizing county or regional libraries.