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Abstract

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SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARY BULLETIN

Vol. 6, No. 1

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

April, 1950

Library Demonstration Bill Defeated 164-161

After five hours' debate in the House of Representatives, the Library Demonstration Bill H.R. 874 was defeated by three votes, Thursday, March 9th, at 6:27 P. M. The final vote was 164 against and 161 in favor. Voting against the Bill were 51 Democrats and 113 Republicans. Voting for it were 113 Democrats and 15 Republicans. Supporters argued vigorously for it and succeeded in winning two preliminary votes on parliamentary questions by votes of 209 to 140, and 178 to 162.

Unfortunately, the Bill became a party matter, with stress on the need for economy and a balanced budget. It was argued also that the primary responsibility for library support should be at the state level. Incidental arguments against the Bill included the charge that too much power would be assigned to the Federal Security Administrator, Oscar Ewing, and the accusation that only professional librarians were interested in the passage of the Bill.

The votes of South Carolina Representatives were:

For the Bill: Hon. Joe Bryson, Hon. James B. Hare, Hon. Hugo Sims.

Against the Bill: Hon. L. Mendel Rivers.

Not voting and not present: Hon. John L. McMillan, Hon. James P. Richards.

A meeting of the A.L.A. Federal Relations Committee is being called for the week of April 16th in Washington, D. C., to discuss the future federal relations program and to analyze the prospects of the Library Demonstration Bill.

Although the Senate Bill (S. 130) is still awaiting a vote, it is doubtful whether action will be taken on it in view of the unlikelihood of further House action during this Congress.

Vacation Reading Clubs

Reading clubs provide reading guidance for children and young people during the vacation period. They stimulate sustained interest in reading and can be successful in small county and public libraries as well as in the larger libraries. The purpose of such clubs is to promote growth in reading skills and in the knowledge of a wide range of children's books both in the field of fiction and non-fiction.

A well-organized summer reading club need not put an unnecessary burden of work on the librarian. Record keeping should be simplified and as little use as possible be made of especially prepared book lists. The wider the range of choice, the more value the club will be to the members. All the books in a carefully selected children's collection can be approved summer reading with the librarian as final authority on the delicate question of whether Junior is reading books too easy for him.

Librarians who are planning vacation reading clubs to stimulate children's reading during the summer months will find helpful suggestions in programs sponsored by libraries in South Carolina during the past summer and in articles published in the Wilson Library Bulletin.

The Greenwood City Library sponsored a Reading Round-up during the summer of 1949. Each child who joined the Round-up was given a card designed like a cowboy and a booklet for keeping a record of books read. A small corral, built by the Juvenile Council, was placed in the Children's Room and "cowboys" spent leisure moments pitching horseshoes in the corral.

The Spartanburg Public Library sponsored a Robin Hood Reading Club. Children of all ages were invited to join. A quiver and arrows award system created lively interest in the project. Children who satisfactorily completed reading ten books received special recognition at the end of the summer. All books read had to be on the reading level of the child.

Suggestions for planning vacation reading clubs are found in the following issues of the Wilson Library Bulletin: 20:670-5 My '46; 21:674-8 My '47; 22:714-20 My '48; 23:715-23 My '49; 23:709 My '49.

N. C. to Hold Public Library Workshop

The North Carolina Library Association is planning two workshops for public librarians to be held May 17, 18, 19 at the Davidson Public Library, Lexington, N. C.; May 22, 23, 24 at the Wilson County Library, Wilson, N. C. The subject for discussion will be the reports of the Public Library Inquiry and the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey. Attendance is limited to 25 professional librarians for each workshop. Since there will be no opportunity to discuss these two pertinent surveys by the S.C.L.A. this year, it is hoped that several public librarians from South Carolina will take advantage of the opportunity to attend one of the North Carolina workshops. Reservations may be made now with either Miss Antoinette Earle, Lexington or Miss Nancy Gray, Wilson.

York County Library Moves to Clover

The York County Library Board has accepted the offer of the King's Mountain Township to make the new library building in Clover the headquarters of the county library. The library was moved to the new location in March. Rural service will continue to be given to schools and communities through the bookmobile.

The library building in Clover was recently completed. It is in the "modern" style of architecture and is planned for easy supervision. Adequate space for reference and circulation is provided. Mrs. Paul Blanks is the county librarian.

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 Miss Margaret Payne, Conway City Schools, Conway, Member-at-Large.
 Mr. J. Mitchell Reames, Reference Librarian, Clemson College, Clemson, Past President.

Lexington County Library Opens Branch

The Cayce Branch of the Lexington County Library was formally opened in February in the Cayce Town Hall. This is the fifth branch to be established by the Lexington County Library.

A collection of approximately 500 books was placed in the Branch Library by the Lexington County Library. Regular visits of the bookmobile to the library at two week intervals will be made for the purpose of exchanging books to give residents of Cayce access to a wide variety of titles.

The library will be open for two afternoons each week. The room for the library and attractive furnishings were provided by the town of Cayce through the active cooperation of the local Woman's Club. The librarian's salary and books are provided by the Lexington County Library.

Miss Nancy Plumer has been appointed branch librarian.

Development of S. C. School Libraries

Nancy Jane Day, Supervisor of Library Services,
 State Department of Education

In March, 1937 the State Board of Education adopted standards which were to be met by the accredited high schools of South Carolina. These were to go into effect in July, 1937 and were based, to a certain extent, on the high school standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. At that time there were no standards for accrediting the elementary schools and therefore no standards were set up for elementary school libraries. Today there are still no standards for accrediting elementary schools of South Carolina but there is a great deal of interest in libraries for elementary schools. A committee, set up by the School Library Section of the South Carolina Education Association, is at present making a study of the qualifications necessary for good elementary school library service in the state.

Since the standards for the accreditation of high school libraries went into effect, some information concerning the high school libraries has been collected but until this year very little information had been collected concerning elementary school libraries. For the first time, this

year blanks were sent out to schools with five teachers or more requesting information concerning the elementary school as a whole which included questions concerning library services to these schools. With this information in hand, it is hoped the necessary facts for planning a worthwhile library program for elementary schools now will be available.

Great strides have been made within the last few years toward an understanding of what the school library is, can do, and should do for the pupils and teachers in a school. Administrators, teachers, and parents have a better appreciation of the library and are beginning to see it, not as a thing separate from the school program but as a very important part of it. A school library is important for the services it renders to the school personnel and the ways in which it helps children in their growth and development. This is the point of view being emphasized now.

School librarians in South Carolina are certified as are teachers — their major field being Library Science instead of English, History, etc. School librarians are not certified for school library work if they have less than twelve semester hours, six of these in the field of administration and six in the field of materials. This, of course, does not mean that there are only trained librarians or teacher-librarians with at least twelve semester hours working in the schools at present. It has been as impossible to get librarians for school libraries as for other type libraries. However, there are fewer librarians with no training at the present moment than in 1946. At that time there were 90 with no training whatsoever. The four workshops at Winthrop and State College have contributed a great deal to remedying this. Besides the workshops a number of clinics for school librarians have been held in the state.

Within the past two years, three consultants for elementary school libraries have been appointed. They are: Miss Margaret Wright, of Orangeburg; Miss Madeliene Mosimann for the white elementary schools of Charleston; and Miss Laura M. Brice, for the Negro elementary schools of Charleston.

School librarians in South Carolina have broadened their interests and have become more professionally minded. The School Library Section of the South Carolina Education Association and the South Carolina Library Association has a state-wide program in which they are studying problems of school libraries. At present, there are three committees at work. One is studying elementary school library standards, one central cataloging, and one committee is working on the organization of student librarians within the state. High school librarians in cities are giving help to elementary schools in establishing and organizing libraries. School librarians in South Carolina are becoming more interested in the national library organization. In 1946, 11 school librarians were members of the American Association of School Librarians of the A.L.A.; now there are 56. South Carolina is fourteenth in the list of states as to number of members of the American Association of School Librarians.

Collections have improved in school libraries. Although there is still material which needs to be weeded out, the collections, as a whole, are more useful. In the accredited high schools alone over 42,000 dollars more were spent for materials in 1949 than in 1948. Part of the increase was due to the fact that the revised standards for high school libraries of South Carolina went

into effect during the fall of 1948. These standards increased the appropriation necessary for maintaining the collections.

South Carolina is showing much progress in its school library program; but there is still need for more materials, more adequate library quarters, better financial support, better trained librarians and teacher-librarians. State aid for materials and state aid for the librarian who is still counted against enrollment would be of great value in meeting those needs.

Student Librarians

The School Library Section of the South Carolina Education Association and the South Carolina Library Association appointed Mrs. Harvey Stephens, who is Vice-President of the group, chairman of the committee to work with the organization of student librarians in South Carolina schools. Plans were made for organizing these students first on a judicial district basis and later, if the students wished, as a state organization. A number of organizational meetings have been held and much interest has been shown in plans for the state organization. Mrs. Stephens, in the following report, gives an excellent picture of the first group to get together.

"On February 11, a meeting was held in the Spartanburg High School Library for the purpose of organizing Student-Librarians. This was the first of a number of meetings to be held over the state. The purpose of these meetings is to increase the interest of the student-helpers; help schools who do not use student-assistants to organize such clubs; and to exchange ideas about the method of choosing these helpers, their duties, and the recognition or awards they are given for their work.

There are fourteen judicial districts in South Carolina and each district is holding such a meeting some time before the State Education Association meets in March. At the meeting in District No. 7, we had representatives from thirteen schools, a total of seventy-six present. They registered, the roll was called by schools and each librarian introduced her student-assistants. Then followed a period of discussion on the above mentioned ideas. The students entered into the discussion very freely and many interesting and valuable suggestions were made. Officers were elected and plans were made to attend a state-wide organization meeting in April. Much enthusiasm was shown by both librarians and students and we are hoping for a most successful state organization."

Plans are being made to meet at Winthrop College in Rock Hill on Friday and Saturday, April 21 and 22 to discuss a state organization. The student librarians and their sponsors will be guests of Winthrop College at that time. Librarianship as a career will be discussed on Friday evening. At this time all phases of library work will be presented by the following librarians: Mr. Herbert Hucks, Associate Librarian, Wofford College, Spartanburg, S. C.; Mrs. Ella Sue Smith, Anderson Public Library, Anderson, S. C.; Mrs. Josephine Huey, Librarian, Rock Hill High School, Rock Hill, S. C. A student of the Library Science Department of Winthrop College will discuss "Why I Chose Library Work as a Career" and Miss Gladys Smith, Librarian of Winthrop College, will discuss the training and opportunities of librarianship.

This meeting will be followed by an informal get-together on the part of the student librarians.

Saturday morning will be given over to the organization of a state-wide student librarians group. This meeting will be conducted entirely by the students.

Fresco Presented to Clemson Library

On February 9, Professor and Mrs. Robert LaMontagne St. Hubert presented a fresco "Meditation in Arts" to the Clemson College Library. Mr. M. E. Bradley presided over the meeting and Mr. R. E. Lee introduced the artists. Mr. St. Hubert presented the fresco—Dr. R. F. Poole accepted for the college and Mr. A. B. Bryan for the library, and Mr. Kirk R. Craig expressed appreciation for the student body. Other examples of the work of Mr. and Mrs. St. Hubert were exhibited.

Mr. and Mrs. St. Hubert work together, and have numerous frescos in public buildings abroad, and in the United States.

Mr. St. Hubert has been in the United States since 1937, under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in connection with the American Institute of Architects, visiting the major centers of education and lecturing on the technique of fresco painting. In addition to his professorship at Fontainebleau since its foundation, he has served as professor at the Chicago Art Institute, and visiting professor at Rice Institute in Houston. He is now visiting professor of Art at Clemson College. Each summer Mrs. Martha St. Hubert returns to France to teach at the American School of Fine Arts at the Palace of Fontainebleau, where she holds the title of professor.

Newberry-Caldecott Award Winners

Marguerite de Angeli will receive the 1949 John Newberry Medal as the author of the most distinguished children's book published in the United States during the year. Her winning book, *Door in the Wall*, has thirteenth-century England as its background.

As the winner of the 1949 Caldecott Medal, Leo Politi will be honored as the artist of the most distinguished picture book for children published in the United States during the year. *Song of the Swallows*, the winning book, tells the story of the annual arrival of the swallows on March 19—St. Joseph's Day—at the Mission of San Juan Capistrano. The numerous illustrations form an integral part of the story.

Mrs. Malmberg Appointed Director of A. L. A. Washington Office

Mrs. Margie Sornson Malmberg, of Big Island, Virginia, has been appointed Director of the Washington Office of the American Library Association, which is located in the Hotel Congressional, 300 New Jersey Avenue, S. E.

Mrs. Malmberg is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and of the University of Minnesota Library School. She served as librarian of the public libraries in Viroqua, Chippewa Falls and Appleton, Wisconsin. In 1949 she was Executive Secretary of the Wisconsin Library Association.

New Appointments Made by President of S. C. L. A.

Miss Naomi Derrick, President of the South Carolina Library Association, has announced the following new appointments:

Executive Board, Members-at-Large: Mrs. Von Etta Sally, Librarian, Columbia College Library, Columbia; Miss Margaret Payne, Conway City Schools, Conway.

Federal Relations Committee: Chairman, Mr. Alfred Rawlinson, Librarian, University of S. C. Library, Columbia; Co-ordinator, Mr. J. Mitchell Reames, Reference Librarian, Clemson College Library, Clemson; Mrs. Ella Sue Smith, Librarian, Anderson Public Library, Anderson.

Recruiting Committee: Chairman, Miss Mary Grey Withers, Librarian, Wardlaw Junior High School, Columbia; Miss Nancy Jane Day, School Library Supervisor, State Department of Education, Columbia; Miss Margaret Wright, Orangeburg City Schools, Orangeburg; Miss Estellene P. Walker, Executive Secretary, State Library Board, Columbia.

A. L. A. Membership

Those who have not paid their A.L.A. membership dues for 1950 are urged to do so. South Carolina membership quota increases each year. The A.L.A. and South Carolina need our full support. You are asked to pay your own dues for 1950 and to recruit new members from librarians, trustees and institutions.

Mrs. Ella Sue Smith, Member of the A.L.A. Membership Committee and Librarian of the Anderson Public Library, Anderson, S. C., will be glad to send you membership blanks and collect dues, or you may write A.L.A. Membership Office, 50 East Huron St., Chicago 11, Illinois.

Attention County Librarians!

If you have not paid your ALA dues this year, you should check the Library Extension Division as your Division preference.

The Extension Division includes the County and Regional Libraries Section and works on many problems of special interest to county librarians.

Progressive Step Taken in Aiken County

The Aiken County Library and the Dibble Memorial Library of Aiken have been consolidated by act of the legislature. Senator Dorsey K. Lybrand introduced the bill which combines the two libraries and authorizes the Aiken County Board of Commissioners to lease the Dibble Memorial Library for 99 years.

The county will build an addition to the Dibble building costing not less than \$20,000. The building will be known as the Dibble Memorial Building and the library as the Aiken County Public Library.

The act provides for the appointment of the Aiken

County Library Commission and the terms of their appointment.

The library commission will consist of six members as follows: the county superintendent of education, who will act as a non-voting member; one member appointed by the Farm Women's Council; three members appointed by a majority of the county delegation, one from each of the three road districts; and one member appointed by the Dibble Memorial Library.

Southeastern Convention Planned

The Southeastern Library Association will hold its biennial meeting at the Biltmore Hotel in Atlanta on October 11-14. The last day of the convention will be reserved for meetings of the various state associations and the South Carolina Library Association will hold its annual business meeting on the morning of the 14th.

There will be no other meeting of the S.C.L.A. this year. All South Carolina librarians are urged to attend the convention in Atlanta.

The convention program and particulars about hotel accommodations will be published in the next issue of the **Bulletin**.

German Librarians to Visit South Carolina

In order that librarians who are employed in the United States Information Service abroad may gain experience in American community life, the State Department is bringing a group of librarians to the United States for temporary periods of study and observation. At the present time it is anticipated that four German librarians will visit this country under the Department's exchange of persons program with Germany, for the purpose of observing technical library processes, reference and readers' advisory work with the public and participating in the community services rendered.

These librarians will visit outstanding libraries in South Carolina, live in various communities for several weeks, and actually participate in the libraries' activities in relation to community life. It is believed that this project will be of value since the democratic methods of American public library service when seen in actual operation will greatly influence the philosophy, technical procedures and practices of these librarians upon their return to Germany.

Index to Charleston Wills

The Charleston Free Library of the County of Charleston has just announced the publication of "Index to Wills of Charleston County, 1671-1868". This is an index to typescript copies of wills of the period. The only probate court in South Carolina until 1782 was located in Charleston, so that most South Carolina recorded wills prior to 1782 are indexed in this volume. The book is lithoprinted, bound in stiff boards and contains 324 pages. It is the first publication of the Charleston Free Library. Copies are available from the Charleston Free Library at \$6.00 per copy plus 15c mailing and handling charge.